



STATE OF TENNESSEE
DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES
DIVISION OF SPECIAL POPULATIONS
Cordell Hull Building - 3rd Floor
425 5th Avenue North
Nashville, Tennessee 37243

Mental Health Status Change Instructions For The Department of Mental Health And Developmental Disabilities

The Department of Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities in the State of Tennessee is responsible for referring, reviewing, and approving “Change of Status Requests” for residents of nursing facilities who have a mental illness or a developmental disability without a mental retardation diagnosis.

Per Public Law 104-315 when a nursing facility resident has a significant change in physical or mental condition a change of status request should be submitted promptly. To determine the need for a Change of Status Evaluation the Department of Mental Health applies the criteria set forth 42 CFR 483.20 (2)(ii). This defines a “Significant Change” in condition as “a major decline or improvement in the residents status that will not normally resolve itself without further intervention by staff or by implementing standard-disease related clinical interventions, that has an impact on more than one area of the residents health status and requires interdisciplinary review or revision of the care plan or both.”

Examples of conditions which may indicate a “Significant Change of Condition”

- Sudden or exacerbated emotional, behavioral or mental health issues
- An Axis I or II diagnosis
- Being prescribed one or more psychotropic medications
- Client may no longer be appropriate for a nursing facility
- Due to the need for specialized services
- Return to the nursing facility from a psychiatric facility

This not meant to be a definitive list other conditions may exist which require a status change. Per federal regulations the State Mental Health Authority will make the final determination whether a

Change of Status Evaluation is needed. Questions regarding the “Change of Status” process can be answered by contacting Dennis Temple PASRR Coordinator Department of Mental Health Developmental Disabilities at 615-532-6767 or 615-253-5558

To have a Change of Status Evaluation completed fax the Department of Mental Health Change of Status form on this web-site to 615-741-6086. All requests received before 11:00 A.M. CST will be processed in 3 business days with the request day being counted as Day 1. All requests received after 11:00 A.M. CST will be processed with the next working day being Day 1. By 4:00 P.M. of the third business day a completed PASRR report will be faxed to the “Provider” and “Fax No” listed on the “Report Form for Change in Mental Status”