



Administrative Closure

Allegedly Working while Intoxicated

Manchester VA Medical Center, Manchester, NH

MCI # 2012-02180-HI-0383

On March 29, 2012, the Office of Inspector General (OIG) Office of Healthcare Inspections (OHI) received allegations regarding two health care providers at the Manchester VA Medical Center.

A complainant alleged that:

- A provider was intoxicated while performing his VA duties.
- A second provider "may be inappropriately prescribing narcotics to patients."

We called the director of the Manchester VAMC the same afternoon about the allegation regarding the first health care provider. The director was aware of both allegations. He reported that a Board of Investigation for both issues had taken place and that the first provider had been removed from his patient duties. He received disciplinary action, and reporting of the incident to the state licensing board is being considered. He ^{(b)(6)} returned to his patient duties after following a fitness-for-duty plan designed by the Chief of Staff. The Director also indicated that the ^{(b)(6)} has been replaced because of concerns about her supervision of staff.

The Hotline committee reviewed the allegation regarding the second health care provider. No specific case instances of patient harm were identified, and the provider's actions did not raise significant quality of care concerns.

Given the actions taken by the medical center and the committee's analysis of the second allegation, OHI made no recommendations for the medical center and recommend administrative closure of this hotline.

Approved by:


John D. Daigh, Jr., M.D.

Assistant Inspector General
for Healthcare Inspections

4/24/12