March 12, 2018

Q: What’s the intent of the Administrative Code regarding supervision of social services by a “social worker”? The Code does not specify if an LCSW needs to do this or if a person with a degree in social work is sufficient. Please clarify if an LSCW is necessary.

Here is what the Admin Code states: *If the staff member designated to provide social services is not a social worker, the facility shall have an effective arrangement with a social worker to provide social service consultation. Skilled nursing facilities must provide a social worker to meet this requirement.*

A: The requirement for a social worker is found at Section 300.830 (noted below). If you go back to the Definition Section of the rules (Section 300.330), you will find a definition for social worker, also noted below.

**Section 300.830 Consultation Services**

a) The facility shall have all arrangements for each consultant’s services in a written agreement setting forth the services to be provided. These agreements shall be updated annually.

b) If the staff member designated to provide social services is not a social worker, the facility shall have an effective arrangement* with a social worker *to provide social service consultation. Skilled nursing facilities must provide a social worker to meet this requirement.

**Social Worker** – a person who is a licensed social worker or a licensed clinical social worker under the Clinical Social Work and Social Work Practice Act.