



TOMÁS J. ARAGÓN, M.D., Dr.P.H.
State Public Health Officer & Director

State of California—Health and Human Services Agency
California Department of Public Health



GAVIN NEWSOM
Governor

Dec 28, 2023

Cheryl Zuniga
Children's Hospital at Mission
27700 Medical Center Rd
Mission Viejo, CA 92691

FACILITY: Children's Hospital at Mission, LICENSE # 060000348

APPROVAL OF PROGRAM FLEXIBILITY FOR FLEX-7692

Dear Cheryl Zuniga,

This letter is in response to the request submitted by **Children's Hospital at Mission** for program flexibility for California Code of Regulations T22 DIV5 CH1 ART6-70551(d)(10).

The alternative means of compliance with T22 DIV5 CH1 ART6-70551(d)(10) include

Children's Hospital at Mission requests to continue to use erythromycin ophthalmic ointment for the prevention of ophthalmia neonatorum in newborns rather than Crede silver nitrate treatment as per Business and Professions Code Section 551. The hospital will ensure all newly born NICU patients will receive prophylactic treatment against ophthalmia neonatorum upon admission to the NICU if not already administered at the referring hospital unless the parents sign a "Refusal to Permit Administration of an Approved Prophylactic Agent to the Eyes of a Newborn."

Your request for program flexibility of **T22 DIV5 CH1 ART6-70551(d)(10)** is approved under the following conditions:

- The approval conditions for this program flex only apply to the prophylactic crede treatment of the eyes of a newborn.

Center for Health Care Quality
Centralized Program Flex Unit (CPFU)
P.O. Box 997377 MS 3405 Sacramento, CA 95899-7377
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- Hospital may use Erythromycin ointment instead of 1% Silver Nitrate for prophylactic crede treatment of the eyes of a newborn.
- Hospital will adhere to their current policies and procedures regarding prophylactic crede treatments of the eyes of a newborn.
- Hospital will continue to follow recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Committee on Infectious Diseases of American Academy of Pediatrics regarding the prophylactic crede treatment of newborns' eyes.
- If a shortage of Erythromycin occurs in the hospital, the hospital will follow the guidance from the Federal Drug Administration and the Centers for Disease Control.
- Hospital has adopted, maintained and will keep a current written policy which has been approved by the medical staff and governing body, which assures that an alternative method of meeting the requirements is provided.

Either this letter or a true copy thereof shall be posted immediately adjacent to the facility's license.

This approval shall remain in effect from Dec 28, 2023 until Dec 27, 2026.

NOTE: The Department may revoke the program flexibility if the licensee does not comply with the conditions set forth in the approval or if the department determines the proposed alternative does not adequately meet the intent of the regulations.

If you have any questions, please contact Centralized Program Flex Unit at (916) 323-5053 or by email at CentralizedProgramFlex@cdph.ca.gov.

Sincerely,



Sevrine A. Banks, Program Manager
Centralized Program Flex Unit

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