

LCB File No. R063-02

PROPOSED REGULATION OF THE STATE BOARD OF HEALTH

Explanation – Matter *italicized* is new; matter in brackets [] is omitted material

Mobile Units

These amendments will be heard at public workshops on May 17, 2002, in Las Vegas and Reno. It is planned that they will come before the State Board of Health at its June 14, 2002 meeting.

AUTHORITY: SS 1-69, NRS 449.037.

Section 1.

Chapter 449 of NAC is hereby amended by adding thereto the provisions set forth as sections 2 to 20, inclusive, of this regulation.

Sec. 2. Definitions

As used in sections 2 to 20, inclusive, of this regulation, unless the context otherwise requires, the words and terms defined in subsections 1 through 4, inclusive, have the meanings ascribed to them in those sections.

Sec. 3. “Mobile unit” defined.

“Mobile unit” has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 449.0151(15).

Sec. 4. “Parent facility” defined.

“Parent facility” means a medical facility licensed in Nevada, as defined in subsections 1 to 13, inclusive, of Nevada Revised Statute 449.0151.

Sec. 5. “Service site” defined.

“Service site” means the physical location or locations at which a mobile unit will be parked when providing services to patients.

Sec. 6. “Staging area” defined.

“Staging area” means any physical location that will serve as the base for providing maintenance of the mobile unit.

Sec. 7. License required.

No person, political subdivision of the state, or governmental agency shall operate a mobile unit without first obtaining a license from the health division.

Sec. 8. Licensed services; separate license required; restrictions on use of license.

- 1. A mobile unit may be licensed only in conjunction with a parent facility.*
- 2. A mobile unit may be licensed to provide only those medical services offered by its parent facility.*
- 3. A separate license is required for each mobile unit operated by a parent facility.*
- 4. An original license must be issued by the health division and maintained in each mobile unit, and designate all service sites and the name of the person responsible for the operation of the mobile unit.*
- 5. A copy of each license issued by the health division, authorizing operation of a mobile unit, shall be posted at the parent facility.*

Sec. 9. Limitation as a hospital; operation pursuant to contract.

1. For a hospital, mobile unit services shall not be utilized as a primary source for a required hospital service, as identified in NRS 449.012, unless in response to a natural disaster or other emergency situation.

2. The mobile services provided in a mobile unit operated by a parent facility shall be licensed to the parent facility, even though it may be operated pursuant to a contract. When a contract of this type exists with a licensed parent facility for the provision of mobile unit services, all of the following shall apply:

(a) Each parent facility shall maintain documentation, on the premises of the parent facility, of the services to be provided in the mobile unit and the staff that have administrative responsibility for the mobile unit.

(b) The parent facility shall maintain administrative and professional responsibility for the mobile unit. All liabilities for noncompliance regarding the provisions of services in the mobile unit shall be that of the parent facility.

(c) Procedures and services to be provided in the mobile unit shall be in accordance with recognized acceptable standards of practice.

(d) Coordination with the owner of the mobile unit vehicle for availability of the vehicle at the site for required inspections shall be the responsibility of the parent facility.

Sec. 10. *Facilities exempt from licensing.*

Sections 2 through 20 of this regulation do not apply to:

1. A mobile unit that provides mammography services under a certificate of authorization issued in accordance with NRS 457.185 or x-ray services exclusively, registered in accordance with NAC 459.150.

2. A motor vehicle designed and used exclusively for transportation by a medical facility.

3. A mobile unit that exclusively provides services that does not fall under the licensure authority granted by NRS 449.

Sec. 11. *Compliance with motor vehicle laws; regulations of parent facility.*

The mobile unit shall:

1. Comply with all applicable statutes and regulations governing vehicle registration and licensing of drivers required by Nevada law.

2. Comply with NRS 461 or NRS 489, if applicable.

3. Be subject to the same requirements and regulations as the parent facility, except that, instead of complying with the physical plant requirements applicable to the parent facility, they shall comply with the mobile unit requirements of Section 14 of this chapter.

Sec. 12. *Submittal of application.*

An application for licensure of a mobile unit must:

1. Include all information required by NAC 449.011, except a certificate of occupancy required in subsection (4)(e).

2. Include a copy of the motor vehicle registration.

3. Specify:

- (a) The proposed services and procedures to be provided.*
- (b) The proposed service sites.*
- (c) The type and the manufacturer of the mobile unit.*

Sec. 13. Initial survey.

1. Prior to issuing a license to an applicant for operation of a mobile unit the Health Division shall conduct an onsite survey to ensure that the mobile unit is in full compliance with the provisions of NRS 449.001 to 449.240, inclusive, and substantial compliance with any applicable regulation or standard adopted pursuant thereto.

Sec. 14. Physical plant requirements.

1. Except as otherwise provided in this section, mobile units shall comply with the section titled Mobile, Transportable and Relocatable Units of the current edition of Guidelines for Design and Construction of Hospital and Health Care Facilities, published by the American Institute of Architects, which is hereby adopted by reference. A copy of the guidelines may be obtained by calling 1-800-242-3837, or 1-800-365-2724 if using a purchase order.

2. The bureau shall review building plans for a mobile unit prior to licensure. A complete copy of plans, drawn to scale, must be brought to the bureau of licensure and certification of the health division for a plan review pursuant to NAC 449.0165. Plans must include information concerning the services and procedures to be provided, the staging area or areas to be utilized by the mobile unit, and the facilities of each service site to be utilized.

