

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

This Agreement is between the National Federation of Federal Employees and the Department of Veterans Affairs, Veterans Health Administration concerning VHA Directive 2010-xxx, "Transition Patient Advocate and Mental Health Peer Support Technician Documentation in the Department of Veterans Affairs Electronic Health Record. "

1. The parties agree that use of the Transition Patient Advocate (TPA) and Peer Support Technician (PST) facilitates patient care within the Department of Veterans Affairs.
2. Because clinical supervisors are responsible for co-signing notes and their co-signing acknowledges responsibility for the content and the quality of the notes, management agrees to provide sufficient time for NFFE bargaining unit employees to review, fully understand and concur with notes which will eventually be entered into CPRS.
3. Management agrees that a NFFE bargaining unit employee has to agree with the note being entered into CPRS and that if the employee has a question regarding the note provided by an unlicensed provider, the licensed provider has the right to defer a signature until the issue in question is resolved between the appropriate parties (e.g., the licensed and unlicensed providers). The Agency agrees to make available a supervisor or manager who will interact with the bargaining unit employee to reach concurrence in regard to the note in question.
4. If the TPA/PST activity results in an encounter, the NFFE bargaining unit employee will receive credit.
5. Management will consider the workload involved with co-signing notes when it creates panel sizes for the NFFE provider.
6. This Agreement may be opened by mutual consent.

Mikki Craver 3-12-10
VHA Date

Robert E. Redding 2-25-10
ROBERT REDDING Date
VA Council President