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TO: Provincial Community Services Staff, District Commissioners, District Chairs, Branches, Patient Care Provider Units, Youth Units, Campus Response Teams

FROM: Agnes Daniell, Provincial Commissioner

RE: COMPLIANCE OF PATIENT CARE DELIVERY STANDARDS

This is a reminder that as of January 1, 2003, BTS Level 1 shall become the minimum requirement for "performing patient care duties" as a SJA Community Services member.

Further, as of January 1, 2003, cadets and crusaders (under the age of 18) and probationary adult patient care members may continue to "Assist with Patient Care" under the "direct supervision" of an Independent Patient Care Provider (IPCP) and crusaders (over the age of 18) and non-probationary Adult Patient Care members shall not be eligible to "perform patient care duties" until BTS Level 1 Certification is achieved.

Following a new adult patient care member's initial probationary year (not to exceed one year), the "Assisting with Patient Care" status shall expire and this member shall not be permitted to "perform patient care duties" under any circumstances (supervised or unsupervised) until BTS Level 1 Certification is achieved.

The "direct supervision" ratio of IPCPs to Supervised Patient Care Providers (those NOT holding a minimum BTS Level 1 certification and at least 18 years of age or over) shall be 1 IPCP per 2 Non-IPCP (supervised patient care) members.

Direct supervision is defined as the supervision of all aspects of patient care being delivered by each Non-IPCP being supervised. Individuals providing direct supervision must possess the physical ability to effectively assess the words and actions of each Non-IPCP member performing patient care duties.

Only adult patient care providers, age 18 years of age or older, who have successfully completed the BAP within the past calendar year may directly supervise patient care being delivered by Non-IPCP members.

We cannot stress enough the need to ensure that our patient care providers are of the highest calibre, and that they are utilizing principles and practices that are consistent with today's ever-changing health care environment.

We have an obligation to protect the public, our volunteers and our organization and such standards are designed to maximize our ability to do just this.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Agnes Daniell