



CIRCULAR NO (13) OF 2022 (DHP)

From	:	Department of Healthcare Professions/Ministry of Public Health
To	:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• All healthcare practitioners working in healthcare agencies in the State of Qatar• All Focal Points/representative of Healthcare Facilities in the State of Qatar (Governmental and private sectors)
Subject	:	Guidelines for licensed healthcare practitioners working in healthcare agencies.
Date	:	24 August 2022

"Greetings from The Department of Healthcare Professions (DHP)"

In the Department of Healthcare Professions' pursuit to carry out its core responsibility of overseeing the health sector, and to ensure that each practitioner adheres to his/her scope of practice and is committed to the granted privileges; DHP is concerned with the appropriate practice settings, patients' categories, and the healthcare practitioner's scope of practice. Accordingly, DHP requires licensed healthcare agencies and healthcare practitioners to abide by the directions attached to this circular, and not to violate the instructions regarding locating healthcare services, whether the service is provided at the patient's home, in corporate clinics, or in first aid units at schools.

For all the relevant information, please review the attached policy.

Thank you for your cooperation

**Registration Department/Department of Healthcare Professions
The Ministry of Public Health**

For inquiries, please contact the below e-mail: dhregistration@moph.gov.qa



GUIDELINES FOR HEALTHCARE PRACTITIONERS LICENSED UNDER HEALTHCARE SERVICES AGENCIES



Guidelines for healthcare practitioners licensed under Healthcare Services Agencies

Guideline Purpose:

In the pursuit of the Department's role to monitor and follow up the performance of healthcare practitioners, as well as to ensure their practicing within the licensed scope and approved surgical/clinical privileges in public & private Healthcare facilities to enforce high quality of healthcare services delivered to Public and maintain patient safety; the Department of Healthcare Professions (DHP) obliges all concerned healthcare practitioners and Healthcare Services Agencies to comply with the below guidelines.

Guideline Context:

For Physicians:

Physicians who have been licensed on Health Services Agencies Can be assigned to provide their services in a wide variety of settings, which will follow the below limitations based on Scope of Practice:

Practice Settings Limitations				
Scope of Practice	Home Visits	Schools and nurseries	Companies and construction sites	Other licensed Healthcare Institutions
Family Medicine	✓	✓	✓	1- physicians with Scopes of practice not listed in this table can not be assigned to work in Home, schools, nurseries, companies and construction sites, however they can be assigned to work only in licensed Healthcare facilities as relevant. 2-physicians with all Scopes of Practice including the listed in this table can be assigned to work at any other licensed healthcare facilities in the State of Qatar, with complying to DHP Policies, and Procedures.
Pediatrics	✓	✓	✗	
Internal Medicine	✓	✓	✓	
Public Health Medicine	✗	✓	✓	
Geriatric Medicine	✓	✗	✗	
Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation	✓	✗	✗	
Physical Medicine	✓	✗	✗	
Occupational Medicine	✗	✗	✓	
Pediatric Rehabilitation/ Development Medicine	✓	✓	✗	
Doctor of Podiatric Surgery	✓	✗	✗	
General Practitioner	✓	✓	✓	
Community medicine	✓	✓	✓	
Psychiatry	✓	✓	✗	

For Dentists:

- Dentists can only be assigned to work in fully equipped licensed healthcare facilities.
- Public health General dentists can be assigned to work in schools, nurseries and companies.

For Nurses:

Nurses -who have been licensed on Health Services Agencies- Can be assigned to provide their services in a wide variety of settings, which will follow the below limitations based on Scope of Practice:

Practice Settings Limitations				
Scope of Practice	Home Visits	Schools and nurseries	Companies and construction sites	Other Healthcare Institutions
Registered General Nurse	✓	✓	✓	<p>1- Nurses with Scopes of practice not listed in this table can not be assigned to work in Home, school clinics, and company clinics. However, they can be assigned to other healthcare facilities as relevant.</p> <p>2-All Scopes of Practice including the mentioned in this table can be assigned to work at all healthcare facilities in the State of Qatar as relevant, with complying to DHP Policies, and Procedures.</p>
Clinical Nurse Specialist (Anesthesia)	✗	✗	✗	
Clinical Nurse Specialist (Cardiology)	✗	✗	✗	
Clinical Nurse Specialist (critical care)	✗	✗	✓	
Clinical Nurse Specialist (Emergency)	✗	✗	✓	
Clinical Nurse Specialist (Geriatric)	✓	✗	✗	
Clinical Nurse Specialist (Medical surgical)	✓	✗	✓	
Clinical Nurse Specialist (neonatal)	✓	✗	✗	
Clinical Nurse Specialist (nephrology)	✗	✗	✗	
Clinical Nurse Specialist (occupational health)	✗	✗	✓	
Clinical Nurse Specialist (oncology)	✗	✗	✗	
Clinical Nurse Specialist (orthopedic)	✗	✗	✓	
Clinical Nurse Specialist (pediatrics)	✓	✓	✗	
Clinical Nurse Specialist (primary healthcare)	✓	✓	✓	
Clinical Nurse Specialist (psychiatry)	✓	✓	✗	
Clinical Nurse Specialist (public health)	✗	✓	✓	
Nurse Educator	✓	✓	✓	
Nurse Practitioner	✓	✓	✓	
Midwife	✓	✗	✗	
Assistant Nurse	✓	✓ (nurseries only)	✗	
Assitant midwife	✓	✗	✗	

For Pharmacists:

Pharmacists can be assigned only to licensed community/hospital pharmacies, and Industrial Pharmacists can be only assigned to licensed industrial factories.

For AHP:

AHP practitioners -who have been licensed on Health Services Agencies- Can be assigned to provide their services in a wide variety of settings, which will follow the below limitations based on Scope of Practice:

Practice Settings Limitations				
Scope of Practice	Home Visits	School Clinic	Company Clinic**	Other Healthcare Institutions
Child Life Specialist	✓	✓	✗	<p>1- AHP's with Scopes of practice not listed in this table can not be assigned to work in Home, school clinics, and company clinics. However, they can be assigned to other healthcare facilities as relevant.</p> <p>2-All Scopes of Practice including the mentioned in this table can be assigned to work at all healthcare facilities in the State of Qatar as relevant, with complying to DHP Policies, and Procedures.</p>
Clinical Psychologist	✓	✓	✓	
Clinical Social Worker	✓	✓	✓	
Dietician	✓	✓	✓	
Dental hygeinest	✗	✓	✗	
Paramedic scopes	✗	✗	✓	
Occupational Therapist	✓	✓	✗	
Physiotherapist	✓	✓	✗	
Podiatrist	✓	✗	✗	
Psychological Councillor	✓	✓	✓	
Special Education Specialist	✓	✓	✗	
Speech Language Pathologist	✓	✓	✗	
Clinical Excercise Physiologist	✓	✓	✗	
Respiratory Technologist	✓	✗	✗	
Pulmonary Function Technologist	✓	✗	✗	

Important Notes:

General Notes:

- Healthcare Services Agencies as well as healthcare preactitioners will hold the full responsibility to comply with the mentioned restrictions stated in this guideline.
- Healthcare practitioner's scope should be within the approved activities list of the healthcare facility where the physician will be assigned to work at.
- Phone consultation were only allowed during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- In the license Renewal process; healthcare practitioner are requested to provide an employment letter from the agency along with an experience certificate from the healthcare facility where he/she has been assigned to work at except homes.
- In case of change place of work from the agency to other healthcare facility; an experience certificate will be requested from all the facilities where the healthcare practitioner has been assigned to except homes in addition to detailed experience letter from the Agency.
- Disciplinary actions will be taken against both of healthcare practitioners and their agency In case of any breaching to these rules.

For Physicians:

- GP (Supervised) & Assistant Speciality categories are not allowed to be licensed on the Healthcare services agencies.
- Physicians with Surgical scope of practice: must comply with Circular (20/2018) regarding Core and advanced privileges, before being assigned to other healthcare facilities.
- Physicians are advised not to work in homes, schools and nurseries for more than 6 months during the 2 years license cycle as any experience more than that will not be counted by DHP for change place of work to a licensed healthcare facility.

For Dentists:

- General Dentists (Supervised) are not allowed to be licensed on the Healthcare services agencies.

For AHP:

- AHP Scopes that should work under supervision can be licensed under healthcare agencies however they can be assigned only in healthcare facilities with multidisciplinary governance that have a supervisor and educational opportunities.

For Nurses:

- Nurse Trainee, are not allowed to be licensed on the Healthcare services agencies.

For Complementary Medicine scopes to be assigned to the above mentioned practice settings, it needs to be discussed case by case

Related legislation and documents:

- Circular (DHP)-(20/2018)
- Circular (HCFLAD 01/2021)- Updated conditions & requirements for health services agencies
- Circular (HCFLAD 01/2021)- Updated conditions & requirements for health services agencies

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