

**TITLE 64
LEGISLATIVE RULES
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH**

**SERIES 13
NURSING HOME LICENSURE**

§64-13-1. General.

1.1. Scope. -- These legislative rules establish general rules and procedures for the licensing of nursing homes.

1.2. Authority. -- W. Va. Code §16-5C-5 and §16-5C-1

1.3. Filing Date. -- May 3, 1983

1.4. Effective Date. -- June 6, 1983

§64-13-2. Supersession and Repeal of Former Regulations.

2.1. These legislative rules supersede and repeal the West Virginia Nursing Home Licensing Board Rules and Regulations for Licensing of Nursing Homes, 1973.

§64-13-3. Application and Enforcement.

3.1. Application - These legislative rules shall apply to every individual and every form of organization, whether incorporated or unincorporated, including any partnership, corporation, trust, association or political subdivision of the state which shall operate or apply to operate a nursing home as defined in Chapter 16, Article 5C, Section 2(c) of the West Virginia Code of 1931, as amended and these regulations.

3.2. Enforcement - The enforcement of these legislative rules is vested with the director of the West Virginia department of health or his lawful designee.

§64-13-4. Definitions.

4.1. Applicant - The person who submits an application for a license or renewal of a license to operate a nursing home.

4.2. Bed Capacity - The maximum number of beds the facility is currently licensed to offer for patient occupancy.

4.3. Board - The West Virginia board of health.

4.4. Boarding Home - An establishment which is held forth to the public as providing, or which is operated to provide only room and board to persons not in need of medical or nursing treatment or personal supervision. In contrast to nursing homes or personal care homes, a boarding home does not provide personal assistance in eating, dressing, ambulation or any other daily living activities, any type of medical or nursing care, or any degree of personal supervision.

4.5. Change of Ownership - Any transaction which results in a change of control over the capital assets of a facility including but not limited to a conditional sale, a sale, a lease or a transfer of title or controlling stock (See Section 5.1 8 of these regulations).

4.6. Controlling Person - Any person who by reason of a direct or indirect ownership interest whether of record or beneficial has the ability, acting either alone or in concert with others with ownership interests, to direct or cause the direction of the management or policies of a facility. No employee of the department of health shall, by reason of his official position, be deemed to be a controlling person of any facility, nor shall any person who serves as an officer, administrator or other employee or as a member of a board of directors or trustees of any facility be deemed to be a controlling person solely as a result of such position or his official actions in such position.

4.7. Day Care Services - Services and supervision provided to non-resident individuals who are capable and desirous of semi-independent living. Services may include supervised nutrition, planned, organized activities and protective supportive environment not to exceed twelve hours per day per person.

4.8. Department - West Virginia department of health.

4.9. Director - The director of the West Virginia department of health or other employee acting on behalf of the director with written designation and identification.

4.10. Facility - Any nursing home as defined in Section 4.19 of these regulations.

4.11. Gender - The pronoun "he" shall denote both the masculine and feminine gender. The use of any word denoting the masculine gender shall be taken to apply to both females and males.

4.12. Governing Body - The individual, agency, group or corporation, appointed, elected or otherwise designated in which the ultimate responsibility and authority for the conduct of the facility is vested. first and second cousin, aunt and uncle of an individual, whether such relationship arises by reasons of birth, marriage or adoption.

4.14. License - The document issued by the director which constitutes the authority to receive patients and perform services included within the scope of these regulations.

4.15. Licensed or Registered - When applied to a person means that the person to whom the term is applied is duly licensed or registered to follow a profession by the proper authority within the State of West Virginia and when applied to a facility means that the facility is duly licensed by the department of health.

4.16. Licensed Nursing Personnel - Registered professional nurses and licensed practical nurses.

4.17. Licensee - The person or body to whom the license is issued, who shall be held responsible for compliance with all rules, regulations and minimum standards.

4.18. Nursing Care - Those procedures commonly employed in providing for the physical, emotional and rehabilitational needs of the ill or otherwise incapacitated which require technical skills and knowledge beyond that which the untrained person possesses, including, but not limited to, such procedures as: irrigations; catheterization; application of dressings; supervision of special diets; objective observation of changes in patient condition as a means of analyzing

and determining nursing care required and the need for further medical diagnosis and treatment; special procedure contributing to rehabilitation; administration of medication by any method ordered by a physician, such as hypodermically, rectally, or orally; and carrying out other treatments prescribed by a physician which involve a like level of complexity and skill in administration.

4.19. Nursing Home - Any institution, residence or place, or any part or unit thereof, however named, in West Virginia, which is advertised, offered, maintained or operated by the ownership or management, whether for a consideration or not, for the express or implied purpose of providing accommodations and care, for a period of more than twenty-four (24) hours, for three (3) or more persons who are ill or otherwise incapacitated and in need of nursing care due to physical or mental impairment, or which provides services for the rehabilitation of persons who are convalescing from illness or incapacitation.

4.20. Nursing Personnel - The director of nursing, charge nurse and all employees under the direct supervision of the director of nursing or charge nurse who attend to patient-oriented nursing functions, including registered professional and licensed practical nurses, nursing aides and orderlies, but excluding employees engaged in administration, dietetics, housekeeping, laundry and maintenance.

