

Carestar, Inc.

Question 1

Is it required that all Expert Reviewers [Sec.10.09.86.05A(1) Assignment of an Expert Reviewer] be medical physician reviewers? Is it permissible for the Expert Reviewer to be a Registered Nurse, Nurse Practitioner, or Physician Assistant who possesses the required clinical expertise and credentials for the issue being reviewed?

Sec. 10.09.86.05A(1)[Assignment of an Expert Reviewer] reads, "The IRO shall ensure that an expert reviewer has appropriate clinical expertise in the treatment of the specific medical condition being reviewed..."

All expert reviewers should be physicians who practice in the same or similar specialty as the cases being reviewed.

Question 2

Please, define or distinguish between the role of the "expert reviewer", "medical expert", and "physician reviewer" as terms are used in the RFP Section 3.10.2 Personnel Experience (page 19 of 87) and Section 2.3.2, Case Reviews (page 5 of 87).

3.10.2 [Personnel Experience] "A. The Contractor shall ensure that the individuals who make Medical Necessity case review decisions shall: 2. Have no history of disciplinary investigations, actions, or sanctions, including loss of staff privileges or participation restrictions that have been taken or are pending by any hospital, governmental agency or unit, or regulatory body, that raises a material question as to the expert reviewer's or medical expert's physical, mental or professional competence or moral character.

The RFP Section 2.3.2 [Case Reviews] "G. The Contractor shall ensure the physician reviewer in each case has credentials in the same or similar specialty as the issue being reviewed."

The terms "expert reviewer," "medical expert," and "physician reviewer" are interchangeable.