

DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOL AND DRUG PROGRAMS

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**ADP BULLETIN**

Title

Requirement for Physician Signature at Admission

Deputy Director Approval

(Original signed by Rebecca Lira)
 Rebecca Lira
 Deputy Director
 Licensing and Certification Division

Function:

- Information Management
 Quality Assurance
 Service Delivery
 Fiscal
 Administration

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PURPOSE

The purpose of this bulletin is to notify all Narcotic Treatment Programs (NTP) of a change in the Department of Alcohol and Drug Program's (ADP) policy regarding admission requirements.

DISCUSSION

NTP patients are required to receive a physical examination before being admitted into detoxification or maintenance treatment. When the physician is not present at the program, the physician extender may provide the necessary admission requirements with a physician's verbal order and signature, via facsimile, on the day of admission. This policy has created a hardship on the programs as well as the physicians. In order to lessen the burden and align with standard practices of the medical community, ADP has approved physicians to counter-sign the admission physical within three days of the patient being admitted.

REFERENCES

California Code of Regulations, Title 9, Section 10270.

BACKGROUND

Before admitting an applicant to detoxification or maintenance treatment, the medical director shall either conduct a medical evaluation or document his or her review and concurrence of a medical evaluation conducted by the physician extender.

QUESTIONS/MAINTENANCE

If you have questions regarding this bulletin, please contact Joan Robbins, Manager, Policy and Program Support Branch, Licensing and Certification Division at (916) 322-6682 or e-mail to jrobbins@adp.ca.gov. An additional copy of this document may be requested through the Department's Resource Center at (800) 879-2772. This bulletin is also available on the Department's Web page at www.adp.ca.gov.

EXHIBITS

N/A

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County Alcohol and Drug Program Administrators
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