

Proposed changes to 105 CMR 140.000, Licensure of Clinics

Blue = new language put forth for comment

~~Red~~ = deleted language put forth for comment

Green = changes in response to comments

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LICENSURE OF CLINICS

140.001: Purpose

105 CMR 140.000 sets forth standards for the maintenance and operation of clinics.

~~140.002:— Authority~~

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~~105 CMR 140.000 is adopted under the authority of M.G.L. c. 111, §§ 3 and 51 through 56.~~

~~140.003: Citation~~

~~105 CMR 140.000 shall be known and may be cited as 105 CMR 140.000: Licensure of Clinics.~~

140.010: Scope

105 CMR 140.000 applies to every clinic subject to licensure under M.G.L. c. 111, §§ 51 through 56, **including any satellites** ~~or affiliates~~ **of a licensed clinic that are not independently licensed.**

Comment [A1]: Removed because "affiliates" adds confusion. These regulations apply to licensed clinics and their satellites, which are part of the clinic's license, but does not apply to other affiliated entities.

140.020: Definitions

The following terms as used in 105 CMR 140.000 shall be interpreted as follows, unless the context or subject matter clearly requires a different interpretation:

Ambulatory Surgery Center (ASC) means an entity subject to licensure or licensed under M.G.L. c. 111, § 51 and 105 CMR 140.000 to provide surgical services.

Birth Center means a home-like facility where low risks births are planned to occur following normal, uncomplicated pregnancy.

Birth Center Services means professional midwifery services provided to low risk childbearing women during pregnancy, birth, and puerperium and to the infant during the immediate newborn period by nurse-midwives or by obstetricians or family practitioners. Birth center services are provided in a free standing facility.

Certified Nurse Midwife means an individual authorized by the Board of Registration in Nursing under M.G.L. c. 112, § 80C and authorized to practice as a nurse-midwife pursuant to 244 CMR 4.00 *et seq.*

CLIA means Clinical Laboratories Improvements Amendments **and its implementing regulations** ~~as~~ set forth in 42 CFR 493.

Clinic means any entity, however organized, whether conducted for profit or not for profit, ~~which~~ is advertised, announced, established, or maintained for the purpose of providing ambulatory medical, surgical, dental, physical rehabilitation, or mental health services. In addition, clinic shall include any entity, however organized, whether conducted for profit or not for profit, ~~which is~~ advertised, announced, established, or maintained under a name ~~which~~ includes the word clinic, "dispensary", or "institute", and ~~which~~ suggests that ambulatory medical, surgical, dental, physical rehabilitation, or

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mental health services are rendered. With respect to any entity ~~which~~ is not advertised, announced, established, or maintained under one of the names in the preceding sentence, clinic shall not include a medical office building, or one or more practitioners engaged in a solo or group practice, whether conducted for profit or not for profit, and however organized, so long as such practice is wholly owned and controlled by one or more of the practitioners so associated, or, in the case of a not for profit organization, its only members are one or more of the practitioners so associated or a clinic established solely to provide service to employees or students of such corporation or institution. Notwithstanding the foregoing, clinic shall include any entity ~~that is~~ certified or has applied for certification as an ambulatory surgery center by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services for participation in the Medicare program. No matter how the clinic is named, clinic shall not include a clinic conducted by a hospital licensed under M.G.L. c. 111, § 51 or by the federal government, or the commonwealth. Clinic shall not include dental clinics operated by local schools and health departments for the sole purpose of providing education and dental hygiene services including routine examinations, cleaning and topical fluoride applications. Clinic shall not include ad hoc health promotion and screening programs.

Clinic Pharmacy means a pharmacy ~~which is~~ not registered as a retail drug business pursuant to M.G.L. c. 112, § 39 and which is maintained and operated by a clinic.

Clinical Laboratory Services means the biological, serological, chemical, immunohematological, cytological, pathological, or other examinations of materials derived from a human body.

Commissioner means the Commissioner of **the Massachusetts Department of** Public Health or his ~~or~~ her designee.

Dentist means an individual registered by the Board of Registration in Dentistry under M.G.L. c. 112, § 45.

Department means the Massachusetts Department of Public Health.

Diagnostic Radiology means the use of ionizing radiation or ultrasonic procedures for diagnostic purposes only.

Host ~~Site Location shall~~ means ~~a licensed health care facility~~ **the location off the premises of the clinic** where a **clinic provides** mobile ~~diagnostic or treatment unit of a clinic providing mobile medical services docks in order to provide such~~ services.

Licensee means any person holding a license to operate a clinic. In the case of a licensee ~~which~~ **that** is not a natural person, the term licensee shall also mean any shareholder owning 5% or more of any class of the outstanding stock **of a privately-held corporation**; any limited partner owning 5% or more of the partnership interests and any

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general partner of a partnership licensee; any trustee of any trust licensee; any sole proprietor of any licensee ~~which that~~ is a sole proprietorship; any mortgagee in possession; and any executor or administrator of any **estate of a** licensee ~~which is an estate~~.

Mental Health means any condition pertaining to mental health as defined by the current edition of the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders

Comment [A2]: Added a definition for mental health as that term relates to the “mental health service” definition below.

Mental Health Outreach Program means a mental health program, **which may include treatment of co-occurring substance use disorder treatment, delivered** off the premises of a clinic or any of its satellite clinics that:

~~(1) provides services within the same Department of Mental Health area or contiguous Department of Mental Health area of the clinic; and~~

(2) provides services in clients’ homes or other community environments, including **practitioners’** offices or community health centers defined as free-standing or hospital licensed community health centers licensed by the Department pursuant to M.G.L. c. 111, § 51.

Comment [A3]: Changed to reflect that these services could occur in clinical settings beyond a physician’s office.

For the purposes of 105 CMR 140.000, outreach services do not include patient visits to a practitioner’s home or office.

~~Mobile Diagnostic or Treatment Unit shall mean a mobile vehicle containing medical diagnostic or treatment equipment which that is used to provide mobile medical services~~ **a specially equipped, self-contained vehicle that may be driven, moved, towed or transported from one location to another, such as a van or trailer.**

Mobile/Portable Unit means a mobile unit from which, from time to time, equipment and supplies may be removed to offer services at a location outside the mobile unit at which the clinic will provide licensed services. A **Mobile/Portable Unit** shall not mean a satellite of the clinic.

Notice of Intent Form means a form prescribed by the Department through which an applicant notifies the Department of its intent to acquire a ~~long-term care facility clinic~~ and/or to apply for a license to operate a **long-term care facility clinic**.

Comment [A4]: Corrected inadvertent reference to long term care facility

Nurse practitioner means a registered nurse who holds authorization in advanced nursing practice as a nurse practitioner under M.G.L. c. 112, §80B.

Nutritionist means a person who has an M.S. in public health nutrition, community nutrition, or human nutrition, from an accredited institution or who has a B.S. and is registered by the American Dietetic Association.

Comment [A5]: Relocated from 140.316: Nutrition Services

Physician means an individual registered by the Board of Registration in Medicine under M.G.L. c. 112, § 2 as a qualified physician.

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Physician Assistant means a person who meets the requirements for registration set forth in M.G.L. c. 112, § 9I and who may provide medical services appropriate to his or her training, experience and skills under the supervision of a registered physician.

Podiatrist means an individual registered by the Board of Registration in Podiatry under M.G.L. c. 112, § 16.

Point-of-care Testing means the analysis of clinical specimens at the site of patient care, in order to provide immediate results to the health care provider. Examples of point-of-care tests include blood glucose tests, urine strip tests and other tests that do not require submission of the specimens to an outside laboratory.

Portable Unit means a vehicle that only transports equipment, supplies and/or personnel to a host site location at which the clinic will provide licensed services. A Portable Unit may be an extension/addition of services provided by a clinic with an existing licensed physical site, an addition/extension of services provided by a mobile unit, or a clinic that is exclusively portable, with no licensed physical site or mobile unit in which services are provided.

Practice means an enterprise involving the diagnosis or treatment of medical, surgical, dental, physical rehabilitation, or mental health problems. The supervision and direction of clinical staff, the assignment of patients to practitioners or other clinical staff, and the maintenance of patient records shall be deemed to be part of a practice. Billing and collection services, rental of space and rental of equipment shall also be considered part of a practice; however, the provision by a non-practitioner of any one of these services to practitioner(s) shall not by itself mean ~~that~~ such nonpractitioner shares in the control of the practice.

Practitioner means any individual who **may holds a license, registration or authorization pursuant to M.G.L. c. 112 that authorizes the individual to** diagnose and treat medical, surgical, dental, physical rehabilitation, or mental health problems ~~without limitation~~ within the ~~confines of scope of practice for his/~~ **or** her profession ~~and who is licensed in Massachusetts by the appropriate professional board.~~

Comment [A6]: Definition revised for clarity.

Primary Care Provider means a health care professional qualified to provide general medical care for common health care problems, who supervises, coordinates, prescribes or otherwise provides or proposes health care services, initiates referrals for specialist care and maintains continuity of care within the scope of practice.

Psychiatric Day Treatment Program means a specialized mental health program ~~that~~ **providing** a planned combination of diagnostic, treatment, and rehabilitative services to ~~mentally or emotionally disturbed persons-~~ **individuals seeking treatment for mental health conditions, which may include co-occurring substance use disorder,** who need more active or inclusive treatment than is typically available through a weekly visit to a

Comment [A7]: Added to emphasize potential co-occurring substance use disorders in mental health patients.

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mental health center or hospital outpatient department, but who do not need full-time hospitalization or institutionalization. Such a program utilizes multiple, intensive, and focused activities in a supportive environment to enable such persons to acquire more realistic and appropriate behavior patterns, attitudes, and skills for eventual independent functioning in the community. A **clinic may provide** psychiatric day treatment **services** ~~program shall be provided only by a clinic only if it is~~ licensed to provide mental health services.

Registered Nurse means an individual registered under M.G.L. c. 112, § 74.

Registered Pharmacist means an individual registered by the Board of Registration in Pharmacy pursuant to M.G.L. c. 112, § 24.

Satellite Clinic means a clinic operation off the premises of a clinic at which health services are provided, **other than a mobile service**. A Mental Health Outreach Program as defined in 105 CMR 140.020 shall not be considered a satellite clinic.

Social Worker means an individual who is currently licensed to practice social work in Massachusetts pursuant to M.G.L. c. 112, § 131 under the licensure categories of Licensed Independent Practitioner of Clinical Social Work, or Licensed Certified Social Worker.

Solo or Group Practice means the primary enterprise of the practitioner(s) as identified with the practitioner's licensing authority.

Specific Service means any one of the following:

- (1) Surgical Service. A service ~~that~~ **providing** diagnosis or care through **endoscopic procedures**, ~~or~~ operative ~~or endoscopic~~ procedures requiring regional or general anesthesia.
- (2) Dental Service. A service ~~that~~ **providing** oral diagnostic, maintenance, preventive and restorative care and treatment to relieve dental pain and infection.
- (3) Physical Rehabilitation Service. A service that provides physical restoration to physically handicapped and disabled persons through such therapies as physical therapy, occupational therapy and speech therapy.
- (4) Mental Health Service. A **separate, identifiable** service ~~that~~ **providing** diagnosis and treatment to ~~mentally or emotionally disturbed persons~~ **individuals seeking treatment for mental health conditions, which may integrate treatment for co-occurring substance use disorder**, and their families.
- (5) Medical Service. A service ~~that~~ **providing** diagnosis or treatment of illness or other medical services that are distinct from the services provided under 105 CMR 140.020: Specific Service (1) through (9).
- (6) Mobile Medical Service. ~~shall mean a~~ **A** service ~~that~~ **providing** highly ~~technical medical~~ diagnostic or treatment services ~~solely~~ through **a mobile unit, a portable unit or a mobile/portable unit**. ~~the routine, temporary placement of a~~

Comment [A8]: The intent of the original change was to align the definition with evidence-based consensus definitions, consistent with the Massachusetts Medical Society, that ALL endoscopic procedures are surgical, procedure regardless of anesthesia type. The Department has clarified the definition of "surgical service" to more clearly show that difference.

Comment [A9]: Added to emphasize potential co-occurring substance use disorders in mental health patients, and recognize substance use disorder treatment elements may be part of the mental health services provided.

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~~mobile diagnostic or treatment unit at one or more host locations. Examples of highly technical medical diagnostic or treatment services include lithotripsy and magnetic resonance imaging.~~

(7) **Substance Abuse Disorder Treatment Service.** A separate, identifiable service specifically designed for the treatment and rehabilitation of persons suffering from substance abuse disorders. **service for individuals seeking treatment for substance use disorders which may integrate treatment for co-occurring mental health conditions.**

(8) **Birth Center Service.** A service ~~that~~ **providing**es professional midwifery services to low risk childbearing women during pregnancy, birth, and puerperium, and to the infant during the immediate newborn period by nurse-midwives or by obstetricians or family practitioners.

(9) **Limited Services.** Diagnosis, treatment, management and monitoring of acute and chronic disease, wellness and preventive services of a nature that may be provided within the scope of practice of a nurse practitioner using available facilities and equipment, including shared toilet facilities for point-of-care testing. Limited Services shall not mean surgical services, dental services, physical rehabilitation services, mental health services, substance ~~abuse~~ **disorder** services, or birth center services as defined in 105 CMR 140.020:**Specific Service (1) through (8) and (10)**, which require a separate licensure designation.

Substance Use Disorder means any condition pertaining to substance use disorder as defined by the current edition of the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders

Transfer of Ownership shall include but not be limited to the following transfers:

- (1) a transfer of a majority interest in the ownership of a clinic;
- (2) in the case of a **privately-held** for-profit corporation, transfer of a majority of any class of the stock thereof;
- (3) in the case of a partnership, transfer of a majority of the partnership interest;
- (4) in the case of a trust, change of the trustee or a majority of trustees; or
- (5) in the case of a non-profit corporation, such changes in the corporate membership and/or trustees as the Department determines to constitute a shift in control of the clinic.

Transfer of ownership also means any change in the ownership interest or structure of the clinic or the clinic's organization or parent organization(s) that the eCommissioner determines to effect a change in control of the operation of the clinic. A transfer of ownership shall also be deemed to have occurred where foreclosure proceedings have been instituted by a mortgagee in possession. **The eCommissioner may, in his or her discretion, determine a proposed transaction does not rise to the level of a transfer of ownership.**

Comment [A10]: Added to emphasize potential co-occurring mental health conditions in substance use disorders, and recognize mental health treatment elements may be part of the substance use disorder treatment services provided.

Comment [A11]: Added definition for mental health as that term relates to the "substance use disorder service" definition above.

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Urgent Care means a model of episodic care delivery of episodic care that is primarily the immediate for the diagnosis, treatment, management or monitoring of acute and chronic disease or injury that is: (i) for the treatment of illness or injury that is immediate in nature but does not require emergency services; (ii), generally provided on a walk-in basis without prior appointment; (iii) available to the general public; and not intended as the patient's primary care provider. Urgent care shall not be a separate service, and shall not mean surgical services, dental services, physical rehabilitation services, mental health services, substance abuse disorder services, birth center services or limited services as defined in 105 CMR 140.020: Specific Service (1) through (9), which require a separate licensure designation; or Emergency Service or Satellite Emergency Facility as defined in 105 CMR 130.020 Hospital Licensure.

Comment [A12]: Updated to clarify definition and respond to MHA comments. MHA was concerned that urgent care is a type of care provided by hospitals and health centers, along with primary and emergent. MHA was concerned our definition confused the issue. This amendment clarifies definition while still reflecting that we do not list urgent care as a specific service on a clinic's license. Also updated "substance abuse" to more appropriate terminology.

140.025: Special Projects

The Department will consider proposals for special projects for the innovative delivery of clinic services. No such proposal shall be implemented without prior written approval of the Department. **Such plans shall be implemented only on an experimental basis and subject to renewal of the approval by the Department at such periods as the Department shall fix. The Department may impose conditions on special projects as necessary.**

140.099: Waiver of Requirements Imposed on Clinics

The ~~Commissioner~~ **Department** may waive the applicability to a particular clinic of one or more of the requirements imposed on clinics by 105 CMR 140.000 if:

- (A) the ~~Commissioner~~ **Department** finds ~~that~~:
- (1) compliance would cause undue hardship to the clinic;
 - (2) the clinic is in substantial compliance with the spirit of the requirement; and
 - (3) the clinic's non-compliance does not jeopardize the health or safety of its patients and does not limit the clinic's capacity to give adequate care; and
- (B) the clinic provides to the ~~Commissioner or his/her designee~~ **Department** written documentation supporting its request for a waiver.

~~SUBPART A—LICENSING AND OTHER ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES~~

140.100: ~~Reserved —Applicability of 105 CMR 140.000 Subpart A.~~

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~~The requirements of 105 CMR 140.100 through 140.109 are applicable to all clinics subject to Department licensure, unless otherwise noted in 105 CMR 140.000.~~

140.101: Requirement of License

Every entity ~~that falls~~ within the definition of “clinic” in M.G.L. c. 111, § 52 is required by M.G.L. c. 111, §§ 51 and 56 to obtain a clinic license from the Department **for covering all locations at which the clinic provides services.** ~~The requirements in 105 CMR 140.101 through 140.109, unless otherwise specified, shall be followed in completing an application for a clinic license, which shall be described herein as a “license.”~~

Comment [A13]: To clarify meaning

140.102: Application for a License

(A) Applications for licensure shall be made on forms prescribed by, ~~and available from~~ the Department. The term “application” as used in 105 CMR 140.102 shall include initial and renewal applications.

(B) In support of an application for an original or renewal license, each applicant shall submit the following information, updated as required by 105 CMR 140.107:

(1) Information concerning ownership ~~and~~ **or** control that identifies:

(a) If owned by an individual, partnership or trust, the names and ownership percentages of such individual, partners or trustees, except ~~that~~, in the case of a limited partnership, such information shall be provided only for those limited partners owning 5% or more of the partnership interest and the general partner.

(b) If owned by a **privately held** for-profit corporation, the names of all stockholders who hold 5% or more of any class of the outstanding stock, specifying the percentage owned.

(c) If owned by a not for profit corporation, the names of the members and directors of the corporation.

(d) The name and ownership percentage of each individual who directly or indirectly has any ownership interest of 5% or more, unless otherwise provided pursuant to 105 CMR 104.102(B)(1)(a), (b) or (c).

(2) If ownership of the clinic has been transferred, satisfactory documentary evidence (such as a contract or a deed) showing ~~that~~ ownership of the clinic has been transferred to the applicant.

(3) Any information required by the Commissioner as part of the application, including such additional information concerning ownership ~~and~~ **or** control as the Commissioner may require.

(C) Deemed-by-accreditation Licensure for Ambulatory Surgery Centers. ~~Consistent with M.G.L. c. 111, § 53G, t~~The Department may deem the conditions of original or renewal licensure in 105 CMR 140.000 ~~to be~~ satisfied for an ambulatory surgery center (ASC) ~~that~~ **meetings** the requirements of 105 CMR 140.102(C).

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(1) Deemed-by-accreditation Original License. An ASC ~~that~~ **meetings** the following criteria shall be eligible to apply for a deemed-by-accreditation original license from the Department.

