

DIVISION OF MENTAL HEALTH AND HOSPITALS

ADMINISTRATIVE BULLETIN 3:03

DATE: November 22, 1982

SUBJECT: Countersigning of Orders and Prescriptions
of Unlicensed Physicians
Applicability: H,C

The New Jersey State Board of Medical Examiners adopted, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:9-2, the following rule regarding countersigning of orders and prescriptions of unlicensed physicians.

"13:35-6.10 Regulation concerning countersigning of Orders and Prescriptions of Unlicensed Physicians.

"Definitions:

'Unlicensed physicians' shall mean any unlicensed graduate of a medical school, such as, but not limited to an intern or resident, who is engaged in an approved program or a person possessing an exemption pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:9-21 (n).

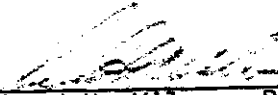
'Intern' shall mean an unlicensed graduate of a medical school who is engaged in a program which has been approved by the Board and which consists of the supervised practice in the science and art of medicine among patients in a hospital with continued instruction by the staff of the facility. The internship period shall be limited to one year.

'Resident' shall mean a licensed or unlicensed graduate of an approved internship who is engaged in an approved program for advanced training in a clinical division of medicine, surgery or other special field in preparation for the practice of a speciality, which training shall be continuously supervised by the staff of the facility. Such approved program must be properly accredited for residency training in the speciality program or programs offered."

"Doctor's orders written for patient's care by unlicensed persons engaged in intern or residency training programs in a hospital or institution approved by the Board, or Doctor's orders written by a person exempted from the prohibitory provisions of the Medical Practice Act, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:9-21 (n), shall be countersigned within 24 hours by a physician possessing a current unrestricted license to practice medicine and surgery in this State."

"Prescriptions written by unlicensed physicians which are to be filled by a pharmacy outside of the hospital or institution where such unlicensed physician is engaged must be countersigned by a physician possessing a current, unrestricted license to practice medicine and surgery in this State."

"Failure to comply with this rule may subject the licensee or any other person to sanctions available under the Medical Practice Act, N.J.S.A. 45:9-1 et. seq."


Richard H. Wilson, Director
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