4.21. Patient - An individual under care in a nursing home.

4.22. Person - An individual and every form of organization, whether incorporated or unincorporated, including any partnership, corporation, trust, association or political subdivision of the state

4.23. Personal Assistance - Personal services, including, but not limited to, the following: help in walking, bathing, dressing, feeding, or getting in or out of bed, or supervision required because of the age or mental impairment of the patient.

4.24. Personal Care Home - Any institution, residence or place, or any part or unit thereof, however named, in this state which is advertised, offered, maintained or operated by the ownership or management, whether for a consideration or not, for the express or implied purpose of providing accommodations and personal assistance, for a period of more than twenty-four hours, to six or more persons who

are dependent upon the services of others by reason of physical or mental impairment but who do not require nursing care.

4.25. Premises - A tract of land, together with all buildings, equipment, fixtures and facilities erected, constructed or situated thereon, and all rights, powers, easements, and rights-of-way, and all interests in property, real, personal or mixed, now owned or hereafter acquired by a licensed person and appurtenant to or used in connection with the licensed facility.

4.26. Principal Stockholder - Any person who beneficially owns, holds or has the power to vote ten percent or more of any class of securities issued by a corporation.

4.27. Restraint - Any device which limits movement by the patient and which cannot be removed easily by the patient, or any chemical or drug used to limit movement by a patient or to limit the mental capacity of a patient beyond the requirements of therapeutic treatment.

4.28. Serious Physical Harm - That type of bodily injury in which:

(a) a part of the body would be permanently removed, rendered functionally useless, or substantially reduced in capacity, either temporarily or permanently; or

(b) a part of an internal function of the body would be inhibited in its normal performance to such a degree as to shorten life or cause reduction in physical or mental capacity.

4.29. Sponsor - The person or agency legally responsible for the welfare and support of a patient.

4.30. Substantial Probability - The more likely consequences.

4.31. Stop Order - A written policy that definitely prescribes the number of doses or the period of time after which administration of a drug to a patient must be stopped automatically, unless the physician's order for the drug specified the number of doses or the period of time the order was to be in effect.

4.32. Transfer Agreement - An agreement with a hospital which provides the basis for arrangements under which inpatient hospital care or other services

are available promptly to the facility's patients when needed.

4.33. Unit Dose - The ordered amount of a drug dispensed by a pharmacist in a dosage form ready for administration to a particular person by the prescribed route at the prescribed time.

§64-13-5. State Administrative Procedures.

5.1. General Licensure Provisions

5.1.1. No person may establish, operate, maintain, offer or advertise within the State of West Virginia, a nursing home as defined in Chapter 16, Article 5C of the West Virginia Code of 1931, as amended and herein unless that person obtains a current valid license.

5.1.2. Neither an original nor a renewal license shall be issued under these regulations for a project reviewable under Chapter 16, Article 2D of the West Virginia Code of 1931, as amended unless the West Virginia State health planning and development agency has issued a finding, after a final conformance review, that the completed project conforms to the terms of the certificate of need decision issued for the project.

5.1.3. A separate license shall be required for nursing homes maintained or operated on separate premises even though maintained or operated under the same ownership or management.

5.1.4. Separate buildings on the same premises operated under the same ownership and management shall constitute one licensed facility, unless the director determines otherwise.

5.1.5. A license shall be valid only for the premises and persons named in the application.

5.1.6. A license is not transferable or assignable and shall be surrendered on demand to the director.

5.1.7. If the ownership of a facility with a valid unexpired license changes, the new owner shall apply for a new license.

5.1.8. The application of the new owner for a license shall have the effect of a valid license for three months from the date the application is received by the director.

5.1.9. The facility name shall be changed only with the director's approval.

5.1.10. An approved name change shall be shown in the next license issued.

5.1.11. The words "clinic," "hospital," "sanitarium," or any other word which suggests a type of institution other than the proposed facility shall not appear in the name.

5.1.12. A license shall state:

(a) the name of the facility to which it applies;

(b) the maximum bed capacity for which it is granted;

(c) the rating assigned to the facility pursuant to Section 5.11 of these regulations;

(d) the date of issuance; and

(e) the expiration date.

5.1.13. The name on the license shall be that used in the application which specifically identifies the facility.

5.2. Exceptions

5.2.1. Unless such facilities request licensure as a nursing home, nothing contained in these regulations shall apply to:

(a) a hospital as defined in Chapter 16, Article 5B, Section 1 of the West Virginia Code of 1931, as amended;

(b) a state or federally operated institution, as defined in Chapter 27, Article 1, Section 6 or in Chapter 25, Article 1, Section 3 of the West Virginia Code of 1931, as amended;

(c) institutions operated for the care and treatment of alcoholic patients;

(d) offices of physicians;

(e) hotels;

(f) boarding homes, as defined in Section 4.4

of these regulations, or similar places that furnish to their guests only room and board;

(g) extended care facilities operated in conjunction with a hospital;

(h) facilities, including intermediate care facilities for the mentally retarded, required to be licensed under Chapter 27, Article 9, Section 1 of the West Virginia Code of 1931, as amended; or

(i) personal care homes as defined in Section 4.23 of these regulations.