(a) on the date of application, the entity is accredited to provide ambulatory surgery services by the Accreditation Association for Ambulatory Health Care, Inc. (AAAHC), the Joint Commission, the American Association for Accreditation of Ambulatory Surgery Facilities (AAAASF) or any other national accrediting body as determined by the Department; and

(b) on the date of application, the entity is certified or has applied for certification as an ASC by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services for participation in the Medicare program;

(2) Deemed-by-accreditation Renewal License. An ASC ~~that~~ **meetings** the following criteria shall be eligible to apply for a deemed-by-accreditation renewal license from the Department:

(a) on the date of application, the entity is accredited to provide ambulatory surgery services by the Accreditation Association for Ambulatory Health Care, Inc. (AAAHC), the Joint Commission, the American Association for Accreditation of Ambulatory Surgery Facilities (AAAASF) or any other national accrediting body as determined by the Department; and

(b) on the date of application, the entity is certified as an ASC by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services for participation in the Medicare program;

(3) Application for Deemed-by-accreditation License. An application for a deemed-by-accreditation original or renewal license shall be made on forms prescribed by ~~and made available from~~ the Department. The applicant or licensee shall:

(a) submit the information required by 105 CMR 104.102(B);

(b) release to the Commissioner a copy of the applicant or licensee's current accreditation letter and the accrediting agency's explanation of its survey findings; and

(c) for a deemed-by-accreditation original license, comply with the requirements of 105 CMR 140.103(A), (B), (C)(2), and (D).

(4) Evaluation of Deemed-by-accreditation License Application. The Department shall not approve an application for deemed-by-accreditation original or renewal license unless it determines:

(a) ~~that~~ the requirements of 105 CMR 140.108(B) and 140.109 relating to responsibility and suitability are met; and

(b) for a deemed-by-accreditation original license, ~~that~~ the requirements of 105 CMR 140.108(C) relating to determination of need or exemption there from are met.

(5) Obligations of Deemed-by-accreditation Licensee. Upon issuance of a deemed-by-accreditation original or renewal license, a licensee is subject to all of

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the requirements of 105 CMR 140.000, unless otherwise specified. In addition, a deemed-by-accreditation licensee shall:

- (a) permit Department staff to participate in any summation conference(s) scheduled at the completion or renewal of accreditation; and
- (b) release to the Commissioner any other accreditation information requested or specified in guidelines of the Department.

(6) Suspension, Denial, Refusal to Renew, or Revocation of Deemed-by-accreditation License.

(a) Following the procedures in 105 CMR 140.132 through 140.134, the Commissioner may suspend, deny, refuse to renew, or revoke a deemed-by-accreditation license on any of the grounds specified in 105 CMR 140.130 or 140.131.

(b) In addition the Commissioner may suspend, deny, refuse to renew, or revoke a deemed-by-accreditation license under the following circumstances:

- 1. the licensee loses its accreditation status; or
- 2. the Commissioner finds the licensee is out of compliance with one or more conditions of accreditation or determines ~~that~~ a significant deficiency exists; or
- 3. the licensee's application for Medicare certification is denied; or
- 4. the Commissioner finds the licensee is out of compliance with one or more Medicare Conditions of Participation or determines ~~that~~ a significant deficiency exists.

140.103: Other Licensing Requirements

(A) Ownership Interest. An applicant or licensee must be the owner of the premises on which the facility is operated or lessee of the premises for at least one year.

(B) Name. Each clinic applying for a license shall be designated by a permanent and distinctive name, which shall appear on the application for a license. **The Department may disapprove any name that misrepresents or may otherwise mislead the public regarding the ownership of the clinic or the services provided.** ~~To avoid public confusion or misrepresentation, this name shall not be changed~~ **A clinic may not change its name** without prior approval by the Department.

(C) Prior Approvals. As a prerequisite for a license, all applicants must obtain and submit the following documents in support of the application for licensure:

- (1) a copy of the certificate of inspection issued ~~pursuant to M.G.L. c. 111, § 51~~ by a building inspector of the Department of Public Safety **or appropriate local jurisdiction** stating ~~that~~ the clinic and any satellite clinic premises comply with the Department's requirements governing egresses, fire prevention, and fire extinguishing apparatus; and

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(2) a copy of the certificate of inspection issued pursuant to M.G.L. c. 111, § 51 by the head of the local fire department stating ~~that~~ the clinic and any satellite clinic premises comply with local ordinances.

(D) Fees. The clinic license fee shall accompany every application submitted. Payment of the fee shall be by check or money order payable to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. The fee shall be subject to refund only in the event the application is withdrawn.

(E) Submission and Approval of Plans. In the case of new construction of a clinic or any satellite clinic, or in the case of alterations or additions to an existing clinic or any satellite clinic, preliminary architectural plans and final architectural plans and specifications shall be submitted to the Commissioner.

(1) **No clinic may begin construction without prior written approval of the Commissioner** ~~shall be obtained prior to said new construction or alterations or additions.~~

(2) **The Commissioner shall establish standards** for review and approval of plans ~~shall be established as administrative guidelines by the Department~~, based on the *Facility Guidelines Institute's Guidelines for Design and Construction of Health Care Facilities*. **Those provisions of the Facility Guidelines Institute's Guidelines for Design and Construction of Health Care Facilities which pertain to services a particular clinic does not provide shall not apply to the clinic.**

(3) In the case of a clinic ~~that~~ **providing** mobile ~~medical~~ services, **the clinic may be required to submit** plans for siting at each host location, **including contracts and/or lease arrangements for the use of space at the host location shall be submitted by the clinic or the host location.**

(F) Limited Services List. **Each applicant shall include a description of the specific service as defined in 105 CMR 140.020 for which it is seeking licensure.** An applicant for a limited services clinic license shall include on the licensure application a description of the limited services ~~that~~ it proposes to provide.

(G) **An applicant seeking licensure for a mobile service license shall include on the licensure application the following information:**

- (1) a description of the services to be provided by each mobile, portable, or mobile/portable unit;
- (2) the proposed schedule for the provision of services by each unit or at each host site.

(H) **Each clinic shall comply with all applicable state and federal statutes and regulations pertaining to health care facilities, including any applicable statutes and regulations of the Division of Medical Assistance.**

Comment [A14]: Added to ensure clinics are complying with all applicable standards, including MassHealth.

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140.104: Timing of Application

(A) In the case of a transfer of ownership, the application shall be submitted no later than ~~48 hours~~ **two business days** following the transfer, **provided, however, the Department will not accept an application from any owner who was not found suitable pursuant to 105 CMR 140.104. See ~~105 CMR 140.105.~~**

(B) **Clinics shall submit applications for renewals** ~~In the case of a renewal license, the application shall be submitted three months~~ **at least 90 days** prior to expiration of the license.

140.105: Transfer of Ownership and Change in Location

(A) **A licensed clinic must notify** ~~t~~The Department ~~shall be notified immediately~~ in writing of any proposed change in name or location of a facility **at least 30 days prior to the change**. A license shall not be transferred from one person or entity to another or from one location to another.

(B) The proposed licensee shall submit a Notice of Intent **form** to acquire a clinic to the Department at least 30 calendar days in advance of any transfer of ownership.

(C) Any person applying for a license as a result of any transfer of ownership shall file an application for licensure within ~~48 hours~~ **two business days** of the transfer ~~or such longer period in advance as the Commissioner shall prescribe~~. If the Notice of Intent **form** was not timely filed, at the discretion of the Commissioner, an application received as a result of a transfer of ownership will not be considered as filed for 30 calendar days, or such longer period as the Commissioner shall designate **in order to conduct a suitability review**, after such application is received.

(D) An application filed as a result of a transfer of ownership, if timely filed, shall have the effect of a license for a period of three months from the date of filing or until such time as the Department takes action on the application. If not timely filed, such an application shall not have such effect.

(E) Any notice of hearing, order or decision ~~which~~ the Department or the Commissioner issues for a clinic prior to a transfer of ownership shall be effective against the former owner prior to such transfer and, where appropriate, the new owner, following such transfer unless said notice, order or decision is modified or dismissed by the Department or by the Commissioner.

(F) A transfer of ownership shall not be recognized and the new owner shall not be considered suitable for licensure when the transfer is proposed or made to circumvent the effect and purposes of 105 CMR 140.000. The Department shall consider the following

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factors in determining whether a transfer has been proposed or made to circumvent 105 CMR 140.000:

- (1) the transferor's record of compliance with Department licensure laws and 105 CMR 140.000;
- (2) the transferor's current licensure status;
- (3) the transferor's familial, business and/or financial relation to the transferee;
- (4) the terms of the transfer; and
- (5) the consequences of the transfer.

(G) To transfer ownership, an ambulatory surgery center must ~~obtain a determination of need from the Department in accordance with~~ **comply** with **any additional** procedures set forth in 105 CMR 100.000 *Determination of Need*.

140.106: Acceptance of Application

(A) The Department shall not accept an application for an original or renewal license unless:

- (1) the application includes all information required by the Department;
- (2) the application and all required attachments and statements submitted by the applicant meet the requirements of 105 CMR 140.000; and
- (3) the applicant has paid all required fees.

(B) In the case of the transfer of ownership of a clinic, the application of the new owner for a license shall not have the effect of a license for a period of three months (or until such time as the Department takes action on the application) when the application is not filed in accordance with 105 CMR 140.106(A).

140.107: Updating of Information

Each licensee shall keep current all ownership and or control information submitted under the requirements of 105 CMR 140.000 or otherwise required by the Commissioner ~~shall be kept current by each licensee. Each licensee shall file a~~ Any document ~~which~~ **that** amends, supplements, updates or otherwise alters any ownership ~~and or~~ control document ~~required to be filed shall be filed~~ with the Department within 30 **calendar** days of the execution thereof. **Each licensee shall file a** Any changes in, or additions to, the content of the information contained in any ownership or control document required to be filed ~~shall be reported~~ to the Department within 30 **calendar** days of such change or addition.

140.108: Evaluation of Application

The Department shall not approve an application for original or renewal license unless:

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(A) the Department has conducted an inspection or other investigation of the facility and has determined ~~that~~ the applicant complies with **all applicable provisions in** 105 CMR 140.000;

(B) the Commissioner has conducted an investigation of the proposed licensee(s) and determined ~~that~~ each proposed licensee is suitable and responsible to establish or maintain a clinic; and

(C) in the case of original licensure or addition of a satellite unit, the Department has determined ~~that~~ there is need for the facility at the designated location ~~unless the facility is exempt from~~ **if the facility is subject to** determination of need pursuant to M.G.L. c. 111, § 51 ~~or 105 CMR 100.014~~.

140.109: Evidence of Responsibility and Suitability

(A) In determining whether an applicant is responsible and suitable to be granted a clinic license, the Department shall consider all relevant information including, but not limited to, the following:

- (1) the proposed licensee's history of prior compliance with Massachusetts state laws **and regulations** governing health facility operation, ~~and 105 CMR~~. Assessment of this factor shall include the ability and willingness of the proposed licensee to take corrective action when notified by the Department of any regulatory violations;
- (2) the proposed licensee's financial capacity to provide services in compliance with state law and 105 CMR 140.000 as evidenced by sufficiency of present resources and assessment of past history, including financial involvement with health care facilities that have filed petitions for bankruptcy;
- (3) the history of criminal conduct of the proposed licensee and clinic administrator, officers and directors as evidenced by criminal proceedings against those individuals ~~which~~ **resulting in** convictions, or guilty pleas, or pleas of nolo contendere, or admission of sufficient facts; and
- (4) the proposed licensee's history of **suspension, revocation, or refusal to grant or renew a health care facility license** ~~statutory and regulatory compliance for health care facilities~~ in other jurisdictions, ~~including proceedings in which the proposed licensee was involved which that proposed or led to a limitation upon or a suspension, revocation, or refusal to grant or renew a health care facility license or~~ **or suspension, revocation or refusal of** certification for Medicaid or Medicare to the proposed licensee.

(B) The Commissioner will consider the evidence produced and make licensure recommendations accordingly.

140.110: Right to Visit and Inspect

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The Department or its agents may visit and inspect a clinic, ~~or satellite~~, **or mobile or portable unit** ~~elinie~~ subject to licensure under M.G.L. c. 111, § 51 at any time without prior notice in order to determine the clinic's compliance with state law and 105 CMR 140.000. All parts of the clinic, ~~or satellite~~, **or mobile or portable unit** ~~elinie~~ (including the site of any mental health outreach program), all staff and activities, and all records are subject to such visit and inspection.

140.111: Frequency of Inspection

The Department shall make aAn inspection or other investigation ~~shall be made~~ prior to the issuance of every license. Additional inspections may be made, consistent with the availability of staff, whenever the Commissioner deems it necessary for the enforcement of 105 CMR 140.000.

140.112: Deficiency Statements

After every inspection in which any violation of 105 CMR 140.000 is observed, the Commissioner shall prepare a deficiency statement citing every violation observed, a copy of which shall be sent to the clinic.

140.113: Plan of Correction

(A) A clinic shall submit to the Commissioner a written plan of correction of violations cited in a deficiency statement prepared pursuant to 105 CMR 140.112 within ~~ten~~ **10 calendar** days after **receipt of** the deficiency statement ~~is sent~~.

(B) Every plan of correction shall set forth, with respect to each deficiency, the specific corrective step(s) to be taken, a timetable for such steps, and the date by which compliance with 105 CMR 140.000 will be achieved. The timetable and the compliance dates shall be consistent with achievement of compliance in the most expeditious manner possible.

(C) The Department shall review the plan of correction for compliance with the requirements of 105 CMR 140.113(B) and will notify the licensees of either the acceptance or rejection of the plan. An unacceptable plan must be amended and resubmitted within five **calendar** days of the date of notice.

140.120: Issuance of License

Upon the approval of the application for a license ~~by the Public Health Council~~, the Department shall issue a clinic license to the applicant. Every license shall state the name and address of the clinic if either differs from that of the licensee; the period of licensure; the specific service(s) ~~that~~ the clinic is licensed to deliver; and the name and

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address of any satellite clinic. In the case of a clinic providing mobile medical services, the license shall state the name and address of the clinic including address of the administrative offices, if separate from the site(s) of service, and the name and address of the host locations.

140.121: Period of License

(A) ~~Ordinarily, a~~ **The Department shall issue a** clinic license ~~shall be issued by the Department~~ for a period of two years.

~~(B) The Department may in the alternative issue a provisional license for a period of no more than one year to a clinic which **that** is not in full compliance with applicable requirements but which the Department finds is in substantial compliance with such requirements and demonstrates potential for achieving full compliance within the provisional licensure period. Consecutive provisional licenses shall not be issued to a clinic.~~

~~(B)~~ Provided a licensed clinic submits a timely application for a renewal license, its previous license shall be valid until the Department acts on its renewal application. ~~Upon receipt of a renewal license, the clinic shall return the expired license to the Department by certified mail.~~

~~(D) An application filed as a result of a transfer of ownership, if timely filed, shall have the effect of a license for a period of three months from the date of filing or until such time as the Department takes action on the application. If not timely filed, such an application shall not have such effect.~~

140.122: Coverage of License

A license is valid only for the premises and the specific services authorized by the Department. ~~No clinic may perform cardiac catheterization services.~~

140.123: Posting of Clinic License ~~and Department of Public Safety (DPS) Certificate~~

The current license from the Department, ~~and or a~~ **copy**ies thereof, ~~and the current Department of Public Safety (DPS) certificate, where relevant,~~ shall be posted in a conspicuous place in the clinic, and in any of its satellites **or mobile services** ~~clinics~~sites.

140.130: Grounds for Suspension of License or Part of License

The Commissioner may summarily suspend a clinic's license or a part of its license covering a specific service or specific services, if he **or she** decides ~~that~~ the

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continuation in operation of the clinic or the specific service(s) poses an imminent risk to the safety or proper health care of the clinic's patients.

140.131: Grounds for Denial, Refusal to Renew or Revocation of a License or Part of License

Each of the following, in and of itself, shall constitute full and adequate grounds on which to deny, revoke, or refuse to renew a license to operate a clinic in whole or in part with respect to a specific service or specific services or a part or parts thereof:

(A) Lack of legal capacity to provide the service(s) to be covered by a license ~~as determined pursuant to 105 CMR 140.102 and 140.103.~~

(B) Lack of responsibility and suitability to operate a clinic, ~~as determined pursuant to 105 CMR 140.109.~~

(C) Failure to submit the required license fee.

(D) Violation of any state **or federal** statute **or regulation** pertaining to **operation of the clinic licensure.**

~~(E) Failure to give proper patient care to clinic patients.~~

~~(E)~~ Violation of any applicable provision of 105 CMR 140.000 and:

(1) Failure to submit an acceptable plan of correction pursuant to 105 CMR 140.113; or

(2) Failure to remedy or correct a cited violation by the date specified in the plan of correction as accepted or modified by the Department.

(F) Willful misrepresentation of information or data submitted to the Department or any other agency of the Commonwealth.

(G) Denial of the right of ~~entry to~~ agents of the Department to visit and inspect.

(H) Provision of services as defined in 105 CMR 140.020 for which the clinic is not licensed.

140.132: Hearings: Procedure

(A) Suspension of a License.

(1) Upon suspension of a license or any part thereof, the Commissioner shall give the licensee written notice thereof, stating the reason(s) for the suspension. The suspension shall take effect immediately upon issuance of the notice.

(2) The Department shall initiate a hearing pursuant to 801 CMR 1.00 *et seq.* no later than 21 calendar days after the effective date of the suspension.

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(3) In cases of suspension of a license, the hearing officer shall determine whether the Department has proved by a preponderance of the evidence ~~that~~ there existed, immediately prior to or at the time of the suspension, an imminent risk to the safety or proper health care of the clinic's patients.

(B) Revocation of or Refusal to Renew License.

(1) A license may be revoked or refused renewal in whole or in part only after a hearing as required by M.G.L. c. 111, § 51.

(2) If the Commissioner determines ~~that~~ a licensee is not suitable or responsible or ~~that~~ a license should be revoked or refused renewal pursuant to 105 CMR 140.000, the Commissioner shall initiate a hearing pursuant to 801 CMR 1.00 *et seq.*

(3) In cases of revocation of or refusal to renew a license, the hearing officer shall determine whether the Department has proved by a preponderance of the evidence ~~that~~ the licensee is not suitable or responsible and/or ~~that~~ the license should be revoked or refused renewal, based on relevant facts as they existed at or prior to the time the Commissioner initiated the hearing procedure.

(C) License Denial.

(1) Upon receipt of notice that an application for original licensure has been denied, a proposed licensee may appeal to a hearing officer pursuant to 801 CMR 1.00 *et seq.*

(2) In cases of denial of an original license, the hearing officer shall determine whether the **the applicant proposed licensee** has proved by a preponderance of the evidence ~~that she/he~~ **the proposed licensee** is suitable and responsible for licensure under M.G.L. c. 111, § 51 and 105 CMR 140.000.

(D) Denial, Revocation or Refusal to Renew Based on Lack of Certificate of Inspection.

If the Department is notified ~~that~~ the ~~Department of Public Safety~~ **local jurisdiction** or the head of the local fire department has denied any applicant or licensee a certificate of inspection ~~pursuant to M.G.L. c. 111, § 51~~, and that an appeal, if requested, has been duly denied by the **local jurisdiction or the head of the local fire department**, the Commissioner may:

(1) inform the applicant or licensee ~~that~~ the Department has been notified ~~that~~ a certificate of inspection has been denied;

(2) offer the applicant or licensee an opportunity to submit a current certificate of inspection within two weeks, or within such other time period as the Commissioner shall designate; or

(3) deny, revoke or refuse to renew the license of the applicant or licensee without further hearing unless the applicant or licensee submits a current certificate of inspection within the time allowed.

140.133: Hearings: Scope of Review

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(A) Any hearing officer conducting a hearing shall determine the suitability or responsibility of any licensee or proposed licensee on request of the Department, whether or not the applicant or licensee is licensed at the time the determination is made.

(B) If a hearing officer finds ~~that~~ the licensee or proposed licensee is unsuitable or not responsible under any single provision of 105 CMR 140.109, the hearing officer shall uphold the decision of the Commissioner ~~that~~ **and finds** the proposed licensee or licensee is not suitable or responsible.

(C) If the hearing officer finds any single ground for denial of, revocation of or refusal to renew a license pursuant to 105 CMR 140.131 the hearing officer shall uphold the decision of the Commissioner to deny, revoke or refuse to renew the license.

