

CALIFORNIA HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

STATEMENT OF DEFICIENCIES AND PLAN OF CORRECTION	(X1) PROVIDER/SUPPLIER/CLIA IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 050115	(X2) MULTIPLE CONSTRUCTION A. BUILDING _____ B. WING _____	(X3) DATE SURVEY COMPLETED 12/07/2012
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NAME OF PROVIDER OR SUPPLIER PALOMAR HEALTH DOWNTOWN CAMPUS	STREET ADDRESS, CITY, STATE, ZIP CODE 555 E Valley Pkwy, Escondido, CA 92025-3048 SAN DIEGO COUNTY
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	<p>The following reflects the findings of the Department of Public Health during an inspection visit:</p> <p>Complaint Intake Number: CA00284117 - Substantiated</p> <p>Representing the Department of Public Health: Surveyor ID # 22363, HFEN</p> <p>The inspection was limited to the specific facility event investigated and does not represent the findings of a full inspection of the facility.</p> <p>Health and Safety Code Section 1280.1(c): For purposes of this section "immediate jeopardy" means a situation in which the licensee's noncompliance with one or more requirements of licensure has caused, or is likely to cause, serious injury or death to the patient.</p> <p>California Codes Health & Safety Code, Section 1279.1 (a) (a) A health facility licensed pursuant to subdivision (a), (b), or (f) of Section 1250 shall report an adverse event to the department no later than five days after the adverse event has been detected, or, if that event is an ongoing urgent or emergent threat to the welfare, health, or safety of patients, personnel, or visitors, not later than 24 hours after the adverse event has been detected. Disclosure of individually identifiable patient information shall be consistent with applicable law. California Codes Health & Safety Code, Section 1279.1 (b)(5)(D) (b) For purposes of this section, "adverse event"</p>		<p>RECEIVED CA DEPT OF PUBLIC HEALTH DEC 26 2012 LICENSING & CERTIFICATION SAN DIEGO NORTH DISTRICT OFFICE</p> <p>California Codes Health & Safety Code, Section 1279.1 (a)</p> <p>Substantial changes have been made to the reporting, investigation and follow-up process as follows. Procedures related to Adverse and Sentinel Events and Reporting requirements were revised and merged to create procedure 28172 Near Miss, Adverse and Sentinel Event Investigations and Follow-Up. This document identifies the actions required to complete investigations and includes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Elements of how corrections will be accomplished. 2. Who is responsible for the corrections 3. A description of the monitoring process. 4. Instructions that insure follow up related to performance and adherence to process and procedure is reported through the Quality and Patient Safety Committee structure and to the Board of Directors. <p>Person Responsible: Opal Reinbold, Chief Quality Officer Addendum #1: Procedure 28172; "Near Miss, Adverse and Sentinel Event Investigation and Follow-up"</p>	11.19.12
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Event 10:51G011 12/10/2012 7:47:13AM

