



ALABAMA QUALITY ASSURANCE FOUNDATION, INC.

Medical Quality Assurance

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GENERAL MEMORANDUM 99/02-08

**TO: Administrators/Directors/Presidents/Chief Executive Officers
Medicare Home Health Agencies - State of Alabama**

**FROM: H. Terrell Lindsey
President and Chief Executive Officer**

DATE: July 10, 2000

**SUBJECT: PRO-Medicare Home Health Agency (HHA) Memorandum of Agreement
(MOA)**

Section 1876(a)(1)(F)(ii) of the Social Security Act, as amended, requires Medicare Home Health Agencies (HHAs) to maintain an "Agreement" with the Health Care Financing Administration (HCFA) designated state Peer Review Organization (PRO) as a requirement of the Medicare Provider Conditions of Participation. To assist your HHA in fulfilling this obligation, we have enclosed two signed copies of the PRO-Home Health Agency Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) which covers the time period of November 1, 1999 through October 31, 2002, and coincides with the HCFA-PRO Medicare Review Contract for the state of Alabama. A signed MOA with a Medicare Home Health Agency is also called for in the PRO Medicare Manual (HCFA-Pub.19).

This revised MOA replaces the previous MOA which covered the period of July 1, 1996 through June 30, 1999.

We were delayed in forwarding this document to you due to revisions called for by provisions of the Balanced Budget Act (BBA) which recently became effective. Also, we delayed finalizing the MOA in order to review the revised Medicare Provider Conditions of Participation and have been awaiting instructions, guidance and direction on new provider requirements associated with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPPA).

Please be certain to complete the HHA specific information on **Page 8**, and sign the MOA on **Page 10**. Also, you should identify a PRO contact on **Page 9** if you want that individual, instead of yourself, to receive routine PRO correspondence. One copy of the signed MOA should be returned to my attention, and the second copy is for your files. If your facility is a subsidiary and/or owned by another organization, then the parent organization may sign one MOA for all facilities in the state.



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If you have any questions regarding the MOA, please contact my office directly. We look forward to continuing our work with Medicare Home Health Agencies to maintain and improve the quality of health care services provided to Medicare beneficiaries in Alabama.