COMMISSIONER’S POLICY STATEMENT NO. 42

NIGHT AND WEEKEND COVERAGE BY PHYSICIANS

Licensed physicians employed by the Department of Mental Health may perform night or weekend coverage in their own or other facilities a maximum of two (2) times in any seven (7) day period. Individual superintendents and directors of facilities may adopt further measures to assure that daily patient care is not jeopardized by the coverage/dual employment arrangements.

Physicians employed by one facility during the day who provide night coverage at another facility must allow sufficient time for travel between them at the beginning and/or end of each shift. The primary facility may, when patient care permits, rearrange the employee’s work schedule on specific days or require the employee to use her/his accrued leave to cover the travel time.

Night or weekend coverage may be for less than a full 16 or 24-hour period, in which case the payment shall be prorated.

Albert J. Solnit, M.D.
Commissioner

AJS:jkl

This directive replaces Commissioner’s Policy Statement No. 42 dated December 1, 1983.

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