



COMMISSIONER
Adelaide Horn

July 6, 2007

To: Home and Community-based Services (HCS) Program Providers
Texas Home Living (TxHmL) Program Providers
Executive Directors of Mental Retardation Authorities (MRA)

Subject: Information Letter No. 07-65
Training of Program Provider Personnel in the Use of Authorized
Restraint Techniques

The purpose of this letter is to ensure you are aware that effective July 2003, the Prevention and Management of Aggressive Behavior (PMAB) training curriculum owned by the state of Texas is not available to train employees of private providers. PMAB training continues to be available to personnel who work in state mental retardation facilities or state hospitals and, on a limited basis, to employees of community mental health/mental retardation centers.

Instructor certification for training on PMAB techniques remains valid only as long as the instructor remains employed by a state facility or a community center. Former employees of state schools, state hospitals or community centers who received PMAB instructor training during state or community center employment are not authorized to provide this training.

To comply with the HCS Certification Principles, a program provider must conduct personnel training as necessary in the management of consumers' challenging behavior and in the use of restraint. 40 TAC §9.177 (c)(1) states: "The program provider must implement and maintain a plan for initial and periodic training of personnel that ensures that personnel are qualified to deliver services as required by the current needs and characteristics of the individuals to whom they deliver services, including the use of restraint..."

To comply with the TxHmL Certification Principles, a program provider must conduct personnel training as necessary in the management of consumers' challenging behavior. 40 TAC §9.579 (d)(1) states: "The program provider must implement and maintain a plan for initial and periodic training of personnel that assures personnel are trained and qualified to deliver services as required by the current needs and characteristics of the individual to whom they deliver services."

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The Department of Aging and Disability Services (DADS) does not endorse a specific intervention method for the management of a consumer's challenging or aggressive behavior. Program providers are encouraged to research available curricula and training opportunities to determine the method(s) that best suit the needs of individuals they serve.

If you have questions about this letter, please contact Cheryl Craddock-Melchor, Community Services Policy Specialist for HCS and TxHmL at cheryl.craddockmelchor@dads.state.tx.us or (512) 438-4512.

Sincerely,

[signature on file]

Scott Schalchlin, M. Ed., J.D.
Director
Community Services

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