LABORATORY DIRECTOR'S OR PROVIDER/SUPPLIER REPRESENTATIVE'S SIGNATURE 	TITLE CNO	(X6) DATE 12/21/12
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	<p>Continued From page 1</p> <p>includes any of the following:</p> <p>(5) Environmental events, including the following:</p> <p>(D) A patient death associated with a fall while being cared for in a health facility, California Codes Health & Safety Code, Section 1279.1 (c)</p> <p>(c) The facility shall inform the patient or the party responsible for the patient of the adverse event by the time the report is made.</p> <p>The CDPH verified that the facility informed the patient or the party responsible for the patient of the adverse event by the time the report was made.</p> <p>California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Chapter 1, §70215 Planning and Implementing Patient Care.</p> <p>(a) A registered nurse shall directly provide:</p> <p>(2) The planning, supervision, implementation, and evaluation of nursing care provided to each patient. The implementation of nursing care may be delegated by the registered nurse responsible for the patient to other licensed nursing staff, or may be assigned to unlicensed staff, subject to any limitation of their licensure, certification, level of validated competency, and/or regulation.</p> <p>The facility failed to provide implementation and evaluation of nursing care to Patient A following a fall, with associated head injury, in the IMC (Intermediate Care Unit). The fall resulted in bleeding in the brain, coma, eventual withdrawal of life support, and ultimately the death of Patient A.</p> <p>Patient A, a 64 year old male, was seen in the</p>		<p>Procedure 18244 "Standards of Patient Care for the Adult Inpatient" outlines the responsibility of the RN for assessment, planning, supervision, implementation and evaluation of care provided. The RN who involved in the care of this patient was counseled related to;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Failure to follow the Clinical Institute Withdrawal Assessment (CIWA) protocol 2. Failure to notify the MD for documented HR over 120 ppm 3. Failure to complete / document complete vital signs and assessment related to the HR 4. Failure to notify the physician of CIWA scores over 15 5. Initiation of O2 for saturations of 96% despite order to maintain oxygen saturations of 92% 6. Failure to call RRT when patient was found unresponsive 7. Importance of accurate documentation of care provided and adherence to physician orders. 8. Notification of the planned audit of 10 medical records for documentation. <p>Person Responsible: Rae Anne Watson, RN Nursing Director Addendum #2: Procedure 18244; "Standards of Patient Care for the Adult Inpatient" Addendum #3: Staff Counseling Date 11.27.11</p>	11.27.11

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	<p>Continued From page 2</p> <p>facility's Emergency Department (ED) on [REDACTED] 11 at approximately 2:03p.m. According to the ED notes, Patient A presented with signs and symptoms that were consistent with an alcohol withdrawal syndrome. The notes indicated Patient A had a generalized tonic clonic seizure (generalized seizure affecting the entire brain), lasting approximately 2 minutes, while waiting for evaluation in the ED, and another seizure while still in the ED. Patient A's Significant Other reported multiple falls at home, and the ED physician noted Patient A had multiple resolving ecchymosis (bruising) on his arms and legs. The notes indicated Patient A's last alcoholic drink was the day prior, on [REDACTED] 11. The ED physician ordered a CT (Computed Tomography) scan of the brain (imaging studies of the brain) for an altered level of consciousness, which was normal, according to the radiologists' report.</p> <p>Patient A was admitted to the IMC on the 7th floor, on [REDACTED] 11 at approximately 8:00p.m., according to the nursing documentation. Patient A was placed in a room on the 7th floor, which was not visible from the nursing station.</p> <p>The admitting physician's history and physical (H&P) was reviewed on 12/7/11. According to the H&P, Patient A had new seizures related to alcohol withdrawal and a diagnosis of thrombocytopenia (an abnormally low platelet count. Platelets are what help the blood to clot). The physician ordered seizure and fall precautions, as well as CIWA (Clinical Institute Withdrawal Assessment) protocol.</p>		<p>Communication guidelines were established between the Administrative Supervisors and the Charge RNs related to identification of patients on CIWA for appropriate and safe patient room assignment.</p> <p>Person Responsible: Joy Gorzeman, Chief Nursing Officer</p>	1.31.12

