



1 A PATIENT LIVING IN HIS OR HER RESIDENCE. AN IDENTIFIED CAREGIVER SHALL  
2 INCLUDE, BUT IS NOT LIMITED TO, A RELATIVE, PARTNER, FRIEND OR NEIGHBOR  
3 WHO HAS A SIGNIFICANT RELATIONSHIP WITH THE PATIENT.

4 4. "DISCHARGE" SHALL MEAN A PATIENT'S EXIT OR RELEASE FROM A HOSPITAL  
5 TO THE PATIENT'S RESIDENCE FOLLOWING ANY MEDICAL CARE, TREATMENT OR  
6 OBSERVATION.

7 5. "ENTRY" SHALL MEAN A PATIENT'S ADMISSION INTO A HOSPITAL FOR THE  
8 PURPOSES OF MEDICAL CARE.

9 6. "RESIDENCE" SHALL MEAN A DWELLING THAT THE PATIENT CONSIDERS TO BE  
10 HIS OR HER HOME. A "RESIDENCE" FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS ARTICLE SHALL  
11 NOT INCLUDE ANY REHABILITATION FACILITY, HOSPITAL, NURSING HOME,  
12 ASSISTED LIVING FACILITY, GROUP HOME OR OTHER RESIDENTIAL HEALTH CARE  
13 FACILITY AS DEFINED IN SECTION TWENTY-EIGHT HUNDRED ONE OF THIS CHAPTER  
14 OR ANY INPATIENT FACILITY REGULATED BY THE OFFICE OF MENTAL HEALTH.

15 S 2994-JJ. CAREGIVER; OPPORTUNITY TO IDENTIFY. 1. A HOSPITAL SHALL  
16 PROVIDE EACH PATIENT OR, IF APPLICABLE, THE PATIENT'S LEGAL GUARDIAN  
17 WITH AT LEAST ONE OPPORTUNITY TO IDENTIFY AT LEAST ONE CAREGIVER UNDER  
18 THIS ARTICLE NO LATER THAN TWENTY-FOUR HOURS FOLLOWING THE PATIENT'S  
19 ENTRY INTO A HOSPITAL AND PRIOR TO THE PATIENT'S ENTRY INTO A HOSPITAL  
20 AND PRIOR TO THE PATIENT'S DISCHARGE OR TRANSFER TO ANOTHER FACILITY.  
21 THE HOSPITAL SHALL INFORM THE PATIENT THAT THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING THE  
22 CAREGIVER'S IDENTITY IS TO INCLUDE THAT CAREGIVER IN DISCHARGE PLANNING  
23 AND SHARING OF POST-DISCHARGE CARE INFORMATION OR INSTRUCTION.

24 (A) IN THE EVENT THAT THE PATIENT IS UNCONSCIOUS OR OTHERWISE INCAPAC-  
25 ITATED UPON HIS OR HER ENTRY INTO A HOSPITAL, THE HOSPITAL SHALL PROVIDE  
26 SUCH PATIENT OR HIS/HER LEGAL GUARDIAN WITH AN OPPORTUNITY TO IDENTIFY A  
27 CAREGIVER WITHIN TWENTY-FOUR HOURS FOLLOWING THE PATIENT'S RECOVERY OF  
28 HIS OR HER CONSCIOUSNESS OR CAPACITY.

29 (B) IN THE EVENT THAT THE PATIENT OR THE PATIENT'S LEGAL GUARDIAN  
30 DECLINES TO IDENTIFY A CAREGIVER UNDER THIS ARTICLE, THE HOSPITAL SHALL  
31 PROMPTLY DOCUMENT THIS IN THE PATIENT'S MEDICAL RECORD.

32 (C) THE HOSPITAL SHALL RECORD THE PATIENT'S IDENTIFICATION OF A CARE-  
33 GIVER, THE RELATIONSHIP OF THE IDENTIFIED CAREGIVER TO THE PATIENT, AND  
34 THE NAME, TELEPHONE NUMBER, AND ADDRESS OF THE PATIENT'S IDENTIFIED  
35 CAREGIVER IN THE PATIENT'S MEDICAL RECORD.

36 (D) A PATIENT MAY ELECT TO CHANGE HIS OR HER IDENTIFIED CAREGIVER AT  
37 ANY TIME, AND THE HOSPITAL MUST RECORD THIS CHANGE IN THE PATIENT'S  
38 MEDICAL RECORD WITHIN TWENTY-FOUR HOURS.

39 (E) PRIOR TO NOTIFYING THE PATIENT'S CAREGIVER OF THE PATIENT'S  
40 DISCHARGE OR TRANSFER TO ANOTHER HOSPITAL OR FACILITY AS REQUIRED UNDER  
41 SECTION TWENTY-NINE HUNDRED NINETY-FOUR-KK OF THIS ARTICLE, THE HOSPITAL  
42 SHALL ASK THE PATIENT TO VERIFY THE PATIENT'S CAREGIVER CHOICE AND  
43 PROVIDE THE PATIENT THE OPPORTUNITY TO CHANGE HIS OR HER IDENTIFIED  
44 CAREGIVER.

45 2. AN IDENTIFICATION OF A CAREGIVER BY A PATIENT OR A PATIENT'S LEGAL  
46 GUARDIAN UNDER THIS SECTION DOES NOT OBLIGATE ANY INDIVIDUAL TO PERFORM  
47 ANY AFTER-CARE TASKS FOR ANY PATIENT.

