



IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH & WELFARE

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December 29, 2011

Kristi Hartway, Administrator
Harrison's Hope
3137 S Meridian Rd Ste 120
Meridian, ID 83642

Provider #131553

Dear Ms. Hartway:

On December 28, 2011, a complaint survey was conducted at Harrison's Hope. The complaint allegations, findings, and conclusions are as follows:

Complaint #ID00005303

Allegation: Mentally incompetent patients were allowed to sign advance directives.

Findings: An unannounced visit was made to the hospice on 12/28/11. Staff were interviewed and medical records were reviewed with the following results:

Ten medical records of patients who were 89 years of age or older were reviewed. All of these patients were currently receiving hospice services. All of these patients had some documented degree of dementia. All of the records contained consents and/or advance directive documents signed by guardians or other legal representatives.

One medical record documented a 95 year old female with diagnoses of failure to thrive and Alzheimer's disease. She had been admitted on 10/05/11 and was currently a patient as of 12/28/11.

A "LIVING WILL AND DURABLE POWER OF ATTORNEY FOR HEALTH CARE" document was signed by the patient on 10/03/11, two days prior to her admission to the hospice. The document named the grandson as durable power of attorney. The signature was witnessed

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by a licensed practical nurse (LPN) who was part of a "bridge program," a program that evaluated patients for hospice eligibility. The LPN was interviewed on 12/28/11 beginning at 3:05 PM. She stated the patient had a history of dementia. She stated the patient was very deaf. The LPN stated the patient was appropriate and it appeared the patient's hearing problem interfered with communication which made it appear that she, the patient, was confused. The LPN stated she believed the patient understood what she was signing. In addition, the LPN stated the patient's only family consisted of a son, a daughter, and a grandson. She stated all three family members were present when the patient signed the living will and did not object.

An "Informed Consent/Election of Benefits" form, dated 10/05/11, was signed by the patient's grandson. An "Idaho Physician Orders For Scope of Treatment (POST)" form, dated 10/05/11, was also signed by the grandson. Additionally, the patient's grandson lived out of state and the patient's daughter lived in a nearby town. The hospice assisted the daughter to obtain legal guardianship for the patient. The court order granting guardianship was signed on 11/15/11.

The hospice respected patient rights by ensuring patients had guardians and persons named to represent them. It could not be determined that advanced directives were improperly executed. Therefore, the allegation was unsubstantiated.

CONCLUSIONS: Unsubstantiated. Lack of sufficient evidence.

As the allegation was not substantiated, no response is necessary. Thank you for the courtesies and assistance extended to us during our visit.

Sincerely,



GARY GULES
Health Facility Surveyor
Non-Long Term Care



NICOLE WISENOR
Co-Supervisor
Non-Long Term Care

GG/nw