Guide for Questioning Physician's Orders:

In the event Agency professional staff have reason to question the orders of an attending physician, the staff are to notify the Supervising Nurse or Administrator. The following steps will be taken by the professional staff member/Supervising Nurse and/or Administrator:

1. The order will be verified with the attending physician, and a signed copy obtained

2. Staff may consult with a Medical Advisor on the Professional Advisory Committee

3. If the Medical Advisor concurs with the Agency staff’s judgement, the attending physician will be notified by the Medical Advisor as to the outcome of that conference

4. If the attending physician continues to insist on the disputed order, the Supervising Nurse or the Administrator will contact the patient and/or family with the information from the Medical Advisor

5. The professional staff are never requested to follow an order which is contrary to his/her standard of practice.

6. The documentation will consist of notification of the Supervising Nurse and/or Administrator informing him/her of a description of the patient’s symptoms and orders obtained.

7. The chart may be referred to Marshalltown Medical and Surgical Center’s Patient Care Evaluation for peer review of the medical management of the patient care.

Cross Reference: _______________________________________

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