

## **Dialysis Technician** **CMS Clarification**

The Federal requirement for patient care dialysis technicians to be certified has a timeline of 18 months from date of hire (or until 4/15/10 for PCT working in dialysis effective 10/14/2008). The Ohio regulation allowing extensions under permit for longer than 18 months would be less stringent than the Federal requirement, if those extensions allow greater than 18 months to achieve certification. **The more stringent requirement would apply.**

When a facility is surveyed for compliance with the Federal Conditions for Coverage in Ohio, if the facility has individuals working as dialysis PCT under an Ohio permit, but not yet certified, and those permitted individuals have been employed more than 18 months as a PCT working in dialysis, the **facility would be cited** for not meeting the Federal regulations.

Persons who have not yet achieved certification by April 15 may not provide direct patient care until they are certified.

Any questions regarding the CMS ESRD Interpretive Guidance should be directed to the **Ohio Department of Health**. Contact information is provided below.

Ohio Department of Health  
Community Health Care Facilities & Services  
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