140.134: ~~Public Health Council and~~ Judicial Review **of Agency Decision**

(A) The decision of a hearing officer in any adjudicatory proceeding conducted pursuant to 105 CMR 140.132 shall be reviewed by the Commissioner. ~~and the Public Health Council. Their~~ **His or her** decision upon this review shall constitute a final agency decision in an adjudicatory proceeding subject to judicial review pursuant to M.G.L. c. 30A, § 14.

(B) Any licensee or proposed licensee that fails to exercise its right to an adjudicatory proceeding pursuant to 105 CMR 140.132 waives both its right to administrative review by the Commissioner ~~and the Public Health Council~~ and its right to judicial review pursuant to M.G.L. c. 30A, § 14.

140.140: Closing of a Clinic

If a clinic intends to cease operation for a period greater than seven consecutive days, **it shall obtain** written approval for a specified period ~~shall be obtained~~ from the Commissioner at least 30 **calendar** days in advance of the proposed closing. If circumstances are such that it is not possible to obtain approval from the Commissioner prior to closing, such approval shall be obtained within ~~72 hours~~ **three business days** of closing. Failure to obtain approval and closure of the clinic for more than seven days shall constitute abandonment of license.

140.141: Temporary Interruption of Service

If a clinic ~~determines~~ **finds that** any of the services required under 105 CMR 140.000 cannot be provided to patients for a temporary period of time, the clinic shall report such a temporary interruption of service to the Department as soon as the interruption of service is known to the clinic.

140.150: Requirement ~~that~~ **For** Personnel **To** Be Vaccinated Against Influenza Virus

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(A) Definitions

(1) For purposes of 105 CMR 140.150, personnel means an individual or individuals employed by or affiliated with the clinic, whether directly, by contract with another entity, or as an independent contractor, paid or unpaid, including but not limited to employees, members of the clinical staff, contract employees or staff, students, and volunteers who either work at or come to the licensed clinic site, whether or not such individual(s) provides direct patient care.

(2) For purposes of 105 CMR 140.150, the requirement for influenza vaccine or vaccination means immunization by either influenza vaccine, inactivated or live; attenuated influenza vaccine including seasonal influenza vaccine pursuant to 105 CMR 140.150(B); and/or other influenza vaccine pursuant to 105 CMR 140.150(C).

(B) Each clinic shall ensure ~~that~~ all personnel are vaccinated with seasonal influenza vaccine unless an individual declines vaccination in accordance with 105 CMR 140.150(F). When feasible, and consistent with any guidelines of the Commissioner ~~of Public Health or his/her designee~~, each clinic shall ensure ~~that~~ all personnel are vaccinated with seasonal influenza vaccine ~~no later than December 15, 2009 and~~ annually ~~thereafter~~.

(C) Each clinic ~~also~~ shall **also** ensure ~~that~~ all personnel are vaccinated against other pandemic or novel influenza virus(es) as specified in guidelines of the Commissioner ~~of his/her designee~~, unless an individual declines vaccination in accordance with 105 CMR 140.150(F). Such guidelines may specify:

- (1) the categories of personnel ~~that~~ shall be vaccinated and the order of priority of vaccination of personnel, with priority for personnel with responsibility for direct patient care;
- (2) the influenza vaccine(s) to be administered;
- (3) the dates by which personnel must be vaccinated; and
- (4) any required reporting and data collection relating to the personnel vaccination requirement of 105 CMR 140.150(C).

(D) Each clinic shall provide all personnel with information about the risks and benefits of influenza vaccine.

(E) Each clinic shall notify all personnel of the influenza vaccination requirements of 105 CMR 140.150 and shall, at no cost to any personnel, provide or arrange for vaccination of all employees who cannot provide proof of current immunization against influenza, as required pursuant to 105 CMR 140.150(B) and (C), unless an individual declines vaccination in accordance with 105 CMR 140.150(F).

(F) Exceptions.

- (1) A clinic shall not require an individual to receive an influenza vaccine pursuant to 105 CMR 140.150(B) or (C) if:

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- (a) the vaccine is medically contraindicated, which means ~~that~~ administration of influenza vaccine to that individual would likely be detrimental to the individual's health;
- (b) vaccination is against the individual's religious beliefs; or
- (c) the individual declines the vaccine.

- (2) An individual who declines vaccination for any reason shall sign a statement declining **the** vaccination and certifying that he or she received information about the risks and benefits of **the** influenza vaccine.

(G) Unavailability of Vaccine. A clinic shall not be required to provide or arrange for influenza vaccination during such times that the vaccine is unavailable for purchase, shipment, or administration by a third party, or when complying with an order of the Commissioner ~~which~~ restricts the use of the vaccine. A clinic shall obtain and administer influenza vaccine in accordance with 105 CMR 140.150 as soon as vaccine becomes available.

(H) Documentation.

- (1) A clinic shall require and maintain for each individual proof of current vaccination against influenza virus pursuant to 105 CMR 140.150(B) and (C) or the individual's declination statement pursuant to 105 CMR 140.150(F).
- (2) Each clinic shall maintain a central system to track the vaccination status of all personnel.
- (3) If a clinic is unable to provide or arrange for influenza vaccination for any individual, it shall document the reasons such vaccination could not be provided or arranged for.

(I) Reporting and Data Collection.

Each clinic shall report information to the Department documenting the clinic's compliance with the personnel vaccination requirements of 105 CMR 140.150, in accordance with reporting and data collection guidelines of the Commissioner ~~or his/her designee.~~

~~140.200: Applicability of 105 CMR 140.000 Subpart B~~

~~The requirements of 105 CMR 140.200 through 140.221 are applicable to all clinics subject to Department licensure, unless otherwise noted in 105 CMR 140.000.~~

140.201: General Physical Environment

Each clinic shall maintain its physical facilities in good repair in a safe, comfortable and sanitary state, free from dirt, rubbish, vermin, solid wastes, and objectionable odors.

140.202: Reception and Office Areas

Proposed changes to 105 CMR 140.000, Licensure of Clinics

Blue = new language put forth for comment

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Each clinic shall provide adequate space and equipment for reception and waiting areas, for administrative and staff offices, and ~~for~~ **appropriate** storage ~~of~~ **for** patient records **whether paper or electronic**.

140.203: Consultation, Examination and Treatment Areas

Each clinic shall provide consultation, examination, treatment and dressing areas appropriate to the services provided by the clinic. Each clinic shall furnish and arrange such areas in a manner ~~that is~~ consistent with their use and that safeguards the personal dignity and privacy (in terms of both sight and sound) of the patient during interview, examination and treatment. If separate consultation or interview rooms are not provided, the treatment area shall have floor to ceiling partitions to ~~as~~ ensure minimum sound transmission.

140.204: Clean Storage and Soiled Holding Areas

Each clinic, except clinics providing only mental health services **or small clinics that do not have more than two examination rooms**, shall provide a clean supply storage room and a soiled workroom or soiled holding room, ~~which that~~ are apart from any examination, treatment or dressing area. ~~Clinics providing limited services shall provide a clean supply storage room and a soiled workroom or soiled holding area~~ as necessary **for the services provided by the clinic** to meet accepted standards of practice ~~for the services provided in the clinic~~. The clean storage room shall accommodate storage for clean supplies. The soiled workroom area shall contain a work counter, a clinical service sink, and if physically separate from the clean work area, a handwashing sink with hot and cold water. If patient care does not involve disposal of fluid waste, a soiled holding room equipped with a handwashing sink with hot and cold water may be provided in lieu of a soiled workroom.

140.205: Handwashing and Toilet Facilities

- (A) Each clinic shall provide conveniently located handwashing and toilet facilities adequate for patients and personnel, as appropriate to the services provided by the clinic.
- (B) A soap dispenser, disposable towels or electronic hand dryers, and a waste receptacle shall be provided at each handwashing sink. Surgical scrub sink faucets shall be provided with blade type operating handles, knee or foot controls.
- (C) The clinic shall provide a handwashing facility with hot and cold water and blade type operating handles or knee or foot controls in each examination and treatment area.
- (D) A **limited service clinic or mobile/portable unit** ~~services clinic that is~~ located on **or at** the premises of another entity may share toilet facilities with that entity.

Proposed changes to 105 CMR 140.000, Licensure of Clinics

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140.206: ~~Janitor's~~ **Utility** Closet

Each clinic shall provide one or more suitably located ~~janitor's~~ **utility** closets equipped with a service sink or floor receptacle with hot and cold water for emptying and cleaning housekeeping equipment. A limited services clinic ~~that is~~ located on the premises of another entity may store supplies in a ~~janitor's~~ **utility** closet or other designated space provided by ~~that~~ entity provided that the ~~janitor's~~ **utility** closet or other designated space is suitably located. Each ~~janitor's~~ **utility** closet must have a door that locks. Each clinic shall label cleaning compounds properly and clearly and store them in a ~~janitor's~~ **utility** closet or other locked closet.

140.207: **Reserved** ~~Storage Space~~

~~Each clinic shall provide storage space adequate and suitable for equipment and bulk office supplies.~~

140.208: Ventilation

Each clinic shall provide all rooms that do not have direct access to the outside, including toilets and soiled holding rooms, with satisfactory mechanical ventilation.

140.209: Accessibility to ~~Handicapped~~ Individuals **With Disabilities**

Clinic **space, including satellites, mobile/portable units and mental health outreach sites** ~~facilities~~ used for patients shall be accessible to ~~handicapped~~ individuals **with disabilities** and shall comply with all federal, state and local requirements for ~~handicapped~~ accessibility.

(A) Mobile Medical Services

~~(1) A mobile medical service shall be connected to the host location(s) by an enclosed passageway that satisfactorily protects patients from inclement weather and temperature extremes. If the passageway is temporary and used solely as a link between the mobile medical vehicle and the host location, the passageway need not be of the construction type specified in the Guidelines for Construction and Equipment of Hospital and Medical Facilities but shall meet any requirements set by the Department of Public Safety and local building inspector.~~

~~(2) A mobile medical service shall be accessible to patients only through emergency, ambulatory care or radiology service areas and not through inpatient or non-patient areas of the host location. An exception to this requirement may be granted if the clinic demonstrates satisfactorily to the Commissioner that physical plant limitations preclude compliance with this requirement and that the alternate location of the mobile medical service will provide patients with adequate safety.~~

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~~comfort, and access to needed services and will protect both inpatients and outpatients from disruptions and violations of privacy.~~

(3) A mobile medical service shall meet the ~~physical plant~~ requirements set forth in 105 CMR 140.000**209**, either directly or through written arrangements for shared service areas with the host locations. ~~Contracts and/or lease arrangements for use of space at host locations shall be submitted to the Department with plan review requests.~~

(B) ~~Limited Services Clinics.~~ Any ~~limited services~~ clinic ~~that is~~ located on the premises of another entity shall be accessible through well marked corridors or aisles that constitute an accessible route for ~~handicapped~~ individuals **with disabilities**. The clinic shall be responsible for establishing a formal agreement with that entity for the purpose of maintaining the accessible route free of obstructions at all times.

140.210: ~~Quantity and Type~~**Supplies and Equipment**

Each clinic shall have supplies and equipment appropriate in quantity and type to the specific service(s) ~~which~~ the clinic renders its patients **and adequate storage space for such supplies and equipment**.

140.211: Maintenance and Sanitation **of Supplies and Equipment**

Each clinic shall keep supplies and equipment safe, sanitary and in good working condition as necessary for the services offered by the clinic.

(A) Shelf Life. The clinic shall discard supplies used for examination or treatment of patients when beyond their shelf life.

(B) Disinfection. The clinic shall disinfect diagnostic and therapeutic equipment after each use in accordance with recognized standards of practice.

(C) Sterilization. Each clinic shall sterilize after each use nondisposable equipment and supplies ~~that~~ **requiring** sterilization. Single use items shall not be reused. Sterilized materials shall be packaged and labeled in a manner assuring sterility and shall indicate the sterility dates.

(D) Sterilization Equipment. Each clinic shall maintain sterilization equipment adequate to the needs of the clinic, for the purpose of sterilizing equipment and supplies as required or shall have an arrangement to obtain such services from a source approved by the Commissioner. **The clinic shall have a** recognized method of checking clinic sterilizer performance ~~shall be in effect~~.

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(E) Safety of Equipment. The clinic shall establish and enforce a preventive maintenance program to ensure all equipment is in safe working order. A maintenance check shall be regularly performed on all mechanical and electronic medical equipment. Electrified equipment shall be properly grounded and calibrated consistent with manufacturer's recommendations.

(F) Disposal of Waste. Each clinic shall ensure the safe disposal of hazardous and infectious waste.

140.212: Linen and Laundry

~~(A)~~ If a clinic requires linen in its operation, it shall at all times maintain a quantity of clean washable or disposable linen sufficient for the needs of the clinic.

~~(B)~~ The clinic shall provide and maintain separate, suitable space and equipment for the handling and storage of clean linen and soiled linen.

~~(C)~~ The clinic shall store clean linen in a closed closet, cabinet, or cart away from soiled areas.

140.220: ~~Fire Safety~~ Emergency Plan

Each clinic shall develop and maintain a written plan for dealing with fire **or other emergency**. The clinic shall make a copy of the plan available to all staff members. Each ~~fire safety~~ **emergency** plan shall specify persons to be notified, locations of alarm signals and fire extinguisher, evacuation routes, procedures for evacuating ~~handicapped individuals with disabilities~~ and nonambulatory patients, and assignments of specific tasks and responsibilities. A copy of the plan shall be posted in a conspicuous area of each separate clinic premises.

140.221: Fire Drills

Each separate clinic premises shall conduct a fire drill at least twice a year in each work shift, and such drills shall include the entire staff. Documentation of such drills shall be available to the Commissioner for review.

140.300: ~~Reserved~~ Applicability of 105 CMR 140.000 Subpart C

~~The requirements of 105 CMR 140.300 through 140.380 are applicable to all clinics subject to Department licensure, unless otherwise noted in 105 CMR 140.000.~~

140.301: Administrative Records

Proposed changes to 105 CMR 140.000, Licensure of Clinics

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(A) Each clinic shall maintain current, complete, and accurate administrative records in a safe location. The clinic shall make all administrative records available promptly to any agent of the Department seeking to determine compliance with 105 CMR 140.000.

(B) Administrative records shall include:

- (1) Updated articles of organization and by-laws, partnership agreement or trust instrument, as appropriate. The documents shall specify the organizational structure of the governing body and the methods of the selection of its members.
- (2) Updated lists of the names and addresses of the persons set forth in 105 CMR 104.102(B)(1)(a) through (d).
- (3) Minutes of meetings of the governing body and of the members.
- (4) An organizational chart for the entire organization.
- (5) Written policies and procedures designed to safeguard the health and safety of patients and staff. These policies and procedures shall be reviewed and updated annually. At a minimum the policies shall address:

- (a) Selection of personnel and the qualifications for each position. A job description for each position must be included in the administrative records.
- (b) Employee health policies ~~t-that~~ **asensuring** employees are free of communicable disease.
- (c) Patient **treatment admission** criteria.
- (d) The provision of emergency care and the retention of emergency equipment appropriate to the clinic's patient population.
- (e) Obtaining informed consent for surgical procedures and other treatment where required by law.
- (f) A policy for off-hour coverage posted conspicuously in the clinic and any of its satellite clinics. The policy must ensure compliance with 105 CMR 140.315(B).
- (g) The disposal of hazardous and infectious waste.
- (h) Infection control.
- (i) Services ~~which~~ **that** the clinic provides.
- (j) Smoking on the premises. ~~Such policies shall assure the comfort of all patients including patients in waiting areas.~~
- (k) Procedures for complying with laws and regulations relating to reportable diseases and conditions.
- (l) Procedures for **asensuring** ~~that~~ all patients of a clinic ~~that~~ **providing** mobile **medical** services at host locations are provided with written information ~~that~~ clearly **identifying** the clinic, and not the host location, as the licensed health care facility responsible for the service provided.
- (m) Policies and procedures for documenting clinical supervision of health care staff by licensed staff members.**

Comment [A15]: Added to emphasize expectation for licensees' role in appropriate clinical supervision.

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- (6) Personnel records for each employee, including evidence of any required license or registration number; documentation of any specialty certification, education and job experience.

140.302: Patient Records

(A) Each clinic shall ~~keep in one~~ **maintain** centralized ~~location on its premises~~ records **documenting** ~~indicating~~ all the services rendered to clinic patients. Records shall contain sufficient information to justify the diagnosis(es) and treatment, and to document the results accurately. A mobile medical service **or mental health outreach program** shall maintain patient records ~~on the premises of the~~ **as records of the** clinic and not ~~at of the~~ host locations **or outreach location(s)**.

(B) Each patient shall have a single integrated record, except ~~that~~ mental health, dental, substance ~~abuse~~ **disorder**, and, upon approval of the Commissioner, other records, may be filed separately ~~on the premises~~, provided there is an effective cross-referencing system. Each entry into each patient record shall be dated and authenticated by the staff member making the entry, **including the staff's** ~~indicating~~ name and title. Each page **or each entry** of each patient's record shall have two unique forms of identification. The record with respect to each patient shall include the following:

- (1) Patient's name, date of birth, sex, home address and telephone number, and sponsor or responsible party if any.
- (2) Date of each patient visit with clinic staff at the clinic, satellite clinic or at mental health outreach sites.
- (3) Medical or dental history, as appropriate.
- (4) Diagnostic observations, evaluations, and therapeutic plans.
- (5) Orders for any medication, test, or treatment.
- (6) Records of any administration of medications, treatment, or therapy.
- (7) Laboratory, radiology, and other diagnostic reports.
- (8) Progress notes.
- (9) Reports of any consultations, special examinations, or procedures.
- (10) Operative and anesthesia records for surgical patients.
- (11) Social service reports.
- (12) Referrals to other agencies.
- (13) Documentation that informed consent has been obtained for surgical procedures and other treatment where required by law and in accordance with 105 CMR 140.301(B)(5)(e).
- (14) Discharge summary, when appropriate.
- (15) Documentation of patient consent to release information to the receiving provider prior to or upon patient transfer.**

(C) Retention of Medical Records. **The purpose of this requirement is to establish a minimum retention period and does not preclude clinics from maintaining records for a longer period of time.**

Comment [A16]: Added to ensure appropriate releases are obtained to ensure adequate transfer of patient information.

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(1) In accordance with M.G.L. c. 111, § 70 each clinic shall maintain records of the diagnosis and treatment of patients under its care for a minimum of 20 years after the discharge or the final treatment of the patient to whom the record relates. Medical records may be handwritten, printed, typed or in electronic digital format, or converted to electronic digital format or an alternative archival method.

Handwritten, printed or typed medical records ~~that have been~~ converted to electronic digital format or an alternative archival method may be destroyed before the expiration of the 20 year retention period. The manner of destruction must ensure the confidentiality of patient information. For purposes of ~~section-105~~ 105 CMR 140.302, medical records in electronic digital format shall have the same force and effect as the original records from which they were made.

(2) For the purpose of 105 CMR 140.302, a clinic shall not be required to consider the following as part of the medical record subject to the retention requirements in M.G.L. c. 111, § 70: radiological films, scans, other image records, raw psychological testing data, electronic fetal monitoring tracings, electroencephalograph, electrocardiography tracings and the like, provided that any signed narrative reports, interpretations or sample tracings ~~that are generated~~ **to reporting** the results of such tests and procedures shall be maintained as part of the record. Such records as described in 105 CMR 140.302(C)(2) shall be retained for a period of at least five years following the date of service.

~~The purpose of this requirement is to establish a minimum retention period and does not preclude clinics from maintaining records for a longer period of time.~~

(3) Medical records retained by the facility in accordance with 105 CMR 140.302(C) shall be made available, for inspection and copying, upon written request of the patient or his ~~or~~ **or** her authorized representative. The clinic may charge a reasonable fee for copying, not to exceed the rate of copying expenses, as specified in M.G.L. c.111, § 70.

