Advisory Notice **DNV Healthcare USA Inc.**
Notice No: 2024-HC05

Advisory Notices are designed to provide official information relative to Hospital Accreditation and Certification activities.

Date:	**June 27, 2024**
Subject:	**Orthopedic and Spine Certification Requirements: Service Delivery (SD) 13 Rehabilitation Services**
Distribution:	**All DNV Healthcare USA Inc. (DNV) Accredited or Certified Hospitals, Ambulatory Surgery Centers (ASC), Applicant Hospitals and ASC's, DNV Employees, and Interested Parties**
Approved By:	**Ronell Myburgh MHA, MBA, BSN, RN, Executive Director of Certifications, DNV Healthcare**

DNV is providing notice to Certified Organizations clarifying the SD 13 Rehabilitation Services requirements in the DNV Advanced Orthopedic and Spine Certification Requirements, Version 22-0, 11-15-2022

CR.4 The Program shall require physical and occupational therapists to be readily available by consultation for patient evaluation and/or treatment during the patient hospitalization or episode of care (e.g., observation or outpatient status).

CR.4b All Program patients shall be evaluated by a Physical Therapist prior to discharge to determine the patient's postoperative functional ability.

Patients having a Total Hip & Knee Arthroplasty shall be required to have an evaluation by physical therapy as stated within the requirement. Although it is required for all patients to be evaluated by physical and/or occupational therapy (PT/OT) following an orthopedic or spine procedure, there may be certain circumstances for patient's being discharged the *same day as their surgery,* where this is not possible. In situations, other than Total Hip & Knee Arthroplasty's, where nurses are evaluating patients instead of PT/OT, the nurse must have evidence of training and competencies in evaluating patients postoperatively, validating safe patient ambulation.

Additionally, there must be a complete discharge note, documented by the evaluating nurse, that includes the following: mobility status; use of assistance devices; DME needs; gait; distance ambulated; use of stairs (if necessary); patients' response to therapy and barriers (if any); and any other pertinent information that identifies the patient is safe to discharge.

Should you have any questions about the content of this notice, please e-mail support@dnvhealthcare.zendesk.com.

Regards,
For DNV Healthcare USA Inc.

Ronell Myburgh MHA, MBA, BSN, RN
Executive Director, Certifications
Healthcare Accreditation and Certification Services
ronell.myburgh@dnv.com