



STATE OF MARYLAND

DHMH

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Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene  
Office of Health Care Quality  
Bland Bryant Building • Spring Grove Center  
55 Wade Avenue • Catonsville, Maryland 21228

**To:** All Hospitals  
All Nursing Homes  
All Home Health Agencies

**From:** Carol Benner, Director, Office of Health Care Quality

**RE:** “Clinical Alerts”

**DATE:** December 21, 2001

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In the last two years, the Office of Health Care Quality has initiated innovative ideas to improve quality of care. These have included special projects, on-site technical assistance and special projects in both hospitals and nursing homes. I am pleased to announce, and to send you, the first in a series of “Clinical Alerts.” These “Clinical Alerts” will focus on problems that the Office of Health Care Quality has identified through its regulatory activities and that may pose issues in health care facilities across the State. It is our hope that you will find these “Clinical Alerts” helpful and that you will consider them in your performance improvement/quality assurance activities. We will also post the “Alerts” on the OHCQ web site [www.dhmh.state.md.us/ohcq](http://www.dhmh.state.md.us/ohcq).

If you have any questions or suggestions concerning the “Clinical Alerts”, please call Joseph I. Berman, M.D., OHCQ Medical Director at 410-402-8007 or William Vaughan, R.N., OHCQ Chief Nurse at 410-402-8014.

<http://www.dhmh.state.md.us/ohcq/html/alerts.htm>

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HHA: 01-001