(D) Each clinic shall maintain and use patient records in a manner that protects the confidentiality of the information contained therein. Printed copies of electronically stored records shall be disposed of in a manner that ~~as~~ **ensures** the confidentiality of patient information.

(E) Each clinic shall make all patient records available promptly to any agent of the Department.

(F) At the expiration of 20 years after the discharge or the final treatment of the patient to whom a retained medical record relates, a clinic may destroy the medical record. The manner of destruction must ensure the confidentiality of patient information. At least 30 **calendar** days prior to the proposed date of destruction of a medical record(s), a clinic shall provide written notification to the Department generally indicating the type of records to be destroyed and the dates of service ~~which~~ **exceeding** the applicable retention

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period, as specified in guidelines of the Department, of the clinic's intent to destroy medical record(s) ~~that~~ **exceeding** the 20 year retention period. A clinic may, but is not required to, notify a patient before destroying the patient's medical record pursuant to 105 CMR 140.302.

(G) A clinic shall provide written notice to a patient of the patient's right to inspect and to receive a copy of the patient's medical records and the clinic's medical record retention policy, as specified in M.G.L., c.111, § 70.

(H) Each urgent care clinic shall provide a copy of the medical record of each visit to the patient at the end of the visit or as soon as available and, with the patient's consent, provide a facsimile or electronically transmitted copy of the medical record of the visit to the patient's primary care provider, if any. Such copies or transmission shall be provided at no charge to the patient.

140.303: Posting of Notice of Patients' Rights

Each clinic shall have visibly posted a notice, ~~which has~~ **mandatory** heading "NOTICE OF PATIENTS' RIGHTS" in block letters at least one inch high and ~~which~~ **containings** all the rights provided by M.G.L. c. 111, § 70E. The notice shall be posted in at least one central area where all patients are likely to see it. In addition, ~~each patient, upon admittance to the clinic, shall be given~~ **the clinic shall provide** a written document containing all the rights provided by M.G.L. c. 111, § 70E, **in understandable language and translated into the major languages spoken by the clinic's patients, to each patient at his or her first visit to the clinic.**

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140.304: Off-hour Coverage

Each clinic shall make arrangements for the delivery of the services it provides during the hours when it is not open, at least through an answering service **or, with the exception of clinics providing mental health services, a recorded message** referring patients to another provider of the same services ~~that is~~ as geographically close as possible and ~~that is~~ open at those hours.

(a) Mental Health clinics must provide an answering service after hours, in accordance with 140.520(E).

(b) A limited services clinic may provide a taped message ~~that~~ directing patients to a toll-free number that will enable the patient to speak directly with a practitioner. These arrangements shall be reflected in a written policy **provided that is made available** to all the clinic's patients.

Comment [A17]: Clarified requirements for off-hours coverage for mental health clinics.

140.305: Emergency Transfer

(A) Each clinic shall have a written ~~agreement with a nearby hospital providing emergency services for the transfer there of patients for emergency treatment beyond that provided by the clinic~~ **policy addressing the procedures for calling 911 for patients who need emergency treatment. A clinic is not precluded from entering into agreements for inter-facility transport in non-emergency situations.**

Comment [A18]: Clarified to ensure that non-emergency, inter-facility transport agreements are permissible.

(B) Each clinic ~~which~~ **providing** obstetrical services shall, prior to each patient's expected delivery date, arrange for the patient to be admitted for delivery to a facility licensed to perform deliveries. Unless the patient objects, the clinic shall send a copy of the record of its obstetrical care of the patient to this facility at the beginning of the patient's third trimester of pregnancy, and update it as necessary.

(C) Whenever a clinic refers a patient to another facility, agency, or health care provider, unless the patient objects (except in the case of involuntary commitment to a psychiatric hospital) it shall send a copy of relevant portions of the clinic's **patient's** record ~~on the patient~~ to such facility, agency, or provider.

~~(D) Each clinic shall have a written plan and procedures for the emergency transfer including the transport of clinic patients.~~

140.306: Serious Complaint Procedure

Each clinic shall develop a written procedure that **assures ensuring** prompt and complete investigations of all serious complaints ~~that are~~ filed against **the clinic**, employees of the clinic or members of its professional staff. The procedure shall include, at a minimum, the following provisions:

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(A) Designation of a senior member of the clinic administration as the person responsible for overseeing the investigation of serious complaints lodged against **the clinic**, an employee or member of the professional staff;

(B) Establishment of a reporting procedure ~~which assures ensuring that~~ the designated administrator will receive **from clinical staff written reports of serious complaints** within one day **of the clinic's receipt of the** ~~from clinic staff, in writing, reports of~~ serious complaints;

(C) Development by the designated administrator of a written process of investigation, which shall include the following:

- (1) A process of fact-gathering ~~that he or she will utilize~~, including provision for interviewing of **the a-patient** complainant, **patient, and relevant witnesses**;
- (2) Creation of a complaint file that includes the original report of complaint, progress reports as investigation is carried out and outcome of investigation including action taken, if any;
- (3) Notification of the complainant of the outcome of the investigation.

(D) The complaint files shall be available for inspection by agents of the Department.

140.307: Serious Incident Reports

(A) A clinic shall immediately report to the Department, **pursuant to Department guidelines**, any of the following ~~which incidents~~ occurring on premises covered by its license:

- (1) death that is unanticipated, not related to the natural course of the patient's illness or underlying condition, or that is the result of an error or other incident as specified in guidelines of the Department;
- (2) full or partial evacuation of the facility for any reason;
- (3) fire;
- (4) suicide;
- (5) serious criminal acts;
- (6) pending or actual strike action by its employees, and contingency plans for operation of the clinic;
- (7) reports on surgery-**related** and anesthesia-related complications **that result in serious-morbidity or death of a patient** ~~as required by 105-CMR-140.611~~; or
- (8) any other serious incident or accident as specified in guidelines of the Department.

(B) A clinic shall immediately report to the Department, for any patient treated at the clinic, any suspected instance(s) of abuse, neglect, mistreatment ~~or misappropriation~~ of that patient, **or misappropriation of that patient's property**, at **or by** a nursing home, rest home, home health, home maker or hospice ~~facility~~.

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(C) A clinic shall report to the Department any other serious incident ~~or serious reportable event pursuant to 105 CMR 140.308(A) (SRE)~~ occurring on premises covered by the clinic's license that seriously affects the health and safety of a patient(s) or that causes serious physical injury to a patient(s) **or a medication error within the definition of a Serious Adverse Drug Event (SADE) pursuant to 105 CMR 140.308(A)** within seven **calendar** days of the date of occurrence of the event.

Comment [A19]: Moved to 140.307(D) (below) where it is more appropriately placed, because SADE reporting is only required of ASCs (therefore appropriate in (D) below).

(D) If an ambulatory surgery center makes a report of any incident pursuant to 105 CMR 140.307(A), (B) or (C), and the incident meets the definition of Serious Reportable Event in 105 CMR 140.308(A) **or a medication error within the definition of a Serious Adverse Drug Event (SADE) pursuant to 105 CMR 140.308(A)**, the ambulatory surgery center also shall comply with the requirements of 105 CMR 140.308.

Comment [A20]: Moved from 140.307(C)

~~(E) The Department shall establish guidelines for the reporting of serious incidents, accidents and SREs pursuant to 105 CMR 140.307, including the means of reporting (for example, telephonic report or written report provided to the Department by facsimile, electronic means, delivery, or other means).~~

140.308: Ambulatory Surgery Center Reporting ~~and Reimbursement for of~~ Serious Reportable Events **and Serious Adverse Drug Events**

(A) Definitions. **For the purposes of 105 CMR 140.308,**

~~Hospital means an entity subject to licensure or licensed under M.G.L. c. 111, § 51 and 105 CMR 130.000.~~

National Quality Forum (NQF) means the not-for-profit membership organization created **to lead national collaboration to improve health and healthcare through measurement** ~~to develop and implement a national strategy for health care quality measurement and reporting.~~

Preventable means **an event that could have been anticipated and prepared for, but that occurs because of an error or other system failure, including, but not limited to lack of adherence to best practices, patient safety guidelines or established** ~~that could have been avoided by proper adherence to applicable patient safety guidelines, best practices, and ASC~~ policies and procedures.

Serious Adverse Drug Event (SADE) means any untoward, preventable medical occurrence associated with the use of a controlled substance, as defined in M.G.L. c. 94C, §1, in humans that results in any of the following outcomes: (i) death; (ii) a life-threatening outcome; (iii) inpatient hospitalization or prolongation of existing hospitalization; (iv) a persistent or significant incapacity or substantial disruption of the ability to conduct normal life functions; or (v) a congenital anomaly or birth

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defect; provided, however, that adverse medical occurrences directly associated with the use of a controlled substance in humans that may not immediately result in one of the outcomes listed in clauses (i) to (v), inclusive, may be considered a serious adverse drug event when they develop into or result in any of the outcomes listed in clauses (i) to (v), inclusive.

Serious Reportable Event (SRE) means an event that occurs on premises covered by an ASC's license that results in an adverse patient outcome, is clearly identifiable and measurable, has been identified to be in a class of events that are ~~usually or reasonably~~ **largely** preventable **and harmful**, ~~and of a nature such that the risk of occurrence is significantly influenced by the policies and procedures of the ASC.~~ The Department will issue **and maintain** a list of SREs based on those events included on the NQF's table of reportable events to which 105 CMR 140.308 applies.

Unambiguously the Result of a System Failure ~~Based on the ASC's Policies and Procedures~~ means events ~~that have been~~ determined by the ASC to result from:

- (a) a failure to follow the ASC's policies and procedures; or
- (b) inadequate or non-existent ASC policies and procedures; or
- (c) inadequate system design.

(B) Reporting of SREs.

(1) Within seven **calendar** days of the date of discovery of an SRE, an ASC shall:

(a) file a written report with the Department of an SRE ("SRE report") **as specified in guidelines of the Department;**

~~(b) provide a copy of the SRE report to any responsible third party payer;~~

(be) inform the patient or the patient's representative **orally or in writing or both** ~~verbally and in writing~~ about:

1. the occurrence of the SRE including unanticipated outcomes of care, treatment and services provided as the result of an SRE;
2. the ASC's policies and procedures and documented review process for making a preventability determination as required by 105 CMR 140.308(C); and
3. the option to receive a copy of the SRE report filed with the Department; and

~~(cd)~~ affirm on the SRE report that the ASC has complied with the patient notification requirements of **105 CMR 140.308(B)(1)(eb).**

(2) An ASC that provides services resulting from an SRE ~~that~~ **which** did not occur on its premises shall file a written report with the Department within seven **calendar** days of the date of discovery of the SRE. The reporting ~~hospital~~ **ASC** shall comply with the requirements of 105 CMR 140.308(B)(1), but need not make a preventability determination for the SRE.

(C) Preventability Determination.

Comment [A21]: Aligns with hospital regulations, permits both forms of communication to ensure that the most appropriate form is used in each case.

Comment [A22]: Corrected regulatory reference

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(1) An ASC shall establish policies and procedures for a documented review process to determine whether an SRE was:

- (a) preventable; and
- (b) within the ASC's control; and
- (c) unambiguously the result of a system failure. An ASC shall make a preventability determination for all SREs occurring on premises covered by its license.

(2) No later than 30 days after the date of reporting of the SRE to the Department the ASC shall:

- (a) make the preventability determination required by 105 CMR 140.308(C)(1);
- (b) file an updated SRE report with the Department describing the ASC's preventability determination including, at a minimum, the following:

- 1. narrative description of the SRE;
 - 2. analysis and identification of the root cause of the SRE;
 - 3. analysis of the preventability criteria required by 105 CMR 140.308(C)(1);
 - 4. description of **the any corrective actions developed, implemented and to be monitored measures taken** by the ASC following discovery of the SRE; and
 - 5. whether the ASC intends to charge or seek reimbursement for services provided by the ASC as a result of the SRE; and
- (c) provide a copy of the updated SRE report to the Department, the patient and any responsible third-party payer.

(3) For services to MassHealth members, the ASC shall perform the documented review process solely for purposes of reporting, not for purposes of determining reimbursement.

(D) Reimbursement for SREs.

(1) An ASC may not charge or seek reimbursement from a patient or responsible third-party payer for services provided as a result of an SRE occurring on premises covered by the ASC's license if the ASC determines that the SRE was:

- (a) preventable; and
- ~~(b) within the ASC's control; and~~
- (be)** unambiguously the result of a system failure, as required by 105 CMR 140.308(B) and (C).

(2) An ASC shall immediately suspend or rescind any claims to any patient or responsible third-party payer pending the preventability determination and notification requirements of 105 CMR 140.308(C).

(3) An ASC may charge or seek reimbursement for services it provides that result from an SRE that did not occur on its premises; however an ASC that provides services **(treating facility)** resulting from an SRE ~~(treating facility)~~ occurring on premises of a hospital licensed pursuant to 105 CMR 130.000 or a separately

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licensed ASC (responsible facility), may not charge or seek reimbursement for those services, if the treating facility and the responsible facility have common ownership or a common corporate parent.

(4) Any dispute(s) arising between the ASC and any responsible third-party payer resulting from a charge or claim for reimbursement for services provided by the ASC as a result of an SRE shall be addressed through the third-party payer's provider claims appeals process.

(5) The provisions of 105 CMR 140.308(D) shall not be construed to prohibit a Medicare provider from submitting a claim for reimbursement to the Medicare program.

(6) For services to MassHealth members, the ASC shall perform the documented review process and solely for the purposes of reporting, not for purposes of determining reimbursement pursuant to 105 CMR 140.308(C) and (D) but is not subject to 105 CMR 140.308(D).

Comment [A23]: Added language to align with Hospital regulation.

(E) Serious Adverse Drug Events

(1) Within seven days of the date of discovery of a medication error that occurs or occurred on the premises of the hospital ASC and that meets the definition of a SADE, an hospital ASC shall report the SADE to the Department as specified in guidelines of the Department.

(2) If a SADE also is an SRE, the hospital ASC shall also comply with the requirements of 105 CMR 140.30830.332(B), (C) and (D).

(3) Upon first discovering, through diagnostic evaluation and assessment of an individual patient, that a SADE has resulted from a patient's use, consumption or interaction with any pharmaceutical or drug preparation, an hospital ASC must report the event to the federal MedWatch Program, as well as the pharmacy from which the drug was produced or compounded in addition to all other reporting requirements.

(4) Any facility failing to comply with this section may: (i) be fined up to \$1,000 per day per violation; (2) have its license revoked or suspended by the Department; or (iii) be fined up to \$1,000 per day per violation and have its license revoked or suspended by the Department.

Comment [A24]: Corrected to fix typographical errors – this should be ASC, not hospital, and should refer to clinic regulation, not hospital regulation.

140.309: Ambulatory Surgery Center Healthcare-associated Infection Data Collection, Submission and Reporting

(A) Definitions.

~~Betsy Lehman Center means the Betsy Lehman Center for Patient Safety and Medical Error Reduction established pursuant to M.G.L. c. 6AC, § 16E.~~

Healthcare-associated Infection (HAI), means a localized or systemic condition that results from an adverse reaction to the presence of an infectious agent or its toxins that:

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- (1) occurs in a patient in an ambulatory surgery center (ASC); and
- (2) was not present or incubating at the time of the admission during which the reaction occurs; ~~and~~
- (3) meets the criteria for a specific infection ~~site~~ as defined by the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and its National Healthcare Safety Network; ~~and~~;
- (4) any additional elements as set forth in administrative guidelines of the Department based on the National Healthcare Safety Network.**

National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN) means the **HAI tracking system data collection network** operated by the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

(B) HAI Reporting by Ambulatory Surgery Centers.

- (1) ~~No later than June 1, 2010 e~~Each ASC shall:
 - (a) register with the NHSN; and
 - (b) grant access to the Department ~~and the Betsy Lehman Center~~, in accordance with guidelines of the Department, to ~~1~~healthcare-associated infection data elements reportable to the NHSN. ~~and~~ ~~2~~ ~~clinic specific reports generated by the NHSN.~~
- (2) Each ASC shall collect and submit to the NHSN, and then grant access as provided under 105 CMR 140.309(B) to the Department ~~and the Betsy Lehman Center~~ to healthcare-associated infection data elements.
- (3) Each ASC shall collect and submit to the Department ~~and the Betsy Lehman Center~~ other data related to infection control, including process measures, in accordance with guidelines of the Department.

140.310: Clinic Administrator

Each clinic shall designate a person to administer the clinic and ensure that it complies with applicable statutes and regulations. **The clinic administrator must be physically present in the clinic as necessary to perform the duties of his or her position.**

140.311: Professional Services Director

Each clinic shall designate a professional services director, who shall be responsible for the clinical services provided at the clinic. The professional services director must be a health care professional possessing academic training and experience in direct patient care and shall be qualified to direct the services provided by the clinic. **The professional services director must be physically present in the clinic as necessary to oversee the professional services provided by the clinic.**

If the clinic provides only surgical services, the professional services director must be a surgeon.

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140.312: Dual Appointment

One person may serve as both clinic administrator and professional services director if he or she meets the requirements for both positions and can ~~carry out~~ **adequately properly perform** the duties of both positions.

140.313: Physician Staff and Responsibility for Practice of Medicine

(A) One or more physicians, as necessary, shall provide, or supervise the provision ~~by the clinic of~~, all services involving the practice of medicine.

(B) At least one physician shall be present at the clinic whenever medical services are provided, unless these services are provided pursuant to written protocols or guidelines by a physician assistant or a nurse practicing in an expanded role in accordance with the regulations of the appropriate registration board.

140.314: Nursing Staff

Each clinic shall retain a sufficient number of nurses qualified to provide the nursing services necessary to the type of care the clinic provides. These services shall be under the direction of a registered nurse.

140.315: Health Care Staff

(A) Each clinic shall retain sufficient qualified professional health care staff to render adequately and appropriately to each patient's needs the health services the clinic **is licensed to provide** ~~holds itself out as providing~~. The clinic shall ensure ~~that~~ the qualifications of its practitioners extend to appropriate training for the age range of patients treated at the clinic. Professional health care staff shall be registered or licensed as required by law. They shall comply with the regulations of their registration or licensing boards, **including all applicable supervision requirements**.

(B) At least one professional health care staff member shall be present when patient health care services are being provided in the clinic.

140.316: Nutrition Services

If a clinic provides nutrition educational and counseling services, a nutritionist must be retained on at least a part-time basis to provide or supervise the service. **A nutritionist is a person who has an M.S. in public health nutrition, community nutrition, or human nutrition, from an accredited institution or who has a B.S. and is registered by the American Dietetic Association.**

140.317: Social Services

Comment [A25]: Included to reinforce necessary supervision in accordance with scope of practice and professional licensure standards.

Comment [A26]: Relocated to definition section

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If a clinic provides social services, the clinic shall retain on at least a part-time basis a **social worker licensed** ~~certified social worker or a licensed independent practitioner of clinical social work~~ to provide or supervise the service.

Comment [A27]: Changed to align with defined term, which includes both levels of social work licensure.

140.318: In-service Training for Health Care Staff

There shall be a program of **evidence-based**, on-going in-service training **that pertains to the service type(s) the clinic is licensed to provide for** ~~to~~ all staff providing health care services. Such training may include case studies and staff presentations provided within the facility or may be obtained through participation in continuing education courses offered outside the clinic.

Comment [A28]: Ensures appropriate ongoing training for all clinic staff.

