Memorandum

To: Partners Hospital Staffers  
From: Claire Ayer, Director  
Date: 03/06/2017

New Executive Order on Travel Issued March 6, 2017 – Effective: March 16, 2017

President Trump issued a new Executive Order on March 6, 2017 that replaces the order issued by the administration on January 27, 2017.

The new order affects the travel of individuals from six countries: Iran, Libya, Somalia, Sudan, Syria, and Yemen (individuals from Iraq are not included) who did not possess a valid visa as of January 27, 2017 or as of March 16, 2017, the effective date of the new Executive Order.

Clarification of terms and specific implementation date

The terms of the prior order (formerly under litigation and now revoked) led to confusion for travelers and the government officials charged with admission of visitors. The new order clarifies those individuals subject to the order:

- Entry to the U.S. of individuals from the six designated countries is suspended for 90 days from the March 16, 2017 effective date of the new Executive Order.
- U.S. Permanent Residents (green card holders) are not subject.
- Dual nationals of one of the six countries who travel on a passport issued by a non-designated country are not subject.
- Individuals from the six designated countries who hold valid visas (both immigrant and nonimmigrant visas) are not prohibited from seeking entry.
- Individuals who have a document other than a visa (such as advance parole) valid on the effective date (March 16, 2017) or issued after that date, that permits travel to the U.S., are not subject.
- Individuals who had their visas revoked pursuant to the prior Executive Order are entitled to a travel document that will permit travel to the United States.
Waivers may be available on a case-by-case basis to authorize visa issuance or admission based on undue hardship if the entry would not pose a threat to national security, and if the entry would be in the national interest. The process for seeking such a waiver is not provided in the order.

Of significance is the immediate suspension of the interview waiver program for visa applicants, available at many consular posts. This suspension will likely result in delays in visa issuance worldwide.

Please check the PIPS website for updates on the new Executive Order and for prior background memoranda on the administration’s travel bans.