

**G686**

*(Rev. 219; Issued: 04-12-24; Effective: 04-12-24; Implementation: 04-12-24)*

*§484.70(c) Standard: Education.*

**The HHA must provide infection control education to staff, patients, and caregiver(s).**

**Interpretive Guidelines §484.70(c)**

*The regulation does not specify the form or content of education regarding infection prevention and control. However, in accordance with requirements under §484.60,*

*patients and caregivers must be provided with education and training specific to the individualized plan of care. HHAs should also take into consideration the patient's and caregiver(s)' health conditions and individual learning needs.* The HHA should review training information with the patient and his or her representative (if any), including information on how to clean and care for equipment (e.g., blood glucose meters or reusable catheters), at sufficient intervals to reinforce comprehension of the training.

*Additionally, HHAs must provide* infection control education to staff.

HHA staff infection control education should include the following:

- Information on appropriate use, transport, storage, and cleaning methods of patient care equipment according to manufacturer guidelines/*instructions for use*;
- Job-specific, infection prevention education and training to all health care personnel for all of their respective tasks;
- Processes to ensure that all health care personnel understand and are competent to adhere to infection prevention requirements as they perform their roles and responsibilities;
- Written infection prevention policies and procedures that are widely available, current, and based on current standards of practice;
- Training before individuals are allowed to perform their duties and periodic refresher training as designated by HHA policy;
- Additional training in response to recognized lapses in adherence and to address newly recognized infection transmission threats (e.g., introduction of new equipment or procedures);
- Infection control education provided to staff at periodic intervals consistent with accepted standards of practice. Such education must be provided at orientation, annually, and as needed to meet the staff's learning needs to provide adequate care; identify infection signs and symptoms; identify routes of infection transmission; appropriately disinfect/sanitize/transport equipment and devices used for patient care; and use proper medical waste disposal techniques. Such education must include instructions on how to implement current infection prevention/treatment practices in the home setting.

### *Survey Procedures §484.70(c)*

- *Review the clinical record for evidence of patient/caregiver infection control education pertinent to the patient's condition and per the plan of care (see also §484.60).*
- *Ask the staff what training they received in infection control. Based on interview responses, follow up through HHA policy review and training records to ensure evidence of compliance.*