140.330: Satellite Clinics

No clinic licensed pursuant to 105 CMR 140.000 may provide services at a satellite unless the satellite ~~A satellite clinic must~~ meets, independently of its parent clinic, all the requirements imposed on clinics by 105 CMR 140.000 except that a satellite clinic, as part of the legal entity operating its parent clinic, shall have no separate articles of organization, or bylaws or other charter of its own, and no separate governing body, shareholders, members, or officers.

140.340: Limitation on Dispensing and Administration of Controlled Substances

A clinic pharmacy shall dispense or administer controlled substances as defined by M.G.L. c. 94C, § 1 only to patients currently under treatment at the clinic and employees of the clinic in accordance with employee health policies, pursuant to the prescription of a clinic practitioner legally authorized to issue prescriptions.

140.341: Compliance with Applicable Laws and Regulations

A clinic **that maintains prescription medications on its premises** must register annually under the Controlled Substances Act with the Board of Registration in Pharmacy and the Department pursuant to M.G.L. c. 94C, § 7 and operate in accordance with all applicable federal, state, and local laws and regulations.

140.342: Clinic Pharmacy Staffing

(A) Pharmacy Director. **The clinic shall employ a** ~~A~~ registered pharmacist ~~shall be employed by the clinic~~ to direct and manage the clinic pharmacy.

(B) Registered Pharmacist. A registered pharmacist shall be on duty whenever the clinic pharmacy is open.

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140.343: Clinic Pharmacy Policies

(A) Each clinic ~~which~~ **that** operates a clinic pharmacy shall maintain a pharmacy policy manual describing in writing the organization of the clinic pharmacy and the specific services it provides.

(B) The policy manual shall be reviewed annually by the pharmacy and therapeutics committee and include at least those policies required under 105 CMR 140.344(B).

140.344: Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee

Each clinic ~~which~~ **that** maintains and operates a clinic pharmacy shall establish a pharmacy and therapeutics committee composed of members of the medical staff, the pharmacy director, the clinic administrator or his or her representative, members of the nursing staff and other personnel as appropriate to the services the clinic provides.

(A) The committee shall serve as an advisory group to the medical staff and pharmacy director on matters concerning drugs used in the clinic. The committee shall review all reports of medication errors and adverse drug reactions. The committee shall meet at least quarterly and shall keep minutes of its meetings.

(B) The committee shall develop written policies for safe and effective drug therapy, distribution, control and use. The clinic shall adopt policies developed and recommended by the committee including at least:

- (1) a therapeutic guide and recommended drug list for use in the clinic, which shall be reviewed not less than once a year;
- (2) standards concerning the use and control of investigational drugs and drug research programs;
- (3) procedures for access to drugs for use by the clinic when the pharmacy is closed, and a list of persons who are allowed such access;
- (4) methods to ~~as~~ensure appropriateness of continuing drug therapy;
- (5) procedures for reporting and preventing medication errors and reporting adverse drug reactions;
- (6) methods to ~~as~~ensure compliance with ~~the Generic Drug Law~~ M.G.L. c. 112, § 12D and 105 CMR 720.000: *List of Interchangeable Drug Products*, 105 CMR 721.000: *Standards for Prescription Format and Security in Massachusetts*, and 105 CMR 722.000: *Dispensing Procedures for **Clinic and Hospital Pharmacies***;
- (7) a drug recall procedure ~~which~~ **that** can be readily implemented; and
- (8) systems for the control and accountability of all drugs. Such policies must ~~as~~ensure compliance with up to date standards for product quality, security and record keeping systems.

140.345: Drug Handling and Administration

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A clinic with a pharmacy shall comply with the requirements of 105 CMR 140.345, which shall be included in the clinic pharmacy policy manual.

(A) Administration. All drugs administered to patients in the clinic shall be administered by appropriately licensed personnel.

(B) Access to Emergency Drugs. The clinic shall maintain an emergency medication kit. The emergency medication kit shall be kept in a separate sealed container when not in use. Drugs requiring refrigeration shall be kept in a separate sealed container under proper refrigeration when not in use. Each emergency medication kit shall be prepared, packaged and sealed by a registered pharmacist or pharmacy intern under the direct supervision of a registered pharmacist, and shall contain a list of contents on the outside cover and within the box. After an emergency medication kit has been opened, it shall be inspected, restocked and resealed by a registered pharmacist or a pharmacy intern under the direct supervision of a registered pharmacist the next day the clinic pharmacy is open.

(C) Drugs for External Use; Poisons. The clinic pharmacy shall label drugs for external use and poisons as such, and shall keep such drugs separate from other medications.

(D) Labeling. All drugs shall be labeled adequately, including cautionary statements as appropriate. Clinic staff shall return drug containers with illegible, incomplete, damaged, worn, soiled, or missing labels to the clinic pharmacy, and the pharmacy staff shall dispose of such containers and drugs appropriately.

(E) Outdated Drugs. As drugs become outdated, the clinic pharmacy shall eliminate them from its stock in accordance with clinic policy. All drugs shall be destroyed in accordance with applicable state and federal laws.

140.346: Facilities and Equipment

(A) Drug Preparation Areas. The clinic pharmacy shall have adequate and properly controlled drug preparation areas, wherever drugs are prepared for administration or dispensing. The areas shall have adequate lighting, ventilation and temperature controls, and be located such that personnel will not be interrupted when handling drugs.

(B) Storage of Drugs. Drugs shall be stored under proper conditions to ensure product stability and security. Drug storage facilities shall be locked. Schedule II drugs shall be kept double locked.

(C) Reference Materials. The clinic pharmacy shall maintain and make available up-to-date pharmaceutical reference materials to furnish the clinic pharmacy and other staff with adequate information concerning drugs.

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(D) Antidote Information; Poison Control Center. The clinic pharmacy shall maintain authoritative and current antidote information, readily available in the pharmacy for emergency reference, along with the telephone number of the regional poison control center.

140.347: Pharmacy Services by Clinics without Clinic Pharmacies

If the clinic does not maintain a clinic pharmacy, but drugs are stored and administered at the clinic directly to patients, the clinic shall comply with the requirements of 105 CMR 140.347.

(A) Compliance with Federal and State Law. The clinic must register annually under the Controlled Substances Act with the Department pursuant to M.G.L. c. 94C, § 7 and shall comply with all applicable federal, state, and local drug laws and regulations.

(B) Record System. The clinic professional services director or his or her designee shall be responsible for ensuring ~~that~~ a record system ~~is kept that is sufficient to~~ **that** maintains control over the requisitioning and administration of controlled substances. The record keeping system shall comply with all federal and state laws and regulations.

(C) Storage of Drugs. Drugs shall be stored under proper conditions to ensure product stability and security. Drug storage facilities shall be locked. Schedule II drugs shall be kept double locked.

(D) Medications for External Use. The clinic shall accurately label each medication for external use as such, and shall store such medications separately from medications for internal use.

(E) Outdated Drugs. Outdated drugs shall be eliminated from the clinic's stock in accordance with clinic policies. All drugs shall be destroyed in accordance with applicable state and federal laws.

(F) Administration of Medications. All drugs administered directly to patients in the clinic shall be administered by appropriately licensed personnel. Prescriptions shall be issued for all drugs not administered within the clinic. However, drugs may be dispensed by a ~~physician~~ **prescribing practitioner** for immediate treatment until such time as a prescription can be filled at a pharmacy.

Comment [A29]: Changed to reflect that medications may be dispensed by a practitioner authorized to prescribe.

(G) Labeling. All drugs shall be adequately and distinctly labeled.

(H) Reference Source. The clinic shall maintain and make available up-to-date pharmaceutical reference materials for reference by clinic staff.

140.350: Approval of In-house Clinical Laboratory Services

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In-house clinical laboratory services offered by a clinic are subject to clinical laboratory approval as set forth in 105 CMR 180.000: *The Operation, ~~Approval~~ and Licensing of Clinical-Laboratories* and 42 CFR 493, *Clinical Laboratories Improvements Amendments (CLIA)* **except that laboratory director qualifications must, at a minimum, meet CLIA requirements and any Department administrative guidelines.**

140.351: Contracting for Outside Clinical Laboratory Services

(A) A clinic may enter into a written contract for the provision of all or part of its clinical laboratory services with a laboratory independent of the clinic that is licensed, approved or certified by the appropriate federal or state agencies.

(B) The clinic must have detailed written statements of policy on procedures for the collection, transport, and handling of specimens referred to such an outside laboratory. These written statements shall be available for review by the Commissioner.

~~140.352: Affidavits Concerning Clinical Laboratory Services~~

~~Each clinic shall submit an annual affidavit to the Commissioner specifying the nature of all its testing services, the individuals performing the tests, the individuals responsible for the accuracy of the tests, the methods of testing employed, the quality control practices employed and any other information required by the Department.~~

140.360: Compliance with Applicable Laws and Regulations

Each clinic **which that** provides diagnostic radiology shall comply with M.G.L. c. 111, § 5B and 105 CMR 120.000: *~~To Control the Radiation Hazards of Radioactive Material and Machines which Emit Ionizing Radiation~~Control of Radiation*. Clinics providing such service must register with the Department's Division of Radiation Control pursuant to 105 CMR 120.100. **The provisions of 105 CMR 140.361 through 140.362 do not apply to a clinic that is licensed to provide dental services only.**

140.361: Radiologist

Each clinic **which that** provides diagnostic radiology shall retain, at least on a consulting basis, a board certified **or board qualified** radiologist to meet the needs of the clinic. The radiologist shall be responsible for the proper performance of the radiological services.

Comment [A30]: Restored text from existing 105 CMR 140.361 for consistency with other DPH regulations, that only require board certification for leadership roles.

140.362: Radiologic Technologist

Diagnostic radiology procedures **which that** are not performed or directly supervised at all times by a board certified **or board qualified** radiologist shall be

Comment [A31]: Restored text from existing 105 CMR 140.362 for consistency with other DPH regulations, that only require board certification for leadership roles.

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performed only by radiologic technologists licensed pursuant to M.G.L. c. 111, § 5L and 105 CMR 125.000 *et seq.*

140.363: Diagnostic Radiology Facilities

Each clinic providing diagnostic radiology services shall provide the following, in adequate and suitable form for the services provided:

- (1) x-ray equipment appropriate to the diagnostic services offered by the clinic;
- (2) at least one radiographic room of adequate size for the equipment provided;
- (3) space for preparation of barium mixtures, if applicable; and
- (4) adequate storage space for files of x-ray films.

140.364: Mammography Facility - Licensure

Each clinic operating a mammography facility, as defined in M.G.L. c. 111, § 5Q and 105 CMR 127.000, shall obtain and maintain a license issued pursuant to 105 CMR 127.000 *et seq.*

~~140.365: Inapplicability to Dental Services~~

~~The provisions of 105 CMR 140.361 through 140.362 are inapplicable to clinic dental services.~~

140.370: Evaluation of Quality

(A) Each clinic shall establish an organized, comprehensive program ~~that is~~ adequate to regularly review and evaluate the quality of care provided. The program shall:

- (1) be defined in writing and approved by its governing body;
- (2) identify an individual to be responsible for the implementation and continuity of the program;
- (3) be re-evaluated at least annually; and
- (4) describe the mechanisms in effect to identify and resolve problems.

(B) The findings of the program shall, as appropriate, be utilized in the revision of clinic policies and procedures.

(C) Clinics licensed for surgical services shall meet the additional requirements set forth in 105 CMR 140.613.

140.380: Procurement, Storage and Administration of Blood

Each clinic ~~which~~ **that** administers human whole blood and/or its components and/or derivatives in transfusion shall meet the following requirements:

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(A) The clinic shall have a current, effective agreement with a blood bank licensed by the Department ~~which~~ **that** meets the requirements of 105 CMR 135.000.

(B) The clinic shall obtain blood from a licensed blood bank immediately prior to its administration. All blood so obtained shall be identified, stored, handled, and administered in accordance with the requirements of 105 CMR 135.000

(C) The clinic shall develop policies and procedures specific to all aspects of the procurement, storage and administration of blood. These policies and procedures at a minimum shall address patient selection and consent, the requirements for explicit written order(s) from a physician, **nurse practitioner, or physician assistant** the prompt availability of physicians in the event of an emergency, the proper identification of the patient, the qualifications and training of the registered nurse administering the blood, the monitoring of patients undergoing transfusion, including the required observation time following administration, procedures to follow in the event of a transfusion reaction and recordkeeping requirements.

(D) Prior to the initiation of a program to procure, store and administer blood for transfusion, each clinic shall inform the Department in writing and receive Department approval. Department approval shall be based on compliance with 105 CMR 140.380(A), (B) and (C) and other relevant clinic licensure regulations.

(E) Except as provided for in 105 CMR 140.614, transfusion of blood shall not be permitted as part of the surgical service of a clinic.

Comment [A32]: Updated to reflect that these additional provider types may order blood, consistent with national standards.

140.381: Autologous Hematopoietic Progenitor/Stem Cell Transplantation

Autologous hematopoietic progenitor/stem cell transplantation may be performed in a separately licensed freestanding clinic if the clinic transplantation services are a formal part of a hospital-based hematopoietic progenitor/ stem cell transplantation program. The clinic must have a written, current collaboration agreement with the hospital- based hematopoietic progenitor/stem cell transplantation program. The collaboration agreement shall, at a minimum:

- (1) Describe the services to be provided at the clinic site;
- (2) Describe the support services available at the hospital site, with particular attention to availability for patient care consultation by all members of the multidisciplinary team, including but not limited to physicians, nurses, nutritionists, social workers, physical therapists and psychologists;
- (3) Describe the oversight responsibilities of the hospital;
- (4) Identify a physician or nurse coordinator on site at the clinic;
- (5) Describe the quality assessment and assurance programs for transplantation at the clinic site, with particular attention to how the assessment data is used to improve services and how the data is integrated in both the clinic's and the hospital's quality assurance programs; and

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(6) Be signed and dated by the Hospital Administrator, Hospital Vice President of Nursing or Clinical Services, Hospital Hematopoietic Progenitor/Stem Cell Transplantation Program Director, Clinic Medical Director and Clinic Physician or Nurse Coordinator.

140.400: Applicability of 105 CMR 140.~~400 Subpart D~~ .401 through 140.405.

The requirements of 105 CMR 140.401~~0~~ through 140.404 are applicable to clinics subject to Department licensure ~~that are specifically licensed~~ to provide dental services.

140.401: Minimum Dental Services

A clinic offering dental services shall at a minimum provide oral diagnostic services; services to maintain oral health and prevent oral disease; basic restorative dental care; and services to relieve dental pain and infection.

140.402: Dental Services Staff

(A) Each clinic shall be staffed with one or more dentists as necessary to provide or supervise the provision of dental services.

(B) Dental hygienists employed by the clinic shall be registered by the Board under M.G.L. c. 112, § 51.

(C) Dental assistants employed shall **be licensed pursuant to M.G.L. c. 112, § 51 ½ and shall** meet the requirements of ~~M.G.L. c. 112, § 43A~~ **234 CMR 4.11 and 234 CMR 4.12.**

140.403: Dental Policies and Procedures

(A) Each clinic offering dental services shall have a written policy providing for the referral of patients to other health care providers as necessary for services ~~which~~ **that** are not part of the clinic's services.

(B) Each clinic shall have policies and procedures for recalling clients on a periodic basis as appropriate for the client's needs for dental care maintenance procedures.

140.404: Anesthesia

(A) Each clinic licensed for dental services may administer local anesthesia, nitrous oxide sedation and conscious intravenous sedation. General anesthesia may not be administered unless the clinic is licensed under 105 CMR 140.600 through 140.614 ~~as to provide a~~ **as to provide a** surgical services.

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(B) Conscious intravenous sedation may only be performed by individuals with appropriate training as established separately by the Commissioner ~~or his designee~~ as administrative guidelines.

140.405: Dental Surgery

A clinic that performs dental surgical procedures including but not limited to procedures requiring general anesthesia, advanced oral maxillofacial surgery, removal of a large tumor, or major surgery to the mandible or maxilla such as reduction of a fractured jaw must be licensed to provide surgical services pursuant to 105 CMR 140.600(B).

140.450: Applicability of 105 CMR 140.451 through 140.453

The requirements of 105 CMR 140.451 through 140.453 are applicable to clinics subject to Department licensure to provide mobile health services.

140.451: Host Sites for Mobile Services

(A) Host sites for mobile services may include community environments including but not limited to long-term care facilities licensed pursuant to M.G.L. c. 111, §71, assisted living facilities, corporate or business locations, community centers, social service agencies, or churches.

(B) Host sites shall not include commercial office space rented by the licensed clinic.

(C) If the site is leased, rented or otherwise under the control of the clinic, the clinic must obtain approval for the site as a satellite.

140.452: Medications for Mobile Services

(A) The clinic may not store medications at any host site.

(B) The clinic may not store medications overnight in a mobile, portable or mobile/portable unit.

140.453: Signage for Mobile Services

(A) The clinic shall appropriately identify the mobile, portable or mobile/portable unit, including, if applicable, signage identifying any affiliation with the host site.

(B) All signage must clearly state that the unit provides mobile services, and, if applicable, state that the service is sponsored by a parent or host facility.

140.500: Applicability of 105 CMR 140.~~000~~ Subpart E-510 through 140.560

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To provide Mental Health Services, as that term is defined in 105 CMR 140.020, clinics must meet the requirements of 105 CMR 140.5010 through 140.560 are applicable to clinics subject to Department licensure that are specifically licensed to provide mental health services.

140.510: Mental Health Services

For purposes of 105 CMR 140.500 through 140.560, each clinic licensed to provide mental health services shall operate a mental health program that provides, **internally or by contract**, in accordance with the requirements of 105 CMR 140.520, ~~at least~~ the following services, **as appropriate to the patient's chief complaint or problem**:

- (1) intake services **including, but not limited to, a substance use disorder screening**;
- (2) evaluation and diagnostic services,;
- (3) treatment planning services;
- (4) treatment services ~~which that~~ include:
 - (a) case consultation, psychotherapy and counseling, and
 - (b) pharmacotherapy;
- (5) emergency services; and
- (6) referral services, **including for, but not limited to, any co-occurring substance use disorder**.

Emergency services may be provided by arrangement. If emergency services are provided by arrangement, there must be a written agreement between the clinic and the provider to meet the requirements set forth in 105 CMR 140.520(E)(1) and (2).

140.520: Adequate Mental Health Services

(A) Intake Services. **During intake, the clinic licensed to provide mental health services must accumulate initial contact must be made with a potential client patient for purposes of accumulating and recording at least the minimally required all pertinent client patient information for necessary to facilitate evaluation and diagnostic services and/or for referral to an appropriate professional person or agency. This intake must include screening for any co-occurring substance use disorder.**

(B) Evaluation and Diagnostic Services.

~~(1) Evaluation and diagnostic services must be documented and shall include, as appropriate to the patient's chief complaint or problem, an assessment made to determine the patient's physical health, psychological, social, economic, educational, functional or development status, vocational assets and disabilities, and a comprehensive medication drug history, and the results of any substance use disorder screening conducted. The assessment shall be conducted by appropriate professional health care providers.~~

Comment [A33]: Acknowledges services may be provided by contracted non- employed MD's, psychiatrists, PA's and APN's to perform these services for the clinic.

Comment [A34]: Added to emphasize potential co-occurring substance use disorders in mental health patients, and the importance of screening.

Comment [A35]: Updated language to encourage patient evaluation as soon as possible.

Comment [A36]: Added to emphasize potential co-occurring substance use disorders in mental health patients, and the importance of screening.

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(1) Evaluation and diagnostic services must be documented and shall include:

- (a) Identification of the patients presenting complaint or problem at the time of evaluation;
- (b) An assessment of the current status and history of the patient's physical and psychological health;
- (c) Current and former substance use disorder treatment, or any other related treatment, including pharmacotherapy; and
- (d) Current and former social, economic, developmental, and educational functioning, describing both strengths and needs.

Comment [A37]: Reformatted and modernized evaluation and diagnostic criteria.

