

MEMO

To: Clinicians

From: Patricia Finocchiaro, RN MS, Director of Clinical Services and Barbara Botto, RN CRNI, Pain and Infusion Program Manager

RE: PAIN RESOURCE NURSE (PRN) TEAM

We are proud to announce that we have initiated the *Pain Resource Team*. The nurses on the team have recently completed the training and agreed to be the expert resources for the agency. Their role is to consult with clinicians, patients, physicians, and make recommendations related to managing pain effectively.

- **Referrals may be made for the following reasons:**
 - Intractable pain
 - Pain level consistently not at acceptable level
 - Pain scale 6-10 with poor/fair relief
 - Pain scale 4-5 with current meds with no relief at all when meds taken
 - Increases made to meds with no increase in pain control
 - Patient verbalizes unrelieved pain with current pain management plan
 - Inability to function because of pain

If you wish to discuss patient issues or schedule a nursing visit- call Isaura Soriano, CSC/Scheduler at Ext. 4136. The CSC/Scheduler will contact Pain Resource Nurse Manager to assign PRN team member.

- If patient has PT/OT only, therapist obtains order for a nursing pain evaluation.
- PRN team member is scheduled.
- PRN team member completes full assessment, history and medication analysis.
- Physician is contacted by PRN team member with specific pain, issues, medication history and recommendations for pain relief.
- PRN team member gives report to clinician who requested referral.
- PRN team member calls patient within 24-48 hours to reassess pain status and report back to referring clinician.
- PRN team member calls referring clinician in one week to get a report on progress/current status.
- At one-week check-in, if no improvement, PRN team member notifies physician, makes recommendations and/or revisit patient if needed.