



State of New Jersey
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
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June 4, 2018

SHEREEF M. ELNAHAL, MD, MBA
Commissioner

TO: Home Health Agency and Hospice Administrators

FROM: Shereef M. Elnahal, MD, MBA
Commissioner 

SUBJECT: Temporary Operational Waivers during a State of Emergency

In the event of a State of Emergency as declared by the Governor of New Jersey in an Executive Order, that so significantly affects the ability of a Home Health Agency or Hospice to offer its full array of services, the Department of Health (Department) will not require prior Department approval of temporary waivers for the following services from Home Health Agencies and Hospices that are affected by such an event:

1. Providing home health services to patients outside of license/CN geography; or
2. Providing hospice services to patients outside the hospice service area.

Affected Home Health Agencies and Hospices (those licensed in accordance with N.J.A.C. 8:42 and 42C) will be required to provide a written report to the Department detailing which, if any, of the above actions were implemented, the duration of the implementation, and any adverse outcomes attributable to the actions. Once the State of Emergency is mitigated, Home Health Agencies and Hospices will be required to operate in accordance with all licensure standards.

You may review various important and useful Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) documents related to emergency preparedness at the following website:

<https://www.cms.gov/SurveyCertEmergPrep>

Please remember to maintain contact with your local and/or County Office of Emergency Management and your regional Medical Coordination Center during a State of Emergency. If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact Mr. John Calabria, Director, Certificate of Need and Healthcare Facility Licensure Program at 609-292-8773.

cc: Shereen Semple, Assistant Commissioner
John Calabria, Director
Local Health Officers