The above assessment shall be conducted by health care providers trained in completing such an evaluation, which includes evidence-based, specialized training in the assessment of substance used disorders, as appropriate to the patient's needs.

(2) After initiating a patient's evaluation, but prior to completion, patient treatment may begin, provided that sufficient information to initiate treatment for the presenting complaint or problem on that day of services is obtained and that the evaluation is completed in a reasonable timeframe. When appropriate, a diagnostic evaluation shall include the finding of a formal mental status examination and a diagnosis.

Comment [A38]: Added provision to allow for longitudinal assessment in order to facilitate and encourage patient treatment as soon as possible.

(3) When the initial evaluation indicates further assessment beyond the scope of the clinic's capabilities, the clinic program must refer the patient to the appropriate health care provider, pursuant to 105 CMR 140.520(F). ~~conduct or make arrangements for necessary testing, physical examination and/or consultation by qualified mental health and/or medical professionals.~~

(3) When appropriate, a diagnostic evaluation shall include the finding of a formal mental status examination and a diagnosis.

Comment [A39]: Included in 140.520(B)(2) above.

(4) ~~For patients receiving services planned to continue beyond four sessions, a diagnostic evaluation as defined in 105 CMR 140.520(B)(1) through (3) must be completed before a treatment plan is developed.~~

(5) ~~For patients receiving four sessions or fewer, a brief assessment must be completed which shall include primary presenting problems, at least one treatment goal, a list of medical conditions and medications, and a list of family members with a history of behavioral health conditions.~~

Comment [A40]: Language clarified such that, while an evaluation must be completed in a reasonable timeframe, treatment may begin once the evaluation is begun but before its completion. The regulation does not specify requirements for the evaluation in an effort to recognize differences among patients and provide clinics latitude to conduct the evaluation most appropriate for the patient.

(C) Treatment Planning Services.

- (1) The ~~patient~~**patient**'s assigned mental health professional must prepare a written treatment plan ~~shall be appropriate to the patient's chief presenting complaint or problem and~~ based on information gathered during the intake, evaluation and diagnostic process, ~~including any substance use disorder screening results.~~

Comment [A41]: Amended for consistency.

The treatment plan must reflect the services delivered to address the chief complaint or problem on the date of first presentation as well as services rendered during subsequent encounters. As treatment progresses, further

Comment [A42]: Added to emphasize potential co-occurring substance use disorders in mental health patients, and the importance of screening.

Proposed changes to 105 CMR 140.000, Licensure of Clinics

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assessment and diagnostic information must be gathered and documented so as to inform longitudinal treatment planning.

(2) ~~For patients receiving more than four sessions,~~ The treatment plan must include at least the following information, **as appropriate to the patient's presenting complaint or problem:**

- (a) **identified** problems and needs relevant to treatment and discharge expressed in behavioral, descriptive terms;
- (b) the **patient/**client's strengths and **skills needs**;
- (c) **measurable** treatment goals **addressing identified problems** with time guidelines for accomplishing goals;
- (d) identified clinical interventions, including pharmacotherapy, to obtain treatment goals**
- ~~(d)~~ **(e)** evidence of **patient/**client involvement in formulation of the treatment plan;
- ~~(e)~~ **(f)** clearly defined staff responsibilities and assignments for implementing the plan;
- ~~(f)~~ **(g)** the date the plan was last reviewed and/or revised; and
- ~~(g)~~ **(h)** the signatures and licenses and/or degrees of staff involved in the review and/or revision.

(3) The treatment plan must be revised as necessary to reflect current problems, specific and concrete goals, and treatments.

~~(4) For patients receiving four or fewer sessions, no treatment plan beyond the identified goal in the brief assessment, as described in 140.520(B)(5), is required.~~

(D) Treatment Services.

(1) **Case Consultation, Psychotherapy, and Counseling Services.** These services must include case consultation, individual, group, couple, and family therapies provided by and/or supervised by the mental health professionals identified in 105 CMR 140.530(C). There must be documentation of progress towards **defined** treatment **plan** goals as a result of ~~implementing the treatment modalities~~ **the clinical intervention(s).**

(2) **Pharmacotherapy services.** These services must include, but are not limited to, an assessment of the ~~client~~ **patient's** psychiatric symptoms and disorders, health status including medical conditions and medications, **use or misuse** of alcohol **or other substances and drugs**, and prior experience with psychiatric medications. **Services also include as well as** medication prescribing, reviewing, and monitoring by a psychiatrist or registered nurse clinical specialist. These requirements do not preclude the one time administration of a medication in an emergency in accordance with a ~~physician's~~ **prescribing practitioner's** order. The services may also include administration of prescribed medications by appropriately licensed individuals. **The clinic may contract with appropriately licensed individuals with the authority to prescribe medications.**

Comment [A43]: DPH revised the language for consistency with current terminology.

Comment [A44]: Changed to reflect that medications may be dispensed by a practitioner authorized to prescribe.

Proposed changes to 105 CMR 140.000, Licensure of Clinics

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(3) When necessary treatment services for a patient are beyond the scope of the clinic's capabilities, the clinic program must refer the patient to the appropriate health care provider, pursuant to 105 CMR 140.520(F).

(E) Emergency Services. **Each clinic licensed to provide mental health services must provide clinic coverage**~~There must be provisions for~~ 24 hours ~~aper~~ day, seven days ~~aper~~ week ~~elinic coverage to that~~ includes evaluation, diagnosis, and disposition services for the ~~client~~ **patient's** presenting crisis, including short-term intervention and/or referral. ~~Emergency services, offered during the hours in which the clinic is not open, must provide at least the following:~~ **Such coverage must include telephone coverage that provides qualified professionals who are available to talk with clients over the telephone during non-business hours and, if indicated, a range for further care and assistance directly or through referrals in real time.**

(a) During non-business hours, a pre-recorded message will not fulfill this requirement for access to a qualified professional by phone during non-business hours

(b) Clinics are expected to keep a current on call roster of clinicians available to speak with clients at all times, as well as information on available regional services.

~~(1) Telephone coverage. Qualified professionals who are must be available to talk with client patients over the telephone and, if indicated, to arrange for further care and assistance directly or through referrals. A pre-recorded message will not fulfill this requirement. A current on-call roster must be maintained. A tape-recorded message will not fulfill this requirement.~~

~~(2) Emergency referrals. In addition to the requirements set forth in 105 CMR 140.305(A), (C), and (D), the referral arrangements must be reflected in a written policy. There must be both written policies and written procedures for voluntary and involuntary commitments to psychiatric hospitals, which clearly spell out the clinic's responsibility.~~

(F) Referral Services.

(1) Each clinic licensed to provide mental health services must have written policies and procedures that address the referral of patients to the appropriate health care providers, including but not limited to substance use disorder providers, should the patient's identified health needs exceed the scope of services provided by the clinic's mental health service. Such policies and procedures must also address emergency referral, including for voluntary and involuntary commitments to psychiatric hospitals. In addition to emergency referrals set forth in 105 CMR 140.520(E)(2) referrals to appropriate health care providers must be made as health needs are identified that are beyond the scope of services provided by the clinic's mental health service.

Comment [A45]: To ensure adequate patient care and timely access to on-call providers, DPH has maintained the requirement these clinics maintain an on-call roster of qualified professionals who are available to talk with patients on the phone. DPH also modernized this section by indicating pre-recorded (versus tape-recorded) messages do not meet the telephone coverage requirements of this subsection.

Comment [A46]: Streamlined section, and updated to emphasize potential co-occurring substance use disorders in mental health patients, and the importance of screening.

Proposed changes to 105 CMR 140.000, Licensure of Clinics

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~~(2) When the assessment of a client **patient**'s health status indicates the need for a physical examination and the clinic does not have the staff or equipment necessary to conduct a physical examination, the client **patient** may be referred to another health care provider to obtain a physical examination.~~

~~(3) If a client **patient** is referred by the clinic's mental health service for a physical examination, a copy of the physical findings and/or examination report must be requested and included in the client **patient**'s record.~~

~~(4) A patient's refusal to have a physical examination must be documented in the medical record.~~

(G) Other services not specifically listed in 105 CMR 140.520 that enhance and augment the required or adequate mental health services, such as case management or community rehabilitation support, may be but are not required to be provided by the licensed clinic.

140.530: Staffing

(A) A clinic providing mental health services must provide **a multidisciplinary staff who meets the requirements set forth at 105 CMR 140.530(B), and shall ensure** an adequate number of ~~qualified personnel~~**staff are available** to fulfill the program's objectives, **including substance use disorder screening, as appropriate.**

~~(B) Multi-disciplinary Staff.~~

~~(1) A multi-disciplinary staff must be available as appropriate for the client **patients**' needs.~~

~~(2) A multi-disciplinary staff must be comprised of mental health professionals who meet the requirements set forth under 105 CMR 140.530(C).~~ The staff may also include other related mental health professionals necessary for the provision of intake, evaluation, diagnostic and treatment services. **The staff must be appropriately trained to assess and treat mental health conditions, which may include co-occurring substance use disorders.**

~~(C) Personnel Qualifications.~~

(1) The clinic must have on staff or contract with a psychiatrist who is a physician, as defined in 105 CMR 140.020, and who is board certified by the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology or the American Osteopathic Board of Neurology and Psychiatry, or eligible for such certification. Such psychiatrist shall be responsible for prescribing, or monitoring and supervising, the prescription of all medications.

~~(2) Except as otherwise provided in~~ **In addition to the requirements of 105 CMR 140.530(C)(2), the multidisciplinary staff must include at least two of the following types of mental health professionals:**

Comment [A47]: Streamlined section, and emphasized potential for co-occurring disorders.

Comment [A48]: Section revised for greater staffing flexibility, while requiring a psychiatrist be on staff or have a contract with the service in order to prescribe medications, or monitor and supervise prescribing by other practitioners providing care via the mental health service.

Proposed changes to 105 CMR 140.000, Licensure of Clinics

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~~(a) a psychiatrist who is a physician, as defined in 105 CMR 140.020, and who is board certified by the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology, —; and~~

~~(b) at least two of the following mental health professionals:~~

~~1. Psychologist.~~ A ~~clinical or counseling~~ psychologist licensed by the Massachusetts Board of Registration of Psychologists pursuant to M.G.L. c. 112, §§ 118 through 127 and 251 CMR 3.00.

~~(b)2. Psychiatric Social Worker.~~ A **licensed independent clinical** social worker, ~~as defined in 105 CMR 140.020 who has at least one year's post graduate experience in a mental health setting.~~

~~(c)3. Psychiatric Nurse.~~ A registered nurse with a master's degree in psychiatric nursing licensed by the Board of Registration in Nursing pursuant to M.G.L. c. 112, § 80B and 244 CMR 3.00.

~~(d)4. Psychiatric Nurse Mental Health Clinical Specialist.~~ A psychiatric nurse mental health clinical specialist licensed by the Board of Registration in Nursing pursuant to M.G.L. c. 112, § 80B and 244 CMR 4.13.

~~(e)5. Licensed Mental Health Counselor.~~ A licensed mental health counselor licensed by the Board of Registration of Allied Mental Health and Human Service Professions pursuant to M.G.L. c. 112, § 165 and 262 CMR 2.00.

~~(f)6. Licensed Alcohol and Drug Counselor.~~ An alcohol and drug counselor licensed by the Department pursuant to 105 CMR 168.000.

~~(g)7. Other Licensed Mental Health and Substance Abuse Disorder Practitioners.~~ Other mental health and substance practitioners licensed by the Division of Professional Licensure, the Department or any Board of Registration and deemed by the Department to be mental health and substance ~~abuse~~ **disorder** professionals.

(32) A clinic whose mental health service consists solely of a psychiatric day treatment program as defined in 105 CMR 140.020, may substitute a rehabilitation counselor or occupational therapist as defined in 105 CMR 140.530~~(CB)~~**(32)**(a) and (b) for one of the professionals listed in 105 CMR 140.530~~(CB)~~**(2)**(b) **through (g)**:

(a) **Rehabilitation Counselor.** An individual who has at least a master's degree in rehabilitation or vocational counseling and one year's full-time supervised experience in a mental health setting, or its equivalent.

(b) **Occupational Therapist.** An individual licensed by the Massachusetts Board of Registration of Allied Health Professions and currently certified or eligible for certification by the American Occupational Therapy Association. The occupational therapist must have at least one year of experience in a mental health setting.

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~~(DC) **Mental Health Clinic Leadership Responsibilities of Clinic Physicians and Psychiatrists.**~~

In addition to the requirements at 105 CMR 140.310 through 105 CMR 140.312, clinics with a licensed mental health service must designate a lead for the mental health service who meets the qualifications outlined in 105 CMR 140.530(B)(1) or 140.530(B)(2)(a) through (e) and who is responsible for establishing all medical policies and protocols for the mental health service. The professional services director, as required by 105 CMR 140.311, may be designated the mental health clinic lead if such director is a mental health professional listed in 105 CMR 140.530(B).

~~(1) The clinic shall designate a psychiatrist or other physician to be responsible for the establishment of medical policies and supervision of all medical services.~~

~~(2) The following duties shall be performed by clinic psychiatrist(s) or physician(s):~~

~~(a) prescribing and monitoring or supervising the prescription of all medications, and~~

~~(b) evaluating non-psychiatric, physical health problems and making referrals, when appropriate.~~

~~(3) Clinic psychiatrist(s) shall:~~

~~(a) participate in case reviews as appropriate,~~

~~(b) provide case consultation as necessary, and~~

~~(c) participate in the clinic's quality assurance program for the mental health service.~~

(ED) Supervision. All staff members other than those meeting the qualifications set forth in 105 CMR 140.530(~~CB~~) must be clinically supervised by **licensed** professional staff members as defined in 105 CMR 140.530(~~CB~~). The documentation of supervision must be available for review.

140.540: Case Review

(A) The clinic must establish a case review process that includes a review of each ~~client~~ **patient's** treatment plan and progress, **including, but not limited to, a patient's prescribed medication.**

(B) Case review shall be conducted by one or more members of the multidisciplinary staff as defined in 105 CMR 140.530(~~CB~~).

(C) Case review shall not be completed by the mental health professional(s) responsible for implementing the ~~client~~ **patient's** treatment plan.

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(D) Case reviews must be conducted as necessary but at least once a year **or at discharge**. The frequency of case reviews shall be based upon the ~~client~~ **patient**'s current problems, specific and concrete goals and treatment.

~~(E) For patients who receive four or fewer sessions, the case review shall include a brief summary of the reason for discharge, and any after care or follow-up planned, including self-care recommendations.~~

140.550: Additional Recordkeeping Requirements

In addition to the requirements at 105 CMR 140.302, clinics with a licensed mental health service must comply with the following:

(A) **Documentation of the delivery of mental health services, which may include substance use disorder treatment, including** ~~P~~**progress notes or statements must be** recorded by the mental health professionals who are responsible for implementing the ~~client~~ **patient**'s treatment plan. **In the case of unlicensed clinicians recording progress notes or implementing treatment plans, a licensed clinician is responsible for clinical oversight of all clinical activities.**

~~(B) Progress notes or statements must be completed after every client patient contact or attempted contact, provided, however, that progress notes for client patients seen in psychiatric day treatment programs must be completed on a weekly basis. Patient records must be created and maintained in accordance with all federal and state laws, regulations, and requirements applicable to the services provided.~~

140.560: Mental Health Outreach Programs

(A) A mental health outreach program must be operated by a clinic ~~that is~~ licensed to provide mental health services.

(B) Outreach programs shall be operated in conformance with the standards for mental health services contained in 105 CMR 140.500 through 140.550.

~~(C) Outreach programs shall meet all requirements set forth in 130 CMR 429.440.~~

~~(D) Outreach services may include diagnostic services and treatment services, including emergency services provided to client patients in their homes or other community environments, including physicians' offices or community health centers.~~

(D) Documentation of services delivered in settings other than the clinic must describe the place of service in which the care was delivered.

~~(E) When outreach services must be provided in buildings that have with community health or social service uses, including but not limited to, schools, community health centers, community centers, housing projects and visiting nurse agencies, the clinic shall~~

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~~retain an agreement, with the responsible party for the outreach site, that stipulates~~
~~that~~ the site will be maintained in a safe and sanitary manner.

~~(F)~~ Outreach sites shall not include commercial office space rented by the licensed clinic. ~~If the site is under the control of the clinic operating the mental health outreach program, that, the clinic must obtain a license for the site as a satellite.~~ If the mental health outreach program site is leased, rented or otherwise under the control of the clinic, the clinic must obtain approval for the mental health outreach program as a **satellite**.

Comment [A49]: Redrafted for clarity.

Comment [A50]: Language has been updated to mirror language in 140.451(C).

~~(G)~~ Records on outreach clients shall be maintained on the premises of ~~with the clinic's central records~~. Records shall not be stored at the outreach site.

Comment [A51]: Striking remaining sections as they are addressed elsewhere in the regulation.

~~(H)~~ The clinic shall establish policies and procedures regarding access by outreach program staff to client records that meet all state and federal requirements for confidentiality.

~~(I)~~ Medications shall not be stored or administered at the outreach site unless under the auspices of a community health center ~~the site is a community health center licensed as a hospital satellite or a clinic~~.

~~(J)~~ Any signs, advertising or other identification of an outreach program shall clearly indicate ~~state~~ that it is an outreach program sponsored by the clinic ~~and not a licensed satellite of the clinic~~.

~~(K)~~ The professional services director of the clinic must meet regularly with outreach program staff members and have direct contact with outreach program clients as necessary.

~~(L)~~ The clinic must notify the Department prior to operating an outreach program and identify the location(s) where outreach services are provided.

~~(M)~~ The number of outreach clients and visits shall not account for the majority of the clinic's client and visits.

140.600: Applicability of 105 CMR ~~140.000 Subpart F~~ **140.600 through 140.614**

(A) The requirements of 105 CMR 140.600 through 140.614 are applicable to clinics subject to Department licensure ~~that are specifically licensed~~ to provide surgical services.

(B) A clinic may perform surgery, including those dental surgical procedures set forth in 105 CMR 140.600(C), only if specifically licensed to do so by the Department unless it performs only simple surgical procedures such as incision and drainage or suturing of simple lacerations.

Proposed changes to 105 CMR 140.000, Licensure of Clinics

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(C) Dental surgical procedures for which a clinic must be licensed pursuant to 105 CMR 140.600(B) include procedures requiring general anesthesia; advanced oral maxillofacial surgery; removal of a large tumor; or major surgery to the mandible or maxilla such as reduction of a fractured jaw.

(D) A clinic may perform surgical procedures under regional or general anesthesia only if licensed **to provide surgical services**~~pursuant to 105 CMR 140.600(B).~~

(E) ~~A~~ **No** clinic **may** ~~shall not~~ perform cardiac catheterization services.

140.601: Incorporation of Medicare Conditions of Participation for Ambulatory Surgical Services

A clinic licensed to perform surgery must comply with the standards of the Medicare Conditions of Participation for Ambulatory Surgical Services ~~that are~~ set forth in 42 CFR 416.42(a)(I) relating to anesthesia risk and evaluation; 416.44(a)(1) and (2) relating to physical environment; 416.44(c) relating to emergency equipment; and 416.44(d) relating to emergency personnel. Clinics administering general anesthesia shall also comply with 42 CFR 416.44(b) of the Medicare Conditions of Participation relating to safety from fire.

140.602: Surgical and Anesthesia Privileges

(A) Surgical staff shall be granted privileges to perform only those surgical procedures ~~which~~ **that** they are legally and professionally qualified to perform.

(B) Anesthesia staff shall be granted privileges to administer anesthesia, including conscious intravenous sedation, only in accordance with their legal and professional qualifications.

(C) Surgical and anesthesia privileges shall be granted by the governing body based on the recommendation of the Surgery Director or Anesthesia Director.

