

Manual M-2, Professional Services. Part XVIII, Audiology and Speech Pathology Service

Chapter 2, Personnel (Paragraphs 2.01 through 2.06)

This document includes:

Title page and title page verso for M-2, Part XVIII, dated **July 27, 1982**

Rescissions page for M-2, Part XVIII, dated **July 27, 1982**

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Professional Services Audiology and Speech Pathology Service

July 27, 1982

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Chief Medical Director

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RESCISSIONS

The following material is rescinded.

1. COMPLETE RESCISSIONS

a. Interim Issues

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CONTENTS

PARAGRAPH	PAGE
CHAPTER 1. POLICY AND ORGANIZATION	
1.01 Introduction and Scope	1-1
1.02 Organizational Patterns	1-1
CHAPTER 2. PERSONNEL	
2.01 General	2-1
2.02 Chief, Audiology and Speech Pathology Service	2-1
2.03 Audiology and Speech Pathology Staff	2-1
2.04 Coordinator of Instruction	2-1
2.05 Research Speech Pathologist and Research Audiologist	2-1
2.06 Consultants	2-2
CHAPTER 3. CLINICAL SERVICES	
3.01 General	3-1
3.02 Audiology	3-1
3.03 Speech Pathology	3-3
CHAPTER 4. EDUCATION	
4.01 General	4-1
4.02 Continuing Education	4-1
4.03 Inservice Training	4-1
4.04 Workshops	4-1
4.05 Graduate Student Training	4-1
CHAPTER 5. RESEARCH	
5.01 General	5-1
5.02 Programs	5-1
5.03 Publications and Presentations	5-1
CHAPTER 6. REPORTS	
6.01 General	6-1
6.02 PERIODIC Reports	6-1

CHAPTER 2. PERSONNEL

2.01 GENERAL

The type and number of Audiology and Speech Pathology personnel within any given location will depend upon the size and mission of the VA facility and the Audiology and Speech Pathology Service. A service may include a single professionally qualified audiologist, a speech pathologist, or a combined audiologist-speech pathologist. Other services may include several audiologists, speech pathologists, researchers, technicians, and secretarial support under the administrative supervision of the service chief.

2.02 CHIEF, AUDIOLOGY AND SPEECH PATHOLOGY SERVICE

The Chief of Audiology and Speech Pathology is the primary administrator of the Audiology and Speech Pathology Service. The duties of this position include representing the program to the medical center administration and other medical center services, completion of administrative and professional requirements set forth by the local facility, the Medical District, and the VA Central Office Director of Audiology and Speech Pathology Service (126); supervision of all Audiology and Speech Pathology personnel; supervision of research and training activities where such activities exist; and participation in patient management. Not all service chiefs may elect to take an active role in research. However, all will assist in coordinating program research efforts within the service, among other medical center services, and with the local Research Service to insure that Research activity is attuned to local and nationwide philosophies. The service chief serves on local committees and performs other management related duties assigned by the facility Director.

2.03 AUDIOLOGY AND SPEECH PATHOLOGY STAFF

a. **Supervisory Speech Pathologist and Audiologist.** In services with large caseloads and staff, there may be appointed a Supervisory Speech Pathologist, a Supervisory Audiologist or a Supervisory Speech Pathologist/Audiologist. The duties typically would include supervision and administration of clinical services including scheduling patients for therapy and assigning them to staff members; reviewing evaluation and treatment programs and reports, assuring that qualified staff members represent the service in meetings and patient rounds with other medical center services; supervising educational and training activities; and participating in patient management. Additional duties may include personal participation in research and coordination of program research efforts with the clinical service. One of the supervisors may represent the program in the absence of and at the request of the chief and also be designated assistant chief of service.

b. **Staff.** Staff Speech Pathologists and Staff Audiologists are responsible for all aspects of patient management for assigned patients. They may participate in administration, community and professional activities, training activities, and research. Depending upon education and experience, the staff member works with varying degrees of supervision under the direction of the chief or the related supervisor.

