

10.27.16.01

.01 Exclusion from Regulations.

This chapter is not applicable to, and does not restrict or limit, a:

- A. Registered nurse from performing those functions which constitute the practice of registered nursing as defined by law;
and
- B. Medical claims consultant from performing medical claims consultation as defined in this chapter.

10.27.16.02

.02 Definitions.

A. In this chapter, the following terms have the meanings indicated.

B. Terms Defined.

(1) "Board" means the Board of Nursing.

(2) "Board-approved course" means an educational offering specific to the case management of the injured worker under the Workers' Compensation Commission which meets the criteria established by the Board.

(3) "Commission" means the Workers' Compensation Commission.

(4) Medical Case Management.

(a) "Medical case management" means any type of contact, including electronic, written, and personal, with the injured worker, for the purpose of the planning and coordination of health services appropriate to achievement of medical rehabilitation of the injured worker.

(b) "Medical case management" includes but is not limited to:

(i) Case assessment;

(ii) Implementation and coordination of services with the injured worker, family, and health care providers;

(iii) Evaluation of treatment results;

(iv) Coordinating community re-entry;

(v) Return to work with the employer of injury; and

(vi) Referral for further vocational rehabilitation services.

(5) "Medical claims consultant" means a registered nurse who consults on medical aspects of an injured worker's rehabilitation without any contact with the injured worker.

(6) "RN" means a registered nurse.

(7) "RN-WCCM" means a registered nurse-workers' compensation medical case manager.

10.27.16.03

.03 Certification Requirements.

A. To practice as an RN-WCCM, an applicant shall:

- (1) Complete in full an application on the Board-required form;
- (2) Hold a current license to practice registered nursing in the State;
- (3) Pay all fees established by the Board in COMAR 10.27.01; and
- (4) Submit documentation of successful completion of a Board-approved course.

B. An RN, practicing as a case manager of the injured worker before the effective date of this chapter, may be certified as an RN-WCCM and is exempt from meeting the requirements of §A(4) of this regulation if the individual complies with all other requirements of this chapter.

C. The Board shall include on the RN's license the designation WCCM.

D. Certification by Endorsement. An applicant from out-of-State shall meet the requirements as stated in this regulation.

10.27.16.05

.05 Notice to Workers' Compensation Commission.

The Board shall:

A. Notify the Commission of:

- (1) The status of any licensee regulated under this chapter, and
- (2) Any RN-WCCM who fails to renew the license; and

B. Provide the Commission quarterly reports of disciplinary actions taken against any licensee governed by this chapter.

10.27.16.06

.06 Scope of Practice.

A. The RN—WCCM may perform medical case management of the injured worker as defined in this chapter.

B. The RN—WCCM shall comply with all:

- (1) Other statutes or regulations governing registered nurse practice; and
- (2) Laws, statutory policies, and procedures of the Commission.

10.27.16.07

.07 Course Approval.

A. Each provider shall:

- (1) Submit a course proposal for approval before implementation and at least every 3 years thereafter; and
- (2) Obtain from the Board a curriculum checklist detailing the content to be included in the course.

B. All changes, additions, or deletions to the course shall be approved by the Board before implementation.

10.27.16.08

.08 Course Requirements.

A. Each course shall have a minimum of 16 hours of theory content.

B. The curriculum shall include the following content areas:

- (1) An historical perspective of case management;
- (2) Insurance terms and types of coverage-----general;
- (3) Federal and State insurance statutes and regulations governing workers' compensation;
- (4) Stakeholders-----roles, responsibilities, ethical considerations, and goals;
- (5) Maryland Nurse Practice Act; and
- (6) Case management, including:
 - (a) Assessment,
 - (b) Planning,
 - (c) Implementation,
 - (d) Evaluation,
 - (e) Written reporting, and
 - (f) Communication.

C. The course offering shall use texts from a Board-approved list.

10.27.16.09

.09 Faculty.

A. Qualifications. Faculty shall hold:

- (1) Current RN licensure in Maryland; and
- (2) Certification as a case manager by a certifying body recognized by the Board.

B. Responsibilities. Faculty shall:

- (1) Plan, implement, and evaluate the course at periodic planned intervals; and
- (2) Develop and utilize written examinations to measure achievement of course objectives.

10.27.16.10

.10 Unlawful Practice.

A. Unless authorized to practice under this chapter, an individual may not use the words "registered nurse—workers' compensation medical case manager", RN—WCCM, or any other words, letters, or symbols with the intent to represent that the individual is a registered nurse-workers' compensation medical case manager.

B. An individual certified under this chapter is subject to disciplinary sanctions set forth in Health Occupations Article, Title 8, Annotated Code of Maryland.

C. An individual may not practice medical case management for the Commission unless authorized under this chapter.