5.2.2. The care or treatment in a household, whether for compensation or not, of any person related by blood or marriage, within the degree of consanguinity of second cousin to the head of the household, or his spouse, may not be deemed to constitute a nursing home within the meaning of these regulations.

5.3. Initial License

5.3.1. An applicant shall submit an application to the director, on a form prescribed by the director, containing information sufficient to demonstrate that the facility is in compliance with the standards for nursing homes established in Chapter 16, Article 5C of the West Virginia Code of 1931, as amended and these regulations.

5.3.2. The application shall be filed not less than thirty (30) days and not more than ninety (90) days prior to the date proposed for commencement of operation (See also Section 6 of these regulations).

5.3.3. The application shall contain at least the information required by this Section.

5.3.4. Where the information required pertains to activities proposed to be undertaken by the applicant, the applicant shall provide information on such proposed activities.

5.3.5. The following information pertaining to ownership shall be submitted:

(a) the name and address of the individual submitting the application;

(b) the name, address and principal occupation of the following:

(1) each person, who as a stockholder or otherwise, has a proprietary interest of ten (10) percent or more in the facility;

(2) each officer and director of an incorporated facility;

(3) each trustee and beneficiary of a facility which is a trust; and

(4) each officer and director of any corporation which has a proprietary interest of fifty (50) percent or more in the facility;

(c) the name and address of the owner of the facility if the owner is not the applicant; and

(d) the name and address of the owner of the facility premises if he is not the applicant or the owner under Section 5.3.5 of these regulations.

5.3.6. Where the applicant is the lessee or the assignee of the facility or the premises of the proposed facility, a signed copy of the lease and any assignment thereof shall be submitted with the initial application.

5.3.7. If the owner of the facility premises is a corporation, the name and address of the following shall be submitted as part of the application:

(a) each person who, as a stockholder or otherwise has a proprietary interest of ten percent (10%) or more in the corporation;

(b) each officer and director of the corporation;

(c) each trustee and beneficiary of the corporation if it is a trust; and

(d) each officer and director of any corporation which has a proprietary interest of fifty percent (50%) or more in the owning corporation.

5.3.8. The following information pertaining to operation of the facility shall be submitted.

(a) the specific name and address of the facility;

(b) the level of participation, if any, in the Medicare and Medicaid programs (e.g., skilled nursing facility, intermediate care facility);

(c) the proposed bed capacity of the facility, by unit where units will be specialized;

(d) an organizational plan for the facility indicating the number of employees and their positions and duties;

(e) the name and address of the administrator;

(f) evidence of compliance with applicable laws and regulations governing zoning, buildings, safety, fire prevention, sanitation, and any other laws and regulations as specified in these regulations;

(g) evidence of approval by the state health planning and development agency, if necessary (See Section 5.1.2 of these regulations);

(h) the names and locations of any other facilities which are or have been operated by the owner or manager, or for which one of the individuals identified in Section 5.3.5 of these regulations is a controlling person as would be identified under Section 5.3.5 of these regulations for such facility; and

(i) any additional information which the director may require.

5.3.9. A nonrefundable application fee of one hundred dollars (\$100) shall be submitted with the application for an initial license.

5.3.10. An initial license shall be issued only after the director inspects the facility (See Section 6.2 of these regulations).

5.3.11. A facility found on inspection to have deficiencies shall be subject to Section 5.7 and Section 16 of these regulations relating to plans of correction and penalties relating thereto.

5.3.12. The director shall issue an initial license if he finds:

(a) that the individual applicant, and every partner, trustee, officer, director and controlling person of an applicant which is not an individual is a person responsible and suitable to operate, direct or participate in the operation of a facility by virtue of the following:

(1) financial capacity;

(2) appropriate business or professional experience;

(3) a record of compliance with any lawful orders of the department or other licensing agency for any jurisdiction in which the applicant or any individual identified in Section 5.3.5 of these regulations has operated, directed, or participated in the operation of a facility; and

(4) lack of revocation of a license to operate a nursing or personal care home in West Virginia or any other jurisdiction during the previous five years; and

(b) that the facility substantially complies with these regulations.

5.3.13. A license issued after the effective date of these regulations shall be valid for one year from the date of issuance.

5.4. Renewal License

5.4.1. An applicant for a renewal license shall submit an application to the director on a form prescribed by the director containing at least the following information:

(a) a balance sheet of the facility prepared not more than one fiscal quarter preceding the application date, setting forth assets and liabilities, including all capital, surplus, reserve, depreciation and similar accounts;

(b) a statement of operations of the facility for the twelve-month period not more than one fiscal quarter precedent to the application date, setting forth all revenues, expenses, taxes, extraordinary items and other credits or charges;

(c) a statement showing any changes in the name, address, management or ownership information on file with the director; and

(d) a report on the facility in the form prescribed by the director.

