



M. Jodi Rell
Governor

State of Connecticut
Department of Developmental Services



Peter H. O'Meara
Commissioner

Kathryn du Pree
Deputy Commissioner

**To: Executive Management Team
Regional Directors
Assistant Regional Directors
Regional Resource Administrators
Quality Improvement Directors
Self Determination Directors
Private Service Providers**

From: Kathryn duPree, Deputy Commissioner *Kathryn du Pree*

Date: February 2, 2009

Re: REVISED DDS Directive: I.E.DIR.001 Prohibited Use of Prone Restraints

Attached is the revised Department of Developmental Services Directive:

I.E.DIR.001: Prohibited Use Of Prone Restraints.

This was issued originally on March 28, 2007. It is hereby revised and reissued on February 2, 2009.

The purpose of this Directive is to clarify and affirm the Department Of Developmental Services position that prone (face down) restraint may not be used as a restraint procedure.

This Directive applies to ALL individuals placed or treated under the direction of the Commissioner, and all staff providing services to those individuals. This includes individuals receiving services in DDS operated, funded, and/or licensed facilities or programs, or DDS-funded services delivered in family or individual homes, or day services.

You will note that this is a complete revision of the original Directive. These significant changes were made:

1. The use of prone (facedown) restraint is banned as part of a Behavior Support Plan (BSP) or as an emergency intervention.
2. Regional Program Review Committees will not approve any future use of prone restraint in Behavior Support Plans.
3. As with all prohibited interventions, if it is used by staff, a Critical Incident Report will be filled out, and the department will investigate staff's use of this prohibited intervention.

Please ensure that a copy of this revised directive is filed in your DDS Manual, Part 1-Service Delivery, Section E: Health and Safety, Directives/Advisories. Please remember to remove the now outdated version. An updated Table of Contents is also being forwarded for reference and filing.

This Directive shall be shared with all staff as appropriate as well as those who have specific implementation and oversight responsibilities. Please note that for DDS staff, this Directive and updated Table of Contents are also available for reference on the DDS LAN-J Drive in the "DDS Manual" folder.

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