



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
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MEMORANDUM

To: DMH Licensed Facilities & Interested Parties

From: Amam Saleh, M.D. *AS*
State Medical Director/
Deputy Commissioner for Clinical and Professional Services

Martha M Ryan, JD, MSN, RN *hmr*
Assistant Commissioner for Clinical and Professional Services/
Director of Licensing

Date: May 13, 2025

Re: DMH Licensing Bulletin #25-01
Designated Physician and Qualified APRN Authority to Admit, 104 CMR 33.02

We are forwarding DMH Licensing Bulletin # 25-01, Designated Physician and Qualified APRN Authority to Admit, 104 CMR 33.02.

Through the attached Bulletin, DMH interprets the phrase “privileged to admit to the facility” as used in 104 C.M.R. § 33.02(1)(b)(2) and § 33.02(1)(c)(2) to include physician or APRNs (i) granted independent admitting privileges by the facility; or (ii) authorized by the governing documents of the facility’s medical/professional staff to write inpatient admission orders.

A public or private facility which admits patients under G. L. c. 123, § 12, may designate physicians or APRNs with either form of authority to admit, provided that such physician or APRN otherwise meet the eligibility requirements under 104 C.M.R. § 33.02(1)(b) or 104 C.M.R. § 33.02(1)(c), as those requirements may be modified at the Commissioner’s discretion pursuant to 104 C.M.R. § 33.02(1)(f). In accordance with G.L. c. 123, § 12(b), if a facility designated physician or qualified APRN “determines that failure to hospitalize [a] person would create a likelihood of serious harm by reason of mental illness, the physician or qualified [APRN] may admit such person to the facility for care and treatment.”

Questions regarding this revised bulletin should be directed to the DMH Licensing Division at 617-626-8117 or Teresa.J.Reynolds@mass.gov