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	<p>Continued From page 6</p> <p>dysfunction, evidenced by abnormal posturing and failure of the pupils to constrict in response to light definition per Wikipedia).</p> <p>The on-call physician (Physician Y) was notified of the results of the CT and ordered an assessment of neurological signs every hour for 6 hours and then every 4 hours.</p> <p>Following the fall, on the evening of [REDACTED] 11, RN 1 documented CIWA assessments of 16 at 11:00 p.m. and 17 at 1:00 a.m. When questioned as to the significance of the elevated scores, RN 1 stated he knew he should have notified the physician, but he did not. At 3:36a.m., the Monitor Technician took a rhythm strip of Patient A's heart rate, as she noted an increased heart rate of 138. Again at 3:40 a.m., another strip was recorded due to a heart rate of greater than 154. Both strips were initialed by RN 1. RN 1 acknowledged his initials on the rhythm strips. RN 1 was questioned again as to why he didn't further assess Patient A or notify the physician, as the order was to notify the physician with a heart rate greater than 120. RN 1 acknowledged that with the elevated heart rate, further assessment was warranted, at least a full set of vital signs. He could not answer as to why he did not further assess Patient A. RN 1 acknowledged he did not notify the physician. RN 1 stated he thought Patient A was, "Just anxious."</p> <p>RN 1 was questioned as to why he medicated Patient A with Ativan for anxiety at 11:27 p.m. and 1:26 a.m., but didn't medicate Patient A for what RN 1 perceived as anxiety at 3:40 a.m. RN 1</p>		<p>The RN involved in the care of this patient was counseled related to;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 9. Failure to follow the CIWA protocol 10. Failure to notify the MD for documented HR over 120 ppm 11. Failure to complete / document complete vital signs and assessment related to the HR 12. Failure to notify the physician of CIWA scores over 15 13. Initiation of O2 for saturations of 96% despite order to maintain oxygen saturations of 92% 14. Failure to call RRT when patient was found unresponsive 15. Importance of accurate documentation of care provided and adherence to physician orders. 16. Notification of the planned audit of 10 medical records for documentation. <p>Person Responsible: Rae Anne Watson, RN Nursing Director Addendum # 3: Staff Counseling Date 11.27.11</p>	11.27.11

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Continued From page 7

stated, "I thought the anxiety would go away." RN 1 documented that he placed Patient A on oxygen at 4:00 a.m. According to the physician's orders, oxygen was to be used to maintain oxygen saturation levels to greater than 92%. RN 1 was asked why he found the need to place Patient A on oxygen at 4:00a.m., as the recorded oxygen saturation at that time was 96%. According to RN 1, he did not recall placing the patient on oxygen, although he did acknowledge documenting the administration of oxygen in Patient A's medical record at 4:00a.m.

On [REDACTED] 11 at 5:38a.m., approximately 10 hours following Patient A's fall, the phlebotomist (P1) came to the 7th floor for her routine blood draws. The phlebotomist (P1) was interviewed on 9/29/11 and 11/18/11. According to P1, she drew Patient A's blood the day before and he was "cranky and bitchy," but on the morning of the [REDACTED] 11 she was unable to arouse him. She stated the patient seemed "drugged," and "snoring" in a "deep sleep." She said, "I couldn't wake him up." P1 recalled a nurse outside the room. P1 stated the nurse must have heard P1 yelling to wake the patient up and P1 said, "I assumed the nurse told someone."

On the morning of [REDACTED] 11 at 6:00a.m., RN 1 found Patient A unresponsive, with a documented GCS (Glasgow Coma Scale) of 3, on a scale of 3-15. (Glasgow Coma Scale is a neurological scale that aims to give a reliable, objective way of recording the conscious state of a person for initial as well as subsequent assessments per Wikipedia). A score of three (3) on the GCS indicates the patient does

The phlebotomist was interviewed and her actions reviewed, during the case investigation by Laboratory Leadership.
Person Responsible: Tim Barlow, Laboratory Manager

