

Date: June 9, 2000

DSL-BQA-00-043

To: Hospitals

HOSP 18

From: Otis Woods, Section Chief  
Health Services Section

Via: Susan Schroeder, Director  
Bureau of Quality Assurance

**Interpretive Guidelines:  
HCFA Hospital Condition of Participation: Patients' Rights**

Attached is a [copy of the HCFA Interpretive Guidelines for the Condition of Participation: Patients' Rights](#). This regulation, found in the Code of Federal Regulations at 42 CFR 482.13, became effective for hospitals participating in the Medicare program, excluding Critical Access Hospitals, on August 2, 1999. A copy of the regulation with a discussion of Wisconsin law pertaining to "independent licensed practitioners" was sent to Wisconsin hospitals in DSL-BQA-99-063, dated October 15, 1999.

The Interpretive Guidelines currently being sent to you provide guidance to hospital surveyors in the implementation of 42 CFR, Part 482, and are effective June 18, 2000.

Questions may be directed to Otis Woods, Chief, Health Services Section, at (608) 266-3878 or to Helen Brewster, ACSW, CICSW, at (608) 267-1443.