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**Circular Letter: DHCQ 08-05-488**

**TO:** Massachusetts Nursing Home Administrators

**FROM:** Paul I. Dreyer, Ph.D.  
Bureau Director

**DATE:** May 2, 2008

**RE:** Advisory ruling on the initiation and withholding of  
Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation in Long Term Care facilities  
with 24 hours skilled nursing staff on duty

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At its meeting on January 9, 2008, the Massachusetts Board of Registration in Nursing issued the enclosed advisory ruling. Long Term Care facilities with 24/7 skilled staff must develop policies and procedures, along with the appropriate training, to incorporate the ruling into acceptable standards of practice. Documentation of the event and the physical assessment of the resident are critical in determining compliance with both the Code of Massachusetts regulations and the Code of Federal regulations. If you have any questions, please feel free to call Jill Mazzola at 617-753-8106.

Enclosures: Advisory ruling  
Work force panel