48 3. THIS SECTION SHALL NOT BE CONSTRUED TO REQUIRE A PATIENT OR A  
49 PATIENT'S LEGAL GUARDIAN TO IDENTIFY ANY INDIVIDUAL AS A CAREGIVER AS  
50 DEFINED BY THIS ARTICLE.

51 S 2994-KK. NOTICE TO IDENTIFIED CAREGIVER. A HOSPITAL SHALL NOTIFY THE  
52 PATIENT'S IDENTIFIED CAREGIVER OF THE PATIENT'S DISCHARGE OR TRANSFER TO  
53 ANOTHER HOSPITAL OR FACILITY LICENSED BY THE DEPARTMENT OR THE OFFICE OF  
54 MENTAL HEALTH AS SOON AS THE DATE AND TIME OF DISCHARGE OR TRANSFER CAN  
55 BE ANTICIPATED PRIOR TO THE PATIENT'S ACTUAL DISCHARGE OR TRANSFER TO  
56 SUCH FACILITY.

1 S 2994-LL. INSTRUCTION TO IDENTIFIED CAREGIVER. 1. AS SOON AS POSSI-  
2 BLE AND NOT LATER THAN TWENTY-FOUR HOURS PRIOR TO A PATIENT'S DISCHARGE  
3 FROM A HOSPITAL, THE HOSPITAL SHALL CONSULT WITH THE IDENTIFIED CAREGIV-  
4 ER ALONG WITH THE PATIENT REGARDING THE CAREGIVER'S CAPABILITIES AND  
5 LIMITATIONS AND ISSUE A DISCHARGE PLAN THAT DESCRIBES A PATIENT'S  
6 AFTER-CARE NEEDS AT HIS OR HER RESIDENCE. AT MINIMUM, A DISCHARGE PLAN  
7 SHALL INCLUDE:

8 (A) THE NAME AND CONTACT INFORMATION OF THE CAREGIVER IDENTIFIED UNDER  
9 THIS ARTICLE;

10 (B) A DESCRIPTION OF ALL AFTER-CARE TASKS NECESSARY TO MAINTAIN THE  
11 PATIENT'S ABILITY TO RESIDE AT HOME, TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE CAPABILI-  
12 TIES AND LIMITATIONS OF THE CAREGIVER; AND

13 (C) CONTACT INFORMATION FOR ANY HEALTH CARE, COMMUNITY RESOURCES, AND  
14 LONG-TERM SERVICES AND SUPPORTS NECESSARY TO SUCCESSFULLY CARRY OUT THE  
15 PATIENT'S DISCHARGE PLAN.

16 2. THE HOSPITAL ISSUING THE DISCHARGE PLAN MUST OFFER CAREGIVERS WITH  
17 INSTRUCTION IN ALL AFTER-CARE TASKS DESCRIBED IN THE DISCHARGE PLAN.

18 (A) AT MINIMUM, SUCH INSTRUCTION SHALL INCLUDE:

19 (I) A LIVE DEMONSTRATION OF THE TASKS PERFORMED BY A HOSPITAL EMPLOYEE  
20 AUTHORIZED TO PERFORM THE AFTER-CARE TASK, PROVIDED IN A CULTURALLY  
21 COMPETENT MANNER AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE HOSPITAL'S REQUIREMENTS TO  
22 PROVIDE LANGUAGE ACCESS SERVICES UNDER STATE AND FEDERAL LAW;

23 (II) AN OPPORTUNITY FOR THE CAREGIVER AND PATIENT TO ASK QUESTIONS  
24 ABOUT THE AFTER-CARE TASKS; AND

25 (III) ANSWERS TO THE CAREGIVER'S AND PATIENT'S QUESTIONS PROVIDED IN A  
26 CULTURALLY COMPETENT MANNER AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE HOSPITAL'S  
27 REQUIREMENTS TO PROVIDE LANGUAGE ACCESS SERVICES UNDER STATE AND FEDERAL  
28 LAW.

29 (B) ANY INSTRUCTIONS REQUIRED UNDER THIS ARTICLE SHALL BE DOCUMENTED  
30 IN THE PATIENT'S MEDICAL RECORD, INCLUDING, AT MINIMUM, THE DATE, TIME,  
31 AND CONTENTS OF THE INSTRUCTION.

32 3. THE DEPARTMENT IS AUTHORIZED TO PROMULGATE REGULATIONS TO IMPLEMENT  
33 THE PROVISIONS OF THIS ARTICLE, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO, REGU-  
34 LATIONS TO FURTHER DEFINE THE CONTENT AND SCOPE OF ANY INSTRUCTION  
35 PROVIDED TO CAREGIVERS UNDER THIS ARTICLE.

36 S 2994-MM. EFFECT ON OTHER RIGHTS. NOTHING IN THIS ARTICLE SHALL BE  
37 CONSTRUED TO INTERFERE WITH THE RIGHTS OF AN AGENT OPERATING UNDER A  
38 VALID HEALTH CARE DIRECTIVE CREATED UNDER SECTION TWENTY-NINE HUNDRED  
39 EIGHTY-TWO OF THIS CHAPTER.

40 S 2. This act shall take effect immediately.