11.30.12

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	<p>Continued From page 8</p> <p>not open his eyes, is unable to make any verbal response or movement, and is in a deep unconsciousness. RN 1 stated Patient A had no voluntary movement, even to a deep sternal rub. (A deep sternal rub is a forceful rub to the sternum (breast bone) to elicit a response from the patient.) RN 1 stated Patient A's pupils were non-reactive (no reaction when a light is passed over the pupils). RN 1 stated he asked the Resource Nurse to validate his findings regarding the unconscious state of Patient A. According to RN 1, the Resource Nurse had the same observations. RN 1 stated he notified the on-call physician, Physician G, who was, "Sitting on the nurse's station." According to RN 1, he reported to Physician G that Patient A was "non-responsive," but Physician G stated he was off duty and told RN 1 to notify the oncoming physician, Physician L. RN 1 stated he then called Patient A's physician, Physician L, and waited for Physician L to arrive. When Physician L arrived, the physician initiated notification of the RRT (Rapid Response Team - a multidisciplinary team most frequently consisting of ICU (Intensive Care Unit) trained personnel, who are available 24 hours per day, 7 days per week for evaluation of patients who develop signs or symptoms of severe clinical deterioration). This was at 6:33a.m., 33 minutes after finding Patient A unresponsive, with a GCS of 3. RN 1 was questioned as to why he waited for the physician to call upon the RRT for help, but RN 1 had no answer.</p> <p>Physician G was interviewed by phone on 12/27/11 at 3:20p.m. According to Physician G, he was on shift from 10:00 p.m. to 6:00a.m. Physician G</p>		<p>The RN involved in the care of this patient was counseled related to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Failure to follow the CIWA protocol 2. Failure to notify the MD for documented HR over 120 ppm 3. Failure to complete / document complete vital signs and assessment related to the HR 4. Failure to notify the physician of CIWA scores over 15 5. Initiation of O2 for saturations of 96% despite order to maintain oxygen saturations of 92% 6. Failure to call RRT when patient was found unresponsive 7. Importance of accurate documentation of care provided and adherence to physician orders. 8. Notification of the planned audit of 10 medical records for documentation. <p>Person Responsible: Rae Anne Watson, RN, Nursing Director Addendum #3: Staff Counseling Date 11.27.11</p>	11.27.11	

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	<p>Continued From page 11</p> <p>A neurosurgical consultation was obtained on [REDACTED] 11 at 9:13a.m. According to the neurosurgeons dictated consultation, a phlebotomist found Patient A at 4:00a.m., unresponsive. The neurosurgeons dictation indicated Patient A remained profoundly thrombocytopenic (low platelet count; platelets assist with blood clotting), with increasing bleeding in the brain and noted, "Any prognosis for any meaningful recovery or survival is virtually nil..." A neurology consultation, obtained on [REDACTED] 11 at 9:38 a.m., concurred with the neurosurgeon. The neurology consultation indicated Patient A had, "Hemorrhage in the pons (brain stem) of a fairly massive scale...deeply comatose prognosis for any meaningful recovery is essentially zero..." Patient A continued to decline and the decision was made to change the level of care to DNR (do not resuscitate) on [REDACTED] 11 at 3:42p.m. Patient A expired on [REDACTED] 11 at 6:47 a.m. The coroner's report, dated [REDACTED] 11, listed the cause of death as, "Complications of blunt force injury of head."</p> <p>The failure of the nursing staff in the IMC to monitor, evaluate and implement nursing care on Patient A resulted in the patient's fall and ultimately death.</p> <p>This facility failed to prevent the deficiency(ies) as described above that caused, or is likely to cause, serious injury or death to the patient, and therefore constitutes an immediate jeopardy within the meaning of Health and Safety Code Section 1280.1(c).</p>		<p>Procedure 18244 "Standards of Patient Care for the Adult Inpatient" outlines the responsibility of the RN for assessment, planning, supervision, implementation and evaluation of care provided. The RN involved in the care of this patient was counseled related to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Failure to follow the CIWA protocol 2. Failure to notify the MD for documented HR over 120 ppm 3. Failure to complete / document complete vital signs and assessment related to the HR 4. Failure to notify the physician of CIWA scores over 15 5. Initiation of O2 for saturations of 96% despite order to maintain oxygen saturations of 92% 6. Failure to call RRT when patient was found unresponsive 7. Importance of accurate documentation of care provided and adherence to physician orders. 8. Notification of the planned audit of 10 medical records for documentation. <p>Person Responsible: Rae Anne Watson, RN, Nursing Director Addendum #2: Procedure 18244 "Standards of Patient Care for the Adult Inpatient" Addendum #3: Staff Counseling Date 11.27.11</p>	11.27.11

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