5.4.2. If a facility is in compliance with the requirements of the Health Care Facility Financial Disclosure Law, Chapter 16, Article 5F of the West Virginia Code of 1931, as amended, it will be considered to have met the requirements of Section 5.4.1(a-

c) of these regulations.

5.4.3. For a facility having a valid license on the effective date of these regulations, the first application for renewal after the effective date of these regulations shall include the information required to be submitted by initial applicants pursuant to Section 5.3 of these regulations.

5.4.4. A completed application for renewal of a license shall be submitted not less than thirty (30) days and not more than ninety (90) days prior to the scheduled expiration date of the current license.

5.4.5. The fee for renewal of a license shall be four dollars (\$4.00) per bed, determined according to the licensed bed capacity of the facility, and shall accompany the license renewal application.

5.4.6. The director shall renew an original license when the following conditions are met:

(a) the director finds the facility in compliance with the provisions of Chapter 16, Article 5C of the West Virginia Code of 1931, as amended and with these regulations;

(b) the licensee applied for a renewal within the time period specified in this Section; and

(c) the licensee submits the correct renewal fee with the application.

5.4.7. A renewal license shall be valid for one year from the date of issuance.

5.5. Provisional License

5.5.1. If the director finds that a facility applying for renewal of a license is not in substantial compliance with the requirements of these regulations and the provisions of Chapter 16, Article 5C of the West Virginia Code of 1931, as amended, the director may, at his discretion issue a provisional license.

5.5.2. A provisional license may be issued only when the director makes the following findings:

(a) that the care given in the facility is adequate to meet patient needs; and

(b) that the facility has demonstrated im-

provement and potential for substantial compliance within the term of the license for which renewal is requested.

5.5.3. A provisional license shall not be issued for a period greater than twelve months.

5.5.4. A provisional license shall not be renewed.

5.5.5. A provisional license shall not be issued to a facility with uncorrected violations of a Class I standard as identified in Section 5.10 of these regulations.

5.6. Inspections of Licensed and Unlicensed Facilities

5.6.1. The director shall conduct at least one unannounced inspection annually of a facility holding a license to determine compliance with the provisions of Chapter 16, Article 5C of the West Virginia Code of 1931, as amended and these regulations.

5.6.2. The director shall have the right to enter the premises of a facility which the director has reason to believe is being operated or maintained as a nursing home without a license in accordance with Chapter 16, Article 5C, Section 9 of the West Virginia Code of 1931, as amended.

5.6.3. If the owner or person in charge of an unlicensed facility refuses entry pursuant to this Section, the director shall apply to the circuit court of the county in which the facility is located for a warrant authorizing inspection.

5.6.4. If the director finds on the basis of the inspection that the facility is operating as a nursing home without a license, the facility shall apply within ten days for a license in accordance with the provisions of these regulations or shall reduce its patient census to less than three.

5.6.5. Failure to apply for a license shall be subject to the penalties established in Section 5.7.11 and Section 16 of these regulations.

5.6.6. A report of an inspection made pursuant to these regulations shall be made in writing and shall be maintained on file by the director.

5.6.7. An inspection report shall list each defi-

ciency in the facility's compliance with statutes and regulations indicating for each deficiency specifically which provision has not been met.

5.6.8. The director shall send a copy of a report of an inspection to the facility.

5.7. Plans of Correction

5.7.1. A facility found on the basis of an inspection to have deficiencies shall develop a plan of correction and submit it to the director within thirty (30) days of receipt of a report of inspection.

5.7.2. A plan of correction shall specify a reasonable time within which the facility shall correct each violation cited in the report.

5.7.3. The time shall be the shortest possible time within which the facility reasonably can be expected to correct the violation.

5.7.4. The time stated shall be subject to approval or modification by the director.

5.7.5. In determining whether to approve the time submitted by the facility, the director shall consider the following factors:

- (a) the seriousness of the violation;
- (b) the number of patients affected;
- (c) the availability of required equipment or personnel;
- (d) the estimated time required for delivery and installation of required equipment; and
- (e) any other relevant circumstances.

5.7.6. A plan of correction submitted by a facility shall be approved, modified or rejected by the director.

5.7.7. The director shall notify each facility within ten (10) days as to whether a plan of correction has been approved, modified or rejected.

5.7.8. If the director rejects or modifies the plan, the reasons for the action shall be stated.

5.7.9. When the director rejects a plan of correc-

tion, a reasonable time for submission of a revised plan may be allowed before civil penalties are assessed.

5.7.10. The director shall not allow time for submission of a revised plan where the deficiency to be corrected is a Class I deficiency.

5.7.11. Upon the failure by a facility with deficiencies to submit a plan of correction which is approved by the director or to correct any deficiency within the time specified in an approved plan of correction, the director may assess civil penalties as hereinafter provided or may initiate any other legal or disciplinary action available to him in accordance with the West Virginia Code of 1931, as amended and these regulations.