3. The mobile unit shall:

- (a) Obtain approval for the service sites from each local planning and zoning authority, as required.*
- (b) Be of sufficient size and shall be arranged in a manner that is appropriate for the provision of those health care services that it is licensed to provide.*
- (c) Be equipped with appropriate utilities for the comfort and safety of patients.*
- (d) Be maintained in good repair and in a clean and sanitary manner.*
- (e) Be situated for safe and comfortable patient access.*

(f) Comply with all local parking laws. Any parking restrictions developed for mobile units shall be strictly enforced by the parent facility.

(g) Ensure that there is sufficient lighting around the perimeter of each site from which the mobile unit provides any services.

Sec. 15. Staging area.

All mobile units must be operated from a staging area designated by the parent facility. The staging area must:

- 1. Be designed and maintained to provide for disposal of all solid, liquid and biohazardous waste.*
- 2. Provide for thorough cleaning and sanitizing of the mobile unit and its equipment.*
- 3. Maintain an area for the clean and sanitary storage of all supplies required for the mobile unit.*

Section 16. Patient Rights

- 1. Each patient receiving services must be treated with respect, consideration and dignity.*
- 2. Each patient receiving services must be provided appropriate privacy.*
- 3. Each patient receiving services must be informed of his rights as a patient in accordance with the provisions of NRS 449.730. He must be informed, at the time of his admission, of the services available and the estimated cost of those services. He must also be informed of any supplies, medication, or equipment that may be required following the procedure. If a patient is unable to understand his rights, they must be explained to his guardian, next of kin or the agency financially responsible for his care. Documentation that the patient was informed of his rights must be maintained in the medical record.*
- 4. Each patient receiving services must be given the opportunity to participate in decisions relating to his health care, unless he is unable to do so because of his medical condition.*

Sec. 17. Policies and procedures.

A mobile unit shall:

- 1. Have written policies established by the governing body, administration, and medical staff of the parent facility to govern the services that the mobile unit provides. The policies shall*

include, but shall not be limited to, policies related to patient care, personnel training and orientation, personnel supervision, and evaluation of the quality of services provided by the mobile unit.

2. Have written policies regarding patient selection criteria.

3. Develop and implement the written policies and procedures for the mobile unit in consultation with other appropriate health care professionals.

4. Ensure that the written policies and procedures are consistent with the policies and procedures of the parent facility.

5. Ensure that the written policies and procedures include, but are not limited to:

(a) Scope of services.

(b) Procedures for the performance of the services provided.

(c) Storage and handling of medications.

(d) Procedures for the collection, storage and disposal of all waste.

(e) Quality assurance for the unit, in coordination with the parent facility.

(f) Infection control for the unit, in coordination with the parent facility.

(g) Medical record documentation of services provided, as appropriate.

(h) Transport of patients, including, but not limited to, method, special equipment, necessary personnel, and protection from inclement weather.

(i) Emergency services and evacuation plan for the mobile unit.

(1) A licensee using mobile services pursuant to this chapter shall specify in writing, policies and procedures for emergencies including fire, natural disaster, and medical emergencies. In its policies and procedures, the mobile unit shall address the emergency plan required of the parent facility and state how the plans shall be coordinated.

(2) A licensee using mobile services pursuant to this chapter shall familiarize its employees and each patient with the policies and procedures adopted pursuant to subparagraph (1).

(3) A licensee using mobile services pursuant to this chapter shall maintain written transfer agreements that shall include, but shall not be limited to, provisions for communication with, and transportation to, one or more nearby hospitals and other health facilities as needed to meet medical emergencies. The mobile unit shall develop procedures that include personnel

needed to assist in the transfer, as well as provisions for meeting medical needs to accommodate the emergency transfer.

(j) Identification of unique needs for each service site where the mobile unit provides services.

Sec. 18. Evaluation of quality of services.

The mobile unit must comply with those regulations governing the evaluation of the quality of services required of its parent facility. The policies and procedures of the parent facility must incorporate specific review of those services offered by the mobile unit.

Sec. 19. Service provisions.

The mobile unit shall:

- 1. Maintain a planned schedule with proposed dates of use of the mobile unit service sites for each month.*
- 2. Maintain a mobile services log that shall include, but not be limited to:*
 - (a) Service site, date and time.*
 - (b) Patient chart or identification number.*
 - (c) Name, age, sex of patient and, as appropriate, duration of procedure.*
- 3. Maintain clinical records on each patient, in accordance with the regulations of the parent facility. Patient records must be available for the use of the mobile unit. Closed records must be stored at the parent facility.*
- 4. Maintain supplies and equipment to meet the needs of the patients served.*
- 5. If diagnostic radiological services are necessary to meet the needs of the patient those services must:*
 - (a) Meet professionally approved standards for safety and personnel qualifications.*
 - (b) Be provided in accordance with the regulations of the parent facility.*
 - (c) Use equipment registered in accordance with NAC 459.150.*
- 6. If laboratory services are necessary to meet the needs of the patient, those services must be provided in accordance with NRS 652, NAC 652, and any applicable federal law, and be consistent with the regulations of the parent facility.*

Sec. 20. *Fire safety; equipment.*

The mobile unit shall:

- 1. Limit patient occupancy to no more than five at any given time.*
- 2. Provide fire safety equipment as specified by the fire authority having jurisdiction, including but not limited to, at least two fire extinguishers of 2A: 20 BC rating.*
- 3. Provide a minimum of two exits from the mobile unit, both of which must be door exits if patients are incapable of self-preservation or undergo inhalation anesthesia.*
- 4. Provide corridor exit space to assure access to two exits.*
- 5. Document evidence of preventative maintenance and calibration procedures of mobile unit equipment, in conformance with the manufacturer's specifications.*
- 6. Use the equipment in mobile units in conformance with the manufacturer's specifications.*
- 7. Provide a telecommunications device.*