(D) The clinic shall maintain a list of individuals granted surgical and/or anesthesia privileges ~~which~~ **including** each individual's name, profession, specialty and the surgical procedures ~~she~~ **or she** is permitted to perform or the type of anesthesia ~~she~~ **or she** is permitted to administer.

140.603: Surgery Director

(A) Each clinic licensed to perform surgery shall designate, as appropriate for the services offered, a physician, podiatrist or dentist with surgical privileges and certification (~~or eligibility~~) by an appropriate specialty **board**, as the Surgery Director.

Comment [A52]: Retain certification requirement here because surgery director is a leadership role and should require board eligibility or certification

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(B) The Surgery Director shall direct and observe surgical staff and is responsible for maintaining the quality of surgery.

(C) Clinics ~~that~~ performing only dental surgery shall designate a dentist who is board certified ~~or eligible for certification~~ by the American Board of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery as the Surgery Director.

Comment [A53]: Retain certification requirement here because surgery director is a leadership role and should require board certification for dental surgeon in leadership role

140.604: Procedures

Each clinic licensed to perform surgery shall determine, with the advice of its surgery director, the types of surgical procedures it may perform. The clinic shall maintain a current list of these procedures.

140.605: Pre-operative Evaluation

(A) A physician shall perform a physical examination, review the patient's medical history, and review the results of pertinent pre-operative diagnostic studies prior to surgery.

(B) Prior to the performance of a dental surgical procedure where there is no known medical problem, a dentist may perform a physical examination, review the patient medical history, and review the results of pertinent preoperative diagnostic studies prior to surgery in lieu of a physician upon:

- (1) successful completion of a physical evaluation program or course at an accredited hospital or teaching institution, and
- (2) board certification **or eligibility** by the American Board of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery or by the American Board of Pedodontics.

Comment [A54]: Restored text from existing 105 CMR 140.605(B) for consistency with other DPH regulations, that only require board certification for leadership roles.

(C) Each patient undergoing regional or general anesthesia shall have a pre-operative evaluation performed by a physician or in the case of patients without medical problems admitted for dental procedures, dentist with anesthesia privileges.

140.606: Anesthesia Director

(A) Each clinic administering regional or general anesthesia shall designate an anesthesiologist to be responsible for the anesthesia services. For the purposes of 105 CMR 140.600 through 140.614 ~~Subpart F—Surgical Services~~, an anesthesiologist is a physician who is certified ~~or eligible for certification~~ by the American Board in Anesthesiology.

Comment [A55]: Retained because this is a leadership role

(B) The Anesthesia Director is responsible for the supervision of all persons administering anesthesia in the clinic, the review of all anesthesia complications and the

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development of policies and procedures related to preoperative and post-operative anesthesia care.

140.607: Adequate Assistance

~~(A)~~ No surgical procedure shall be initiated without adequate assistance present in the operating room:

(A) The operating room circulator shall meet the definition and functions set out in 105 CMR 140.620 and 621; and

~~(B) Only registered nurses shall function as circulating nurses.~~ **(C)** The person administering general anesthesia, **functioning within his or her scope of practice**, shall be someone other than the primary operating surgeon.

Comment [A56]: The appropriate term and reference from the regulation has been incorporated for consistency. Scope and authority has also been noted for clarity.

140.608: Surgical Area

(A) Acceptable aseptic techniques shall be used by all persons in the surgical area.

(B) Each clinic licensed to perform surgery shall designate a receiving area appropriately designed and equipped for pre-operative preparation, examination, holding and observation of patients.

(C) Each clinic licensed to perform surgery shall have at least one operating room.

140.609: Specimens

(A) Except as provided in 105 CMR 140.609(B), all specimens of tissue removed during a surgical procedure shall be submitted to a pathologist for microscopic examination.

(B) An exception to the requirements of 105 CMR 140.609(A) may be made in the case of dental surgery involving tooth removal where no soft tooth tissue pathology is suspected. The number of teeth, including fragments, shall be recorded in the patient's record.

(C) Each clinic licensed to perform surgery shall have written policies and procedures governing microscopic examination of tissue and the verification of removal of non-tissue specimens, such as foreign bodies.

(D) The results of all tissue examinations shall be entered in the patient's medical record. Each clinic shall provide treatment, or referral for treatment of any diagnosed pathological condition.

140.610: Recovery Procedures

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(A) Each post-operative patient shall be supervised constantly while recovering from surgery and anesthesia by a registered nurse trained to recognize complications until released from the recovery area.

(B) Patients shall be sufficiently recovered from surgery and anesthesia prior to discharge. The individual who performed the surgical procedure shall be responsible for a post-operative evaluation and shall enter his/ **or** her report and discharge order into the patient's record prior to the patient's discharge. Patients recovering from general or regional anesthesia shall have a post anesthesia evaluation performed by a physician or, in the case of a patient without medical problems admitted for dental procedures, a dentist with anesthesia privileges.

(C) The clinic shall provide each patient with written instructions including possible complications arising from the surgery, how to recognize these complications, ~~and~~ whom to contact for follow-up care **with questions if the clinic is closed and in the event of an emergency.**

~~140.611: Reports on Surgery and Anesthesia Related Complications~~

~~Each clinic shall record all surgery related or anesthesia related complications that result in serious morbidity or death of a patient in the patient's medical record, and report such complications in writing to the Department, on such forms and in such a manner as the Department may prescribe.~~

140.612: Physical Environment and Safety Provisions

In addition to the physical environment requirements set forth in 105 CMR 140.201 through 140.208 and 140.601, each clinic licensed to perform surgery shall meet the physical environment and safety requirements of 105 CMR 140.612.

(A) Each clinic licensed to perform surgery ~~that~~ **uses** regional or general anesthesia shall inspect the condition of electrical and mechanical medical equipment used in each operating room when such equipment is obtained and regularly thereafter. A licensed electrician or biomedical technician shall routinely test and maintain electrical equipment. Written records must be kept of such inspections.

(B) Each clinic must have an adequate sterilizing area, instrument storage area, change area, scrub area, pack area, and clean-up area. Clean work areas shall be physically separate from soiled work areas.

(C) Emergency power shall be available in the surgical and recovery areas.

140.613: Evaluation of Quality

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(A) In addition to the requirements set forth in 105 CMR 140.370, the quality assurance program established by each clinic licensed to perform surgery shall include reviews of at least the following:

- (1) medical necessity of procedures performed, including the review of tissue removed at surgery to determine agreement or disagreement among the pre-operative, post-operative and pathological diagnoses;
- (2) whether adequate pre and post-operative services and procedures met patient needs; and
- (3) all complications.

(B) Each clinic shall use the findings of the assessments required by 105 CMR 140.613(A) in the revision of clinic policies and consideration of clinical privileges.

(C) Each clinic shall document all such reviews conducted and their findings and shall make such documentation available to the Department upon request.

140.614: Limitation on Transfusions

(A) Surgical services shall not do procedures that generally result in extensive blood loss or ~~in~~ **for** which the need for blood replacement is anticipated.

(B) Transfusions shall be permitted as part of the clinic's surgical services in accordance with ~~the Blood Bank Regulations at~~ 105 CMR 135.410: **Transfusion Outside of a Licensed Hospital** that allow such transfusions outside a transfusion service in rare and unusual circumstances as deemed necessary by the blood bank director, provided that blood or blood product is released to the requesting physician and that physician is responsible for the transfusion.

(C) Surgical services ~~which~~ **that** administer whole blood and/or its components and/or derivatives in transfusion as authorized by 105 CMR 140.614(B) shall meet the requirements set forth in 105 CMR 140.380(A) through (C).

105 CMR 140.620: Surgical Technology Definitions

For the purposes of 105 CMR 140.621 the following terms have the following meanings:

Operating room circulator, a licensed registered nurse who is educated, trained and experienced in perioperative nursing, who is immediately available to physically intervene in providing care to a surgical patient.

Surgical technologist, any person who provides surgical technology services who is not licensed or registered under M.G.L. c. 112, §§ 2, 16, 74 or 74A, or who is not an intern, resident, fellow or medical officer who conducts or assists with the performance of surgery.

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Surgical technology, surgical patient care including, but not limited to, one or more of the following:

- (1) collaboration with an operating room circulator prior to a surgical procedure to carry out the plan of care by preparing the operating room, gathering and preparing sterile supplies, instruments and equipment, preparing and maintaining the sterile field using sterile and aseptic technique and ensuring ~~that~~ surgical equipment is functioning properly and safely;
- (2) intraoperative anticipation and response to the needs of a surgeon and other team members by monitoring the sterile field and providing the required instruments or supplies;
- (3) performance of tasks at the sterile field, as directed in an operating room setting, including:
 - (a) passing supplies, equipment or instruments;
 - (b) sponging or suctioning an operative site;
 - (c) preparing and cutting suture material;
 - (d) transferring and irrigating with fluids;
 - (e) transferring, but not administering, drugs within the sterile field;
 - (f) handling specimens;
 - (g) holding retractors; and
 - (h) assisting in counting sponges, needles, supplies and instruments with an operating room circulator.

105 CMR 140.621: Surgical Technology

(A) Each clinic ~~that is~~ licensed to provide surgical services shall adopt policies and procedures ~~that~~ addressing the following requirements set forth in M.G.L. c. 111, § 229.

(1) The clinic may not employ or otherwise retain the services of any person to perform surgical technology tasks or functions unless such person:

- (a) has successfully completed an accredited educational program for surgical technologists and holds and maintains a certified surgical technologist credential administered by a nationally recognized surgical technologist certifying body accredited by the National Commission for Certifying Agencies and recognized by the American College of Surgeons and the Association of Surgical Technologists; or
- (b) has successfully completed an accredited school of surgical technology but has not, as of the date of hire, obtained the certified surgical technologist certification required in 105 CMR 140.621(A)(1)(a); provided, however, ~~that~~ such certification shall be obtained within 12 months of the graduation date; or
- (c) was employed as a surgical technologist in a surgical facility on or before July 1, 2013; or
- (d) has successfully completed a training program for surgical technology in the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps or Coast Guard of the United States or in the United States Public Health Service ~~which has been~~ deemed appropriate by the commissioner; or

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(e) is performing surgical technology tasks or functions in the service of the federal government, but only to the extent the person is performing duties related to that service.

(2) A person employed or otherwise retained to practice surgical technology in a clinic may assist in the performance of operating room circulator duties under the direct clinical supervision, limited to clinical guidance, of the operating room circulator if:

(a) the operating room circulator is present in the operating room for the duration of the procedure;

(b) any such assistance has been assigned to such person by the operating room circulator; and

(c) such assistance is consistent with the education, training and experience of the person providing such assistance.

(B) A clinic may employ a surgical technologist who does not meet the requirements of 105 CMR 140.621(A) if the clinic receives a waiver from the department signifying ~~that~~ the clinic has:

(1) made a diligent and thorough effort to employ qualified surgical technologists who meet the requirements of 105 CMR 140.621(A)(1); and

(2) is unable to employ enough qualified surgical technologists for its needs.

(C) Nothing in 105 CMR 140.621 shall prohibit a licensed registered nurse, licensed or registered health care provider or other health care practitioner from performing surgical technology tasks or functions if such person is acting within the scope of such person's license.

140.700: Applicability of 105 CMR 140.000 ~~Subpart G~~ 701 through 140.702

For the purpose of 105 CMR 140.701 through 140.702, the term "physical rehabilitation services" shall mean physical therapy, occupational therapy or speech therapy services.

The requirements of 105 CMR 140.701 through 140.702 are applicable to clinics subject to Department licensure ~~which are specifically~~ licensed to provide physical rehabilitation services.

140.701: Physician's Direction and Plan of Care

(A) Each clinic providing physical rehabilitation services shall retain, at least on a consulting basis, one physician to, at a minimum, assist in establishing and implementing patient care policies and to provide medical consultation as needed.

(B) A clinic shall accept a patient for rehabilitation services only on the order of a clinic physician or referring physician who indicates the diagnosis and anticipated goals, and who is responsible for the general medical direction of such services as part of the total care of the patient.

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(C) For each patient there shall be written plan of care approved by the physician. The plan of care must specify the type, amount, frequency and duration of the services to be provided. The plan of care and results of treatment shall be reviewed by the physician at least every 60 days or more often if required.

140.702: Rehabilitation Staff

If a clinic provides rehabilitation services, the clinic shall retain on at least a part-time basis qualified therapists to provide directly or to supervise the provision of the service.

For the purposes of 105 CMR 140.700 through 140.702, a “qualified physical therapist” shall be a physical therapist who meets the requirements of **M.G.L. c. 112, §23I**~~42-CFR 405.1702(d)~~. A “physical therapist assistant” shall be a person who meets the requirements of **M.G.L. c. 112, §23J**~~42-CFR 405.1702(e)~~.

For the purpose of 105 CMR 140.700 through 140.702, a “qualified speech pathologist” shall be a person who meets the requirements of **M.G.L. c. 112, §144**~~42-CFR 405.1702(j)~~.

For the purposes of 105 CMR 140.700 through 140.702, a “qualified occupational therapist” shall be a person who meets the requirements of **M.G.L. c. 112, §23G**~~42-CFR 405.1202(f)~~. An “occupational therapy assistant” shall be a person who meets the requirements of **M.G.L. c. 112, §23H**~~42-CFR 405.1202(g)~~.

~~140.800: Applicability of 105 CMR 140.000 Subpart H~~

~~The requirements of 105 CMR 140.800 and 140.801 are applicable to clinics subject to Department licensure that are specifically licensed to provide substance abuse services.~~

140.801: Substance ~~Abu~~Use **Disorder Treatment** Services

To provide Substance Use Disorder Treatment Services, as that term is defined in 105 CMR 140.020, a clinic offering a separate, identifiable program specifically designed to care for persons with substance use disorders must meet the applicable programmatic and staffing requirements set forth in 105 CMR 164.000: *Licensure of Substance Abuse Treatment Programs*.

~~140.900: Applicability of 105 CMR 140.000 Subpart I~~

~~The requirements of 105 CMR 140.901 are applicable to clinics subject to Department licensure which are specifically licensed to provide birth center services.~~

140.901: Birth Center ~~Services~~ **Written Policies and Procedures**

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~~A clinic offering birth center services as defined in 105 CMR 140.020 shall meet the requirements set forth in 105 CMR 142.000: *Operation and Maintenance of Birth Centers*.~~

An applicant to add a birth center to its license shall develop, through an interdisciplinary team, written policies and procedures to ensure the safe operation of the birth center prior to submitting an application for approval. A birth center shall implement, review and revise, through an interdisciplinary team as needed but not less than once a year, its written policies and procedures. A birth center shall ensure all staff, including any temporary staff and volunteers, are trained and determined to be competent as needed for their duties under the policies and procedures developed by the facility. A birth center's policies shall include at a minimum, but not be limited to:

- (A) Patient admission criteria including specific information by which a woman's risk status will be established.**
- (B) Off-hour coverage.**
- (C) Consultation and referral for obstetric and pediatric care.**
- (D) Specific patient transfer criteria.**
- (E) Emergency procedures, including adult and neonatal intubation and resuscitation.**
- (F) Standards for medication procurement, storage and administration.**
- (G) Protocols for screening newborns for critical congenital heart disease with pulse oximetry or another test approved by the Department in accordance with Department guidelines.**

140.902: Staffing

A birth center shall have adequate, trained staff who are licensed as required are available at all times to meet the needs of its patients including but not limited to:

- (A) Director of the Birth Center:**
 - (1) A birth center shall have a director who shall be responsible to the facility administrator for the operation and maintenance of the center.**
 - (2) The director must be a certified nurse-midwife, or an obstetrician or family practitioner with obstetrical privileges in a nearby hospital licensed in Massachusetts or operated by the Commonwealth.**
- (B) Director of Medical Affairs:**

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(1) A birth center shall have a Director of Medical Affairs who shall be an ~~board-certified or board-eligible~~ obstetrician or gynecologist with full obstetrical privileges at a nearby hospital.

(2) The Director of Medical Affairs shall be responsible for advising and consulting with the medical staff of the birth center on all matters related to medical management of pregnancy, birth, post-partum, newborn and gynecologic health care including policies, procedures and protocols **that are outside the scope of for midwifery practice management of care.**

~~(3) The Director of Medical Affairs shall develop policies and procedures governing administration of controlled substances by nurse midwives under standing orders.~~

Comment [A57]: Removed because midwives do not need physician oversight of their professional practice. Aligned with hospital regulations.

(C) Required Staffing at Births:

(1) Birth Attendant: A certified nurse-midwife, or an obstetrician or family practitioner with obstetrical privileges in the parent or nearby hospital shall attend each woman in labor from the time of admission; during labor; during the birth; and through the immediate postpartum period. Such attendance may be delegated only to another certified nurse midwife or physician.

(2) Birth Assistant: A second staff person shall also be present at each birth. The second staff person must be either a nurse-midwife, or a licensed nurse.

(3) Licensed nurses functioning as a birth assistant must have labor and delivery experience within the past year that includes through training or experience in:

- (a) full adult and infant resuscitation;
- (b) assessing the phases and stages of labor;
- (c) psychology and physiology of labor and delivery; and
- (d) equipment and supplies used for labor and delivery.

140.903: Equipment and Supplies

Each birth center shall have safe and adequate equipment is available to meet the needs of its patients, including those with disabilities, to include at a minimum:

- (A) A standard neonatal warming device and a transfer incubator.
- (B) A microscope for routine office examination of vaginal smears.
- (C) A sufficient number of sphygmomanometers and auscultation equipment.
- (D) Equipment and supplies for administration of intravenous fluids, and full adult and infant resuscitation as required by procedures outlined in the birth center's protocols.

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(E) **A supply of oxygen including portable oxygen available for emergency use.**

(F) **Portable suction available for both the mother and the infant.**

140.904: Patient Records

A birth center shall maintain accurate and complete records on all of its patients that include at a minimum the following information with respect to each newborn:

- (A) **The condition of the infant at birth to include Apgar Score (or its equivalent) at one minute and five minutes, time of sustained respiration, details of physical abnormalities and pathological states.**
- (B) **Date and hour of birth, birth weight and period of gestation.**
- (C) **Number of cord vessels and any abnormalities of the placenta.**
- (D) **Verification of eye prophylaxis.**
- (E) **Metabolic screening.**
- (F) **Treatments, medications and special procedures.**
- (G) **Condition at discharge or transfer.**

140.905: Care and Services

- (A) **The birth center shall provide a program of care, which includes at least the following:**
 - (1) **A personal and family history;**
 - (2) **A physical examination and appropriate laboratory tests;**
 - (3) **A program of prenatal care that shall include components of self-help, self-care, and fetal assessment;**
 - (4) **A program of prenatal education that shall include the importance of nutrition, preparation for birth and breast feeding, and information on adverse effects of smoking, alcohol and other drugs;**
 - (5) **Intrapartum and postpartum services that foster parental control and responsibility for the birth experience and infant parental bonding;**
 - (6) **Labor support for the mother and her family;**
 - (7) **Immediate postpartum care and newborn assessment;**
 - (8) **Required eye prophylaxis;**
 - (9) **Postpartum laboratory examination and program for prevention of Rh immunization;**
 - (10) **Newborn metabolic screening and other such tests as may be required;**

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- (11) A postpartum examination and family planning; and,
- (12) A plan for well woman routine gynecologic health care.

(B) The birth center shall have access to diagnostic services including clinical laboratory, sonography, radiology, electronic monitoring.

(C) Mothers and infants shall be discharged or transferred within 24 hours after birth.

(D) Maternal and newborn examinations shall be performed by the birth center professional staff or a physician or certified nurse-midwife of the family's choice within 72 hours of birth. Such examinations shall include required laboratory tests for health screening.

