
Department of Health (DOH)

Agency: 303

Audit Report: 2007 F

Finding Number: 015

Finding: The Department of Health does not have adequate internal controls to ensure compliance with federal Medicaid requirements for hospital surveys.

Resolution: In response to the finding, the Department completed the following actions by October 2008:

- Issued an internal office procedure detailing the requirement that pre-decisional documentation be included in the survey files and be retained per applicable state retention schedules.
- The Department's Investigations and Inspection Office clinical care supervisors will conduct periodic quality assurance reviews of completed survey files to ensure that the procedure is consistently followed.

Agency Contact: Charles Satterlund
Department of Health
PO Box 47901
Olympia WA 98504-7901
(360) 236-4536
charles.satterlund@doh.wa.gov

Department of Health (DOH)

Agency: 303

Audit Report: 2007 F

Finding Number: 016

Finding: The Department of Health is not complying with federal requirements for time and effort reporting for the National Bioterrorism Hospital Preparedness Program.

Resolution: In response to the finding, the Department implemented the following measures:

- All Department divisions/programs using Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEPR) or other federal grant funds to pay for some or all of an employee's time have agreed, in writing, to provide supporting time and effort documentation on a monthly basis to the PHEPR program manager for their employees performing work for the PHEPR program.
- All Department divisions/programs using federal grant funds to pay for some or all of an employee's time have agreed, in writing, to submit an estimated budget/spending plan at the beginning of each new program year. This spending plan will specify the projected costs and numbers of employees to be partially or fully supported with federal grant funds during the coming year.
- The Department's division/program management is meeting with PHEPR staff at least annually to review (1) the past year's program costs and expenditures incurred by the division/program, and (2) the coming year's anticipated grant related costs and expenditures.

In October 2008, the PHEPR program received additional guidance that cost objectives need to originate at the program focus level and that previous inclusion of multiple program focus areas within the same broader cost objective was not an allowable practice. The Department is working to come into compliance with this recent guidance.

Additionally, the Department's internal auditor completed a broad-based review of time and effort records within the agency in November 2008. Recommendations from this audit will be followed through with program management to ensure compliance with federal time and effort reporting requirements.

Agency Contact: Charles Satterlund
Department of Health
PO Box 47901
Olympia WA 98504-7901
(360) 236-4536
charles.satterlund@doh.wa.gov