2.04 COORDINATOR OF INSTRUCTION

Certain Audiology and Speech Pathology programs affiliated with a university program in communicative disorders may develop sufficient training activities to require a Coordinator of Instruction. This position may be in Audiology, Speech Pathology, or combined Audiology and Speech Pathology, depending on the program's emphasis. The Coordinator of Instruction coordinates and supervises VA clinical training programs for selected university students. The duties include assisting in the selection of trainees, orienting trainees to VA policies and regulations, scheduling observations and clinical practicum, supervising and evaluating trainee activities, and other general administrative duties necessitated by the instructional program.

2.05 RESEARCH SPEECH PATHOLOGIST AND RESEARCH AUDIOLOGIST

Depending on the type of assignment, the Research Speech Pathologist or Research Audiologist conducts investigations that may be basic in nature or clinically applicable to patient care offered by the Audiology and Speech Pathology Service. The Research Speech Pathologist and Research Audiologist are responsible for the preparation of protocols and proposals, data collection, analyses, reporting of results, and general administration of their research projects. All Research activity will be conducted in a manner that will not interfere with the program's clinical services and will protect patients and their rights in the case of human subject experiments.

2.06 CONSULTANTS

Audiology and Speech Pathology Services may require the appointment of Audiology-Speech Pathology consultants to provide assistance in the service's patient care, education and training, and research activities. The number of consultants is based on the program's need. Consultants are selected from departments in affiliated universities or community institutions and appointed through the Chief of Staff, Assistant or Associate medical center Director, or medical center Director. Duties of consultants include advising, assisting, and participating in patient management, Training activity, Research activity, selection and purchase of equipment, program development, and other activities as deemed necessary by the service chief. Consultants are remunerated according to local policy.

TELEGRAPHIC MESSAGE

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MESSAGE TO BE TRANSMITTED (Use double spacing and all capital letters)

TO:

DIRECTORS, VA HOSPITALS, OUTPATIENT CLINICS AND REGIONAL OFFICES WITH
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RESTRICT TRANSMISSION TO 59 CHARACTERS PER LINE

00/126 THIS IS INTERIM ISSUE 10-75-47

- A. BASIC ADMINISTRATIVE ISSUE AFFECTED: II 10-66-20
- B. OTHER ISSUES AFFECTED: M-2, PART XVIII (NOT YET PUBLISHED)
- C. REASON FOR ISSUE:

REVISION OF SCHEDULE FOR RATING DISABILITIES FOR HEARING IMPAIR-
MENTS REQUIRES APPROPRIATE CHANGE IN PREPARATION OF VAF 10-2464.

D. TEXT OF ISSUE: PARAGRAPH 4.02 IS CHANGED AS FOLLOWS:

- (1) DELETE SUBPARAGRAPH a(4) AND INSERT:

"(4) THE SCHEDULE FOR RATING DISABILITIES HAS BEEN REVISED SO THAT
AUDIOMETRIC DATA ARE BASED ON ISO/ANSI REFERENCE LEVELS RATHER THAN
THE OLDER ASA STANDARD. EFFECTIVE JAN. 1, 1976, THE FINDINGS ON VAF
10-2364 WILL NO LONGER BE INTERPOLATED TO ASA VALUES FOR RATING
PURPOSES. AS OF THAT DATE, DATA ON VAF 10-2364 WILL BE REPORTED
DIRECTLY ON VAF 10-2464 SINCE THE SCHEDULE WILL THEN BE APPLIED IN
ACCORDANCE WITH THE CURRENT AUDIOLOGICAL REFERENCE THRESHOLD. AFTER

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TO:

JAN. 1, 1976, NOTE 2 ON VAF 10-2464 SHOULD BE LINED OUT."

✓ (2) DELETE SUBPARAGRAPH k.

E. THIS INTERIM ISSUE WILL NOT BE CONFIRMED BY PRINTED ISSUE.

117/10

Lawrence V. Joyce, MD

DEC 23 1975

B.M. Anderson
ANDERIAN:BD

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