(E) Each birth center shall develop and implement written policies and procedures for the prompt and safe transfer of the obstetrical patient and of the newborn for emergency treatment beyond that provided in the birth center.

(F) Each birth center shall have a written agreement with an ~~board-certified or eligible~~ obstetrician with full obstetrical privileges at a nearby or the parent hospital, and a written agreement with a ~~board-certified or eligible~~ pediatrician with full pediatric privileges at a nearby or the parent hospital for the care and transfer of patients for emergency treatment beyond that provided by the birth center.

(G) A birth center must conduct newborn infant hearing screening in accordance with the requirements regarding screening at 105 CMR 130.629: *Universal Newborn Hearing Screening Programs*. If a birth center does not have the equipment or ability to conduct such a screening, the birth center shall refer the newborn infant to a hospital or birth center able to conduct such screening. Prior to discharge, a birth center that is not able to conduct a hearing screening shall:

- (1) make an appointment for a screening for each newborn infant at a screening site.
- (2) provide written information in the language understood by the parent or guardian to the parent or guardian about the importance of the screening, coverage of the costs of the screening by third party payers, the time of any screening appointment scheduled, and the location and phone number of the hearing screening site.
- (3) within two weeks of the birth of a child call to the parent or guardian of the newborn infant to verify the infant has received the hearing screening, and document the conversation about the performance of the screening.
- (4) As part of the annual report submitted to the Department pursuant to 105 CMR 130.629(C)(3)(k), the birth center shall submit information regarding the follow-up for hearing screening of newborn infants.

Comment [A58]: Removed because, in alignment with hospital regulations, the department only requires board certification for leadership roles

Comment [A59]: Removed because, in alignment with hospital regulations, the department only requires board certification for leadership roles

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140.906: Prohibited Practices

(A) Surgical procedures shall be limited to those normally accomplished during uncomplicated childbirth, such as episiotomy and repair.

(B) The following practices are prohibited in a birth center:

(1) Surgical procedures such as forceps delivery, tubal ligation, abortion, or Cesarean section.

(2) The use of any analgesics subject to regulation under M.G.L. c. 94C for pain control during labor.

(3) Inhibition, stimulation or augmentation of the first or second stage of labor with controlled substances,

(4) The use of general or regional anesthesia. Local anesthesia for the infiltration of the perineum for episiotomy repair may be administered in accordance with patient specific ~~standing~~ orders written by the physician or certified nurse-midwife.

(5) The provision of controlled substances for self-administration outside of the birth center.

Comment [A60]: Deleted, because this is a patient-specific order, not a standing order for the center.

Comment [A61]: Added certified nurse-midwives, consistent with their scope of practice.

140.907: Off-Hour Coverage

Each birth center shall make arrangements for the provision of services 24 hours a day. These requirements can be met through on call coverage by a certified nurse-midwife or physician on the staff of the birth center. These arrangements shall be reflected in a written policy available to all the birth center's clients.

140.908: System for Referral

(A) The free-standing birth center shall have a written agreement with a board-certified obstetrician/gynecologist, and a pediatrician or neonatologist for the provision of 24 hour consultation, referral and transfer to appropriate hospital facilities for obstetric/newborn care.

(B) Each hospital-affiliated birth center shall develop written agreements or policies for the provision of 24 hour consultation with an ~~board-certified~~ obstetrician/gynecologist and a pediatrician or neonatologist with clinical privileges at the parent hospital. If the parent hospital does not provide obstetrics and newborn services, the birth center must meet the requirements set forth in 105 CMR 142.506(A).

Comment [A62]: Removed because, in alignment with hospital regulations, the department only requires board certification for leadership roles

140.909: Reporting Requirements

(A) Birth centers shall report all births to the Department, and to registrars and city or town clerks, in accordance with M.G.L Chapter 46.

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(B) Birth centers shall report any child with low birth weight, congenital abnormalities, and other high risk infants in accordance with guidelines as may be established by the Department.

~~140.910: Applicability of 105 CMR 140.000 Subpart J~~

~~The requirements of 105 CMR 140.911 through 140.912 are applicable to clinics subject to Department licensure that are specifically licensed to provide medical services or mobile medical services and that provide lithotripsy services.~~

140.911: ~~Physical Environment~~**Lithotripsy**

(A) In addition to the facilities and equipment specifically required in other applicable sections of 105 CMR 140.000, ~~mobile medical service~~**clinics** offering lithotripsy ~~services~~ shall provide at least the following in or easily accessible to the lithotripter unit:

- (1) induction/patient preparation room;
- (2) recovery area;
- (3) oxygen and suction within the unit;
- (4) emergency power within the unit;
- (5) accessibility to emergency response onsite;
- (6) accessibility to intensive care unit services on-site if host location is a licensed hospital; and
- (7) radiology services including cystoscopy facilities.

(B) A clinic providing lithotripsy ~~services~~ under regional or general anesthesia shall meet the provisions included under 105 CMR 140.600 through 140.614 ~~(Subpart F – Surgical Services)~~.

~~140.913: Agreements for Inpatient Services~~

~~The clinic shall have a formal written agreement for inpatient emergency and intensive care unit services with a health care facility licensed by the Department of Public Health to provide such services.~~

140.1000: Applicability of 105 CMR ~~140.000 Subpart K~~**140.1001 and 140.1002**

The requirements of 105 CMR 140.1001 ~~through~~ **and** 140.1002 are applicable to clinics ~~that are specifically~~ licensed to provide limited services.

140.1001: Policies and Procedures for Limited Services Clinics

Proposed changes to 105 CMR 140.000, Licensure of Clinics

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(A) Each limited services clinic shall develop policies and procedures ~~that~~ identifying the limited services ~~that~~ the clinic will provide.

(1) No limited services clinic may serve as a patient's primary care provider.

(2) No limited services clinic may provide treatment to a patient younger than 18 months old.

(B) Each limited services clinic shall develop and utilize clinical practice guidelines for diagnosing and treating patients. Each limited services clinic shall utilize clinical practice guidelines for determining when patient needs are beyond the scope of the services ~~that~~ it provides or beyond the scope of practice of its practitioners.

(C) Each limited services clinic shall develop policies and procedures ~~that~~ specifying its staffing pattern as required by 105 CMR 140.310 through 140.315.

(D) Each limited services clinic shall develop policies and procedures for referring patients whose needs exceed the clinic's services, including those circumstances in which a telephone referral may be appropriate; each limited services clinic shall develop policies and procedures for **physician/practitioner** consultation on unclear cases.

(E) Each limited services clinic shall maintain a roster of primary care practitioners, including community health centers, in the clinic's geographic area who are currently accepting new patients, and who are willing to accept a referral from the limited services clinic to serve as a primary care provider.

(1) The limited services clinic shall provide each patient who does not have a primary care provider with a referral from the list maintained pursuant to 105 CMR 140.1001(E).

(2) If the purpose of the visit is for a childhood immunization other than the influenza vaccine, the limited services clinic shall counsel the parent or guardian on the importance of establishing and maintaining a relationship with a pediatric or family practice for ongoing medical and well-child care.

(3) 105 CMR 140.1001(E)(2) shall not apply to a limited services clinic that is a satellite of, or is otherwise affiliated with, a health care facility licensed pursuant to M.G.L. c. 111, § 51, an accountable care organization or provider organization subject to M.G.L. c. 6D, or other licensed practitioners.

(F) Each limited services clinic shall develop policies and procedures designed to identify and limit, if necessary, the number of repeat encounters with individual patients.

(1) Each limited services clinic shall develop policies and procedures regarding the referral of such patients to primary care practitioners or other appropriate settings, including community health centers.

(2) Each limited services clinic shall develop policies and procedures designed to limit repeat visits for routine childhood immunizations other than the influenza vaccine.

Comment [A63]: Updated to reflect that other practitioner types, such as a dentist, may be an appropriate consult based on the nature of the case.

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(3) In the event ~~that~~ the limited services clinic is a satellite of, or is otherwise affiliated with, a health care facility licensed pursuant to M.G.L. c. 111, § 51, an accountable care organization or provider organization subject to M.G.L. c. 6D, or other licensed practitioners, the limited services clinic may develop alternate mechanisms for assuring continuity of care within the system.

(4) No limited services clinic may refer a patient to a named non-primary care provider unless the limited services clinic is a satellite of, or is otherwise affiliated with, a health care facility licensed under M.G.L. c. 111, § 51, an accountable care organization or provider organization subject to M.G.L. c. 6D, or other licensed practitioners, and the non-primary care provider practices in the facility or is affiliated with the accountable care organization or provider organization or is otherwise affiliated with the limited services clinic.

(G) Each limited services clinic shall provide a copy of the medical record of each visit to the patient at the end of the visit or as soon as available and, with the patient's consent, provide a facsimile or electronically transmitted copy of the medical record of the visit to the patient's primary care provider, if any. Such copies or transmissions shall be provided at no charge to the patient. For pediatric immunizations the limited services clinic shall maintain documentation of the transmission.

(H) If the limited services clinic is located within a retail location, the clinic shall have policies and procedures ~~that~~ **ensuring** that clinic personnel do not promote the use of services provided by the host retail location.

(I) Required Disclosures.

(1) The limited services clinic shall prominently post or otherwise disclose a description of the services ~~that are~~ provided and shall provide a clear **written** statement ~~indicates informing that~~ the patient ~~should to~~ seek care from his or her primary care provider or an emergency provider for other complaints or conditions.

(2) ~~No~~ **The** limited services clinic may **not** use **false or misleading information in its** advertising, including, but not limited to, information ~~about the related to its services, it provides or its practitioners, or that is false or misleading to the public or that states or implies that~~ it may act as a patient's primary care provider.

(3) If a limited services clinic is located within a retail location, the clinic shall prominently post a statement **informing that indicates that** the patient **he or she** may obtain any prescription medications or other recommended supplies at any location and is not required to purchase such supplies from the host retail location.

(4) Each limited services clinic ~~that~~ **providing** immunizations shall follow Department guidelines to disclose whether it receives vaccines free of charge through the Massachusetts Immunization Program and ~~to indicate to~~ **notifying** patients ~~that~~ there may be a difference in cost between immunization services provided at a limited services clinic and a primary care provider's office.

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(J) No limited services clinic may use any name ~~that~~ **implying** that it may act as the patient's primary care provider. If a limited services clinic is an affiliate or satellite of a licensed health care facility, the name of the limited services clinic shall be sufficiently different from the parent facility such that members of the public can readily understand that the services offered are more limited in scope from those offered by the parent.

(K) Each limited services clinic shall make interpreter services available ~~that are as~~ appropriate to the population served. Such services may be provided by a telephone interpreting service.

(L) If a limited services clinic is located within a retail location that sells tobacco products, the clinic shall prominently post information regarding tobacco usage, the content of which is determined by the Department's Tobacco Control Program.

140.1002: Physical Plant Environment Requirements in Limited Services Clinics

(A) Notwithstanding general access requirements from the Facility Guidelines Institute's *Guidelines for Design and Construction of Health Care Facilities*, a limited services clinic located on the premises of another entity is not required to provide separate exterior entrances or designated parking or to provide a patient waiting area or reception area ~~that is separated~~ from the public area of the host entity.

(B) Notwithstanding general space requirements from the Facility Guidelines Institute's *Guidelines for Design and Construction of Health Care Facilities*, each limited services clinic shall have a minimum floor area of 56 square feet for each examination room, exclusive of fixed casework.

(C) Those provisions of the Facility Guidelines *Institute's Guidelines for Design and Construction of Health Care Facilities* that pertain to services ~~that~~ a particular limited services clinic does not provide (e.g., venipuncture) shall not apply to the limited services clinic.

(D) Each limited services clinic shall provide a hand sanitizer dispenser outside each treatment room.

(E) In accordance with 105 CMR 140.203, each limited services clinic must provide consultation, examination, treatment and dressing areas appropriate to the services provided by the clinic. Any limited services clinic ~~that~~ **intending** to substantially alter or expand the scope of services provided at a clinic location must notify the Department and conform with appropriate physical plant requirements prior to implementation of any such change.

105 CMR 140.1100: Electronic Health Records in Community Health Centers

Proposed changes to 105 CMR 140.000, Licensure of Clinics

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(A) Definitions applicable to 105 CMR 140.1100.

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) means the agency within the federal Department of Health and Human Services responsible for administering Medicare, Medicaid, and the Children's Health Insurance Program.

Certification Commission for Healthcare Information Technology (CCHIT) means the nonprofit organization authorized by the Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology to test and certify EHR technology to the certification criteria specified in 45 CFR Part 170.

Certified Electronic Health Record (Certified EHR) Technology means EHR technology ~~that has been~~ tested and certified by CCHIT or another agency or organization approved by ONC-HIT to test and certify EHR technology.

CMS Stage 1 Meaningful Use Criteria means the Stage 1 meaningful use objectives and measures specified in 42 CFR Part 495.

CMS Stage 2 Meaningful Use Criteria means the Stage 2 meaningful use objectives and measures specified in 42 Part 495.

Community Health Center (CHC) means a ~~clinic that also is a~~ federally-qualified health center operating in conformance with federal rules for community health centers under 42 U.S.C. 254b and currently participating in the Massachusetts Medicaid program, or a community health center with an active provider agreement with MassHealth under 130 CMR 405.000: *Community Health Center Services*.

Computerized Provider Order Entry (CPOE) means a system that enables the provider to directly enter medication orders, laboratory orders, and radiology orders from a computer or other electronic device. The order is then documented or captured in a digital, structured, and computable format for use in improving the safety and efficiency of the ordering process.

Electronic Health Record (EHR) Technology means computer technology that records patient health-related information and:

- (1) includes patient demographic and clinical health information, such as medical history and problem lists;
- (2) has the capacity to:
 - (a) provide clinical decision support;
 - (b) support provider order entry;
 - (c) capture and query information relevant to health care quality;
 - (d) exchange electronic health information with, and integrate such information from other sources;
 - (e) protect the confidentiality, integrity and availability of health information stored and exchanged.

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Eligible Professional (~~EP~~) means an eligible professional as defined in 42 CFR 495.100 or a Medicaid eligible professional as defined in 42 CFR 495.304.

Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology (~~ONC-HIT~~) means the agency within the federal Department of Health and Human Services responsible for authorizing organizations to test and certify EHR technology to the certification criteria specified in 45 CFR Part 170.

2011 Edition EHR Certification Criteria means the 2011 EHR certification criteria in 45 CFR Part 170.

2014 Edition EHR Certification Criteria means the 2014 EHR certification criteria specified in 45 CFR Part 170.

(B) Implementation of Electronic Health Records.

- (1) A Community Health Center shall provide documentation to the Department demonstrating ~~that~~ the CHC has implemented Certified EHR Technology, ~~that~~ its eligible professionals have registered with CMS and attested to compliance with CMS EHR Meaningful Use Criteria, and ~~that~~ it utilizes CPOE, as specified in 105 CMR 140.1100 and in guidelines of the Department.
- (2) No later than October 1, 2016, a CHC shall:
 - (a) implement Certified EHR Technology, as specified in 45 CFR Part 170 and in guidelines of the Department;
 - (b) attest ~~that~~ at least 70% of eligible professionals employed by the CHC have registered with CMS and attested to compliance with CMS Stage 1 meaningful use criteria, as specified in guidelines of the Department; and
 - (c) utilize CPOE, as specified in guidelines of the Department.
- (3) After October 1, 2016 the Department may require that a higher percentage of eligible professionals employed by the ~~S~~CHC register ~~er~~ with CMS, attest to compliance with CMS EHR Meaningful Use Criteria, and utilize CPOE as specified in guidelines of the Department.
- (4) Review of Meaningful Use.
 - (a) A CHC shall, upon request of the Department, submit documentation to the Department pertaining to its use of Electronic Health Record Technology and meaningful use by eligible professionals, as specified in guidelines of the Department.
 - (b) A CHC shall keep documentation supporting its eligible professionals' demonstration of meaningful use for six years following the EHR reporting period for each eligible professional, as defined in 42 CFR 495.4.

140.1200: Definitions applicable to 105 CMR140.1201

Proposed changes to 105 CMR 140.000, Licensure of Clinics

Blue = new language put forth for comment

~~Red strikethrough~~ = deleted language put forth for comment

Green = changes in response to comments

Purple = DPH changes after comment

Regular text = existing language

The following definitions apply to 105 CMR 140.1201:

Appropriate Patient means a patient whose attending health care practitioner has:

- (1) diagnosed a terminal illness or condition ~~which can~~ reasonably ~~be~~ expected to cause the patient's death within six months, whether or not treatment is provided, provided ~~that~~ the attending health care practitioner determines ~~that~~ discussion of the palliative care services is not contraindicated; or
- (2) determined that discussion of palliative care services is consistent with the patient's clinical and other circumstances and the patient's reasonably known wishes and beliefs.

Attending Health Care Practitioner means a physician, ~~or~~ nurse practitioner, **or physician assistant** who has primary responsibility for the care and treatment of the patient within or on behalf of the clinic; provided ~~that~~ if more than one physician, ~~or~~ nurse practitioner, **or physician assistant** share that responsibility, each of them shall have a responsibility under 105 CMR 140.1200**1**, unless there is an agreement to assign that responsibility to one such person.

Comment [A64]: Physician assistant added to reflect they may have the primary responsibility for a patient's care and treatment within or on the behalf of a clinic.

Hospice Care Services means care, ~~including palliative care, provided to terminally ill patients and their family members when the patient is no longer seeking curative or life-prolonging treatments. Hospice care services are delivered in the patient's home, long term care facilities, hospitals or licensed hospice facilities~~ **provided by an entity licensed pursuant to 105 CMR 141.000.**

Palliative Care means the attempt to prevent or relieve pain and suffering and to enhance the patient's quality of life; and may include, but is not limited to, interdisciplinary end-of-life care and consultation with patients and family members.

140.1201: Provision of Information on Palliative Care and End-of-Life Options

- (A) Each clinic shall distribute to appropriate patients in its care, directly or through professionally qualified individuals, culturally and linguistically suitable information regarding the availability of palliative care and end-of-life options. This obligation shall be fulfilled by providing the patient with:
 - (1) A Department-issued informational pamphlet; or
 - (2) A similar informational pamphlet that meets the specifications in 105 CMR 140.1201(B).
- (B) At a minimum, the informational pamphlet shall include:
 - (1) A definition and explanation of advanced care planning, palliative care services and hospice services; and
 - (2) All other requirements as defined in guidelines of the Department.
- (C) Each clinic shall provide its attending health care practitioners the information in

Proposed changes to 105 CMR 140.000, Licensure of Clinics

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105 CMR 140.1201(A) for distribution to appropriate patients in a timely manner.

(D) Each clinic shall have a policy to guide its attending health care practitioners for identifying appropriate patients and ensuring ~~that~~ they receive an informational pamphlet. Such policies shall be made available to the Department upon request.

(E) Each clinic shall inform all physicians, ~~and~~ nurse practitioners, **and physician assistants** providing care within or on behalf of the facility of the requirements of M.G.L. c. 111, §227(c) to offer to provide end-of-life counseling to patients with a terminal illness or condition.

(F) Where the patient lacks capacity to reasonably understand and make informed decisions, the information in 105 CMR 140.1201(A) shall be provided to the person with legal authority to make health care decisions for that patient.

(G) The clinic shall make available to the Department proof ~~that~~ it is in compliance with 105 CMR 140.1201(A) and (C) through (E) upon request or at the time of inspection.

140.1300: Severability

The provisions of 105 CMR 140.000 are severable. If any provision herein is declared unconstitutional or invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, the validity of the remaining portions shall not be so affected.

REGULATORY AUTHORITY

105 CMR 140.000: M.G.L. c. 111, §§ 3 and 51 through 56.

Comment [A65]: Physician assistant added to reflect they may have the primary responsibility for a patient's care and treatment within or on the behalf of a clinic.