

Policy:

All individuals receiving supports from Palmer's Home Care, LLC are assisted as needed by staff in procuring an on-going relationship with a Primary Care Provider (PCP) and any and all other recommended specialists. If the individual and/or guardian make an informed, educated decision to not pursue a certain specialty, follow up, recommended test, medication, etc. then Palmer's Administration and Community RN will be notified by direct responsible staff and a refusal letter will be kept on file in the individual's medical book signed by the legal medical decision maker (individual or medical guardian). Staff ensure that follow up schedule is maintained according to physician recommendations, keep all appropriate documentation related to follow up care and recommendations in the medical file for the individual. Community RN will review all medical documentation monthly to ensure appropriate follow through and will evaluate each individual in the care of Palmer's monthly. Direct responsible staff (house manager or live-in/Host) are responsible for carrying out any recommendations made by the Community RN.

Palmer's Home Care, LLC does not engage in or encourage participation in research by individuals supported. The decision to do so, or not, is up to the discretion of the legal decision maker, individual or guardian where applicable. Any research conducted must comply with state and federal guidelines.

Palmer's Home Care shall not permit individuals served by the agency to participate in any research projects except as provided for under section 630.192, RSMo and succeeding sections and operating regulations. (630.192 stated: "No biomedical or pharmacological research shall be conducted in residential facilities or day programs operated, funded, or licensed by the department for persons affected by mental retardation, developmental disabilities, mental illness, mental disorders, or alcohol or drug abuse unless such research is intended to alleviate or prevent the disabling conditions or is reasonably expected to be of direct therapeutic benefit to the participants. No involuntary patient shall participate in any research.")

Any individual wishing to do research involving individuals served by Palmer's Home Care shall:

- A. Submit an Application for Research with individuals supported to the MO Department of Mental Health's office of Office of Departmental Affairs (DMH form 8114);
- B. Receive formal written approval from the Department prior to initiating the research project;
- C. Receive written approval from the resident, family, and or guardian
- D. Receive written approval from the Department of Mental Health.

All research must comply with state and federal regulations.

All individuals participating in a research program must have documented informed consent and must be incorporated into the individual's support plan as required by 9 CSR 10-5.200.

Comments:

All individuals taking medications are encouraged to be educated about the medications they take, including purpose, to the extent that they are capable, and staff that administer medications receive appropriate training.

All individuals in the care of Palmer's Home Care, LLC will have a dental check-up and cleaning at least annually, more often if recommended by the dentist.

Individuals/Guardians make the decision regarding what medical care providers individuals will see, with input from Palmer's staff if requested.

Individuals/Guardians also make decisions regarding medications, staff help ensure informed decision-making process, monitor results, share observations with medical care providers, guardians, etc. Individuals do have the right to refuse medications, staff has the responsibility of helping with informed decisions, informing Palmer's Administration, Guardians (if applicable) and prescriber of the medication if an individual does so.