5.8. Interference with Official Duties - No licensee or employee of any nursing home shall engage in the following activities:

5.8.1. Willfully prevent, interfere with or attempt to impede in any way the work of any duly authorized representative of the director or of the state fire marshal in the lawful enforcement of inspection duties;

5.8.2. Willfully prevent or attempt to prevent any such representative from examining any relevant books or records in the conduct of inspection duties; or

5.8.3. Willfully prevent or interfere with any such representative in the preserving of evidence of any violation of these regulations.

5.9. Classification of Standards

5.9.1. In accordance with Chapter 16, Article 5C, Section 5(c) of the West Virginia Code of 1931, as amended, the board has established a classification for each standard in these regulations.

5.9.2. Class I standards are those which when violated would present either an imminent danger to the health, safety or welfare of any patient or a substantial probability that death or serious physical harm would result.

5.9.3. Class II standards are those which when violated would have a direct or immediate relationship to the health, safety or welfare of any patient but which would not create imminent danger if violated.

5.9.4. Class III standards are those which if violated would have an indirect or a potential impact on the health, safety or welfare of any patient.

5.10. Point System

5.10.1. A Class I standard shall be assigned a value of 10 points if the facility fully complies with the standard. If the facility fails to comply fully with the standard but does demonstrate substantial compliance a score of nine (9) points may be assigned to the standard. If the facility fails to demonstrate full or substantial compliance with the standard but partial compliance is in evidence, a score of four (4) points may be assigned to the standard. If the facility fails to demonstrate partial compliance or if the violation is a repeat of a deficiency cited during the previous annual survey a partial score shall not be assigned and the standard shall be scored as a zero.

5.10.2. A Class II standard shall be assigned a value of nine (9) points if the facility fully complies with the standard. If the facility fails to comply fully with the standard but does demonstrate substantial compliance a score of eight (8) points may be assigned to the standard. If the facility fails to demonstrate full or substantial compliance with the standard but partial compliance is in evidence, a score of 4 points may be assigned to the standard. If the facility fails to demonstrate partial compliance or if the violation is a repeat of a deficiency cited during the previous annual survey a partial score shall not be assigned and the standard shall be scored as a zero (0).

5.10.3. A Class III standard shall be assigned a value of eight (8) points if the facility fully complies with the standard. If the facility fails to comply fully with the standard but does demonstrate substantial compliance a score of seven (7) points may be assigned to the standard. If the facility fails to demonstrate full or substantial compliance with the standard but partial compliance is in evidence, a score of four (4) points may be assigned to the standard. If the facility fails to demonstrate partial compliance or if the violation is a repeat of a deficiency cited during the previous annual survey a partial score shall not be assigned and the standard shall be scored as a zero (0).

5.10.4. Certain standards are available for extra credit, if, in the opinion of the director, the facility performs significantly in excess of the minimum standards set by these regulations. No more than 1 extra credit point shall be assigned to any individual stan-

dard for which extra credit is available. Extra credit points are not permitted to offset zero scores. Items for which extra credit is available are identified in Sections 5.10.5, 5.10.6 and 5.10.7.

5.10.5. Class I standards are found in Table 64-13A at the end of this regulation; items for which extra credit is available are identified by an asterisk:

5.10.6. Class II standards are found in Table 64-13B at the end of this regulation; items for which extra credit is available are identified by an asterisk:

5.10.7. Class III standards are found in Table 64-13C at the end of this regulation; items for which extra credit is available are identified by an asterisk:

5.10.8. Certain material within the body of the regulations is explanatory or otherwise necessary linguistically but will not enter into the scoring system.

5.10.9. If a standard is not applicable for a particular facility, a full compliance value shall be assigned for that item for scoring and rating purposes.

5.11. Facility Rating

5.11.1. The director shall assign a rating to each facility licensed under these regulations.

5.11.2. The rating shall be assigned and included on the license issued to the facility.

5.11.3. A rating shall be based on the results of the annual survey.

5.11.4. Scores and ratings for individual categories are shown in Table 64-13D found at the end of this regulation.

5.11.5. A facility must obtain the number of points indicated in the table Section 5.11.4 within each category to obtain a particular category rating. Points scored in any individual category shall not be permitted to offset deficiencies within another category. Therefore, no total of value points is to be computed. An overall rating for the facility cannot be determined solely on the basis of total points earned.

5.11.6. For purposes of assigning an overall rating, a category rating of "A" shall be assigned a score of four; a category rating of "B" shall be assigned a score of three; a category rating of "C" shall be

assigned a score of two; and a category rating of "F" shall be assigned a score of zero. These category rating scores for the ten categories shall be totaled and an average category rating score shall be computed. An overall facility rating shall be assigned based on the average category rating score and the number of categories rated "F" as follows:

(a) if a facility is given a rating of "F" on as many as one category or has an average category rating score of less than 2.0, an overall rating of "F" shall be assigned;

(b) for an average score of 2.0 through 2.59, an overall rating of "C" shall be assigned;

(c) for an average score of 2.6 through 3.59, an overall rating of "B" shall be assigned; and

(d) for an average score of 3.6 through 4.0, an overall rating of "A" shall be assigned.

5.11.7. A facility with an overall rating of "F" may be issued a provisional license as described in Section 5.5 of these regulations and in Chapter 16, Article 5C, Section 6 of the West Virginia Code of 1931, as amended, or may be subject to other actions by the director as described in Section 16 of these regulations and in Chapter 16, Article 5C of the West Virginia Code of 1931, as amended.

5.12. Complaint Investigation

5.12.1. Any person may register a complaint with the director alleging violation of applicable laws or regulations by the facility. A complainant shall state the substance of the complaint and shall identify the facility involved.

5.12.2. Upon receipt of a complaint, the director shall attempt to determine whether the complaint is willfully intended to harass a licensee or is without reasonable basis.

5.12.3. The director shall notify a complainant presenting a complaint determined either as intended to harass a licensee or as without reasonable basis that no further investigation will be conducted.

5.12.4. A complaint which is viable after initial determination pursuant to Section 5.12.2 of these regulations shall be investigated.

5.12.5. The director shall conduct an unannounced inspection of the facility to determine the validity of the complaint.

5.12.6. The department shall provide the facility with notice of the substance of the complaint only at the time of the inspection.

5.12.7. The director shall conduct such other investigation as is necessary to determine the validity of the complaint.

5.12.8. No later than five (5) working days after completing an investigation of a complaint the director shall notify the complainant and the facility in writing of the results of the investigation.

5.12.9. A description of the corrective action the facility will be required to take and of any disciplinary action to be taken by the director will be sent to the complainant upon receipt of written request.

5.12.10. If a complaint has been found to have merit, the director shall advise any injured party of the possibility of a civil remedy under Chapter 16, Section 5C of the West Virginia Code of 1931, as amended.

5.12.11. The name of a complainant or of any person named in a complaint shall be safeguarded by the department and shall not be disclosed without the individual's written authorization.

5.12.12. Disclosure of the name of a patient identified in a complaint who is not the complainant shall be subject to the confidentiality provisions otherwise in effect in these regulations and shall not be disclosed without the patient's prior written authorization.

5.12.13. If a complaint becomes the subject of a judicial proceeding, nothing in this Section shall be construed to restrict disclosure of information which would otherwise be disclosed in a judicial proceeding.

5.12.14. Before any complaint is disclosed to a facility, or to the public pursuant to Section 5.13 of these regulations, any information in the complaint which could reasonably identify the complainant or a patient shall be deleted.

5.12.15. A facility is prohibited from discharging or in any manner discriminating against a patient

or employee because the individual has filed a complaint or participated in a proceeding authorized by Chapter 16, Article 5C of the West Virginia Code of 1931, as amended.

5.12.16. Violation of the prohibition of Section 5.12.15 of these regulations shall be grounds for suspending or revoking the facility's license.

5.12.17. A rebuttable presumption of retaliatory action against a patient shall arise against any facility which in any way adversely discriminates against a patient by whom or on whose behalf a complaint has been submitted to the director or who is involved in any proceeding instituted under Chapter 16, Article 5C of the West Virginia Code of 1931, as amended, within one hundred and twenty days of the filing of the complaint or the institution of any such proceeding.

5.13. Availability of Reports and Records

5.13.1. The director shall make available for public inspection and, upon request, provide at a nominal cost copies of the following documents:

- (a) applications and exhibits;
- (b) inspection reports;
- (c) reports of investigations conducted in response to complaints; and
- (d) any other reports filed with or issued by the director pertaining to the compliance of a facility with applicable laws and regulations.

5.13.2. If the director determines it is in the best interests of the public, the director may provide copies of records and reports free of charge to nonprofit community organizations upon written request.

5.13.3. The director shall treat a report of inspection of a facility as public information from the time a written plan of correction is submitted.

5.13.4. If the facility does not submit a written plan of correction within the time specified by the director pursuant to Section 5.7 of these regulations, reports pertaining to the facility shall be made public at the expiration of the specified time.

5.13.5. Other records and reports shall be treat-

ed as public information from the time they are submitted to or issued by the director.

5.13.6. Nothing contained in this Section shall be construed to require or permit the public disclosure of confidential medical, social, personal or financial records of any patient.

5.13.7. Before releasing a report or record deemed public information the director shall delete any confidential information regarding a patient which could reasonably permit identification of the patient.

5.13.8. The director shall delete from complaints made available to the public under this Section any information required to be held confidential under Section 5.12 of these regulations.

5.14. Registry of Organizations with Right of Access

5.14.1. The director shall maintain a register of all organizations and groups approved for access to facilities under the provisions of Section 9.11 of these regulations and Chapter 16, Article 5C, Section 5, Paragraph (b), Subsection (1)(i) of the West Virginia Code of 1931, as amended.

5.14.2. Such groups shall render assistance to patients without charge. The primary function of such groups shall be to improve or enhance the quality of life for patients in the facility. Eligible groups shall include, but not be limited to, such groups as ombudsman programs, long-term care advocates and legal service organizations.

5.14.3. Any organization or group desiring such approval shall apply in writing to the director, stating the name, address and general purpose of the organization or group and reasons why such access privilege should be granted. The director may in his sole discretion require additional information.

5.14.4. The director shall review any such application and shall notify the applicant in writing within ten working days of the receipt of all information requested whether access rights have been approved or denied.

5.14.5. The director shall have the right to revoke such approval of a group or organization or of a particular representative, upon presentation of evi-

dence that any organization, group, or particular representative has failed to comply with the provisions of Section 9.11 of these regulations.

5.14.6. The director shall publish a list of approved groups and organizations annually. Copies of the list shall be distributed to facilities annually. Copies may be obtained upon request.

5.15. Nursing Home Licensing Advisory Council

5.15.1. There shall be established a nursing home licensing advisory council which shall:

(a) advise the director on the implementation of these regulations;

(b) monitor and report to the director the impact of these regulations on the cost and quality of nursing home care;

(c) assist the director in the development of orientation and training programs for facilities in nursing home management and regulatory compliance; and

(d) make recommendations to the director for regulatory improvement.

5.15.2. The nursing home licensing advisory council shall be composed of:

(a) three (3) members who are administrators of licensed nursing homes with sixty (60) or fewer beds;

(b) three (3) members who are administrators of licensed nursing homes with more than sixty (60) beds;

(c) one (1) member who is an administrator of a state-operated long-term care facility;

(d) one (1) member who represents the State commission on aging;

(e) one (1) member who represents the State department of welfare;

(f) one (1) member who represents the health department;

(g) three (3) consumers who have or have had

a close family member as a patient in a nursing home. Consumer members of the council shall not profit in any way, either directly or indirectly, from nursing or personal care homes or be employed by any of the state agencies listed in (d), (e) or (f); and

(h) one (1) member who represents social work services.

5.15.3. The members of the nursing home licensing advisory council shall be appointed by the director for two year terms. The director shall consult with and obtain recommendations from representative groups in making appointments.

5.15.4. The nursing home licensing advisory council shall be staffed by the department.

5.15.5. Meetings of the council shall be held no less than quarterly per year.

5.15.6. Non government members of the council shall be reimbursed by the department for travel expenditures associated with meetings and actual expenditures otherwise incurred in the performance of the duties of their office according to the state rules governing reimbursement for travel expenditures.

§64-13-6. Physical Facilities, Equipment, and Related.

6.1. Applicability

6.1.1. The provisions of Section 6 shall apply to the physical facilities and services of all nursing homes, except that the requirements may be modified for existing facilities if their application clearly would be impractical in the judgment of the director, and provided that such alternate arrangements are not, in the opinion of the director, considered to be detrimental to the health or safety of the occupants and employees of such facility. Such modification shall conform as nearly as is practicable to the current regulations.

6.1.2. For purposes of these regulations, an existing facility shall be defined as a facility having either a valid nursing home license or licensed as an extended care facility according to Hospital Licensure, West Virginia Department of Health Legislative Rules, Series 12, 1983, as of or within a period of one year prior to the effective date of these regulations.

6.2. Applications Required

6.2.1. Detailed plans for new construction, additions, renovations, and alterations, drawn to scale of not less than one-eighth inch (1/8") equals one foot (1'), shall be submitted to and approved by the director before construction is started.

6.2.2. Two (2) copies of these plans and specifications signed by an architect registered in the State of West Virginia shall be submitted to the director, and shall show, properly identified, the general arrangement and construction of the building and location of all fixed equipment.

6.2.3. Preliminary drawings and outline specifications shall be submitted for approval prior to preparation of working drawings.

6.2.4. The requirement for a registered architect may be waived by the director.

6.2.5. A performance statement must be obtained by the owner from the builder of a proposed facility stating that in constructing the facility the builder has followed the architect's plans which are on file with and approved by the director.

6.2.6. All new facilities shall be inspected by the director and shall have the director's approval prior to admitting patients. A request for a preopening inspection shall be made in writing thirty (30) days prior to the proposed opening date.

6.2.7. Unless substantial construction is started within one year of the date of approval of final drawings, it will be necessary for the owner or architect to secure written notification from the director that such plan approval for construction is still valid and in compliance with this Section.

6.2.8. Plans for addition, removal or modification of equipment which is of the type which is permanently affixed to the building or which may otherwise involve or necessitate new construction, alteration of, or addition to the facility shall be submitted to and approved by the director, prior to beginning any construction, alterations, removal or modification.

6.2.9. Additionally, certain other changes involving equipment, which may or may not require physical changes in the facility, but which may relate to other standards and requirements of these regula-

tions may require the director's approval. Facilities may request judgment and approval in advance from the director regarding a particular change or rearrangement. Areas in which changes are likely to require approval include, but are not limited to: kitchen; laundry; and heating equipment.

6.3. Construction, Life Safety and Related (Class I)

6.3.1. Except as provided in Section 6.1.1 of these regulations, the following documents are adopted as construction, equipment, physical facility and related procedural standards for all existing nursing homes, all new construction, and any additions, alterations, renovations, or conversions of existing buildings:

(a) the relevant sections of Minimum Requirements of Construction and Equipment for Hospitals and Medical Facilities - U.S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare (DHEW NO. (HRA) 81-14500);

(b) minimum Property Standards for Care-Type Housing (4920.1) and Minimum Property Standards (4930.1), U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development;

(c) the 1981 edition of the National Building Code;

(d) National Fire Protection Association - National Fire Codes; and Fire Prevention Code known as the Fire Safety Code, as adopted by the West Virginia State fire commission and the additional promulgated fire safety regulations as filed by the State fire commission with the secretary of state; and

(e) Article 10F, Chapter 18 of the West Virginia Code, and any rules and regulations promulgated thereunder regarding handicapped persons and public buildings and facilities.

6.3.2. When standards of these regulations exceed requirements of the documents listed above these regulations shall prevail.

6.4. Site Characteristics/Accessibility (Class I)

6.4.1. The facility shall be accessible to physicians, medical facilities and other necessary services

6.4.2. There shall be good drainage, approved

sewerage disposal, approved potable water supply, electricity, telephone, and other necessary facilities available on or near the site.

6.4.3. The facility shall be located in an environment which is free from flooding and excessive noise sources such as railroads, freight yards, traffic arteries and airports. The site shall not be exposed to excessive smoke, foul odors or dust.

6.4.4. Accessibility shall be facilitated by hard surfaced, all-weather roads which are kept passable at all times. There shall be all-weather, hard surfaced walks and parking areas provided.

6.4.5. Local building codes and zoning restrictions shall be observed. Evidence of compliance signed by local fire, building and zoning officials shall be available.

6.4.6. Where local codes or regulations permit standards lower than those required by these regulations, the facility shall meet the standards set forth herein.

6.5. Increase in Bed Capacity (Class I) - Bed capacity may be increased only with the permission of the director.

6.6. Equipment and Furnishing of Patient Rooms (Class II)

6.6.1. Equipment and furnishings in patient rooms shall include at least the items in this Section.

6.6.2. A bed shall be provided for each patient.

6.6.2.1. Each bed shall be substantially constructed, not less than 36" wide and in good repair.

6.6.2.2. Each non-ambulant patient shall be provided with a hospital-type bed.

6.6.2.3. Rollaway beds, folding beds and cots shall not be used.

6.6.2.4. Bed springs and mattress shall be in good repair and fit the bed.

6.6.3. At least one clean, comfortable pillow shall be provided for each bed; additional pillows shall be available to meet the needs of the patient.

6.6.4. Each patient shall be provided with a bedside stand with a drawer to accommodate toilet articles and utensils.

6.6.5. Each patient room shall have reasonable closet and drawer space for clothing and personal items currently being used by the patient.

6.6.6. Each room shall have individual towel and wash cloth racks or an equivalent substitute.

6.6.7. Window shades and curtains or draperies shall be provided and maintained in good condition.

6.6.8. One (1) comfortable chair suitable for the patient's use shall be provided for each patient in each room.

6.7. Nursing Equipment, Sterile Supplies, and Linens (Class I)

6.7.1. Nursing equipment shall be sufficient to meet patients' needs. If warranted by a patient's condition, each individual shall have the following:

- (a) wash basin;
- (b) bedpan;
- (c) urinal; (d) emesis basin; and
- (e) water pitcher and cup or drinking glass.

6.7.2. Utensils shall be sterilized between use by different patients.

6.7.3. Styrofoam water pitchers and cups shall not be used.

6.7.4. Equipment constructed of enamelware or materials which cannot be sterilized shall not be used.

6.7.5. Damaged utensils shall not be used.

6.7.6. A facility shall have a sufficient number of thermometers to meet patient needs. These may be the standard mercury thermometers or electronic or thermo-chemical types of thermometers.

6.7.7. A facility shall disinfect each thermometer after each use.

6.7.8. A facility shall have sufficient hot water bottles with suitable covers to meet patient needs.

6.7.9. Nursing equipment and sterile supplies shall be stored in an area which is completely separate from contact with patients.

6.7.10. Sterile supplies shall not be stored beyond their dated shelf life.

6.7.11. Storage space shall be provided on each nursing unit for clean linen.

6.7.12. Sufficient quantities of linens shall be available to nursing personnel to assure the cleanliness and comfort of each patient.

6.7.13. Individual towels, wash cloths and blankets shall be provided for each patient.

6.7.14. Waterproof mattresses or mattress covers shall be provided for each patient.

6.7.15. When electric blankets are used they shall be UL approved and they shall be checked periodically by facility staff for safety.

6.8. General Maintenance (Class II)

6.8.1. The facility shall establish a program of preventive maintenance to ensure that equipment is operative and that the interior and exterior of the building are safe, clean and orderly. Maintenance and housekeeping services may be provided by another organization under written contract.

6.8.2. Stairwells and corridors shall be kept free from obstruction at all times.

6.8.3. The grounds shall be kept in sanitary, safe, and presentable condition and shall be free from accumulated rubbish and other health hazards of a similar nature.

6.8.4. A facility shall be kept free from insects, rodents, and vermin through operation of a pest control program.

6.8.5. Pesticides shall be applied so as to prevent contamination to patients and food.

6.8.6. Insecticidal strips shall not be used.

6.8.7. All essential mechanical, electrical and patient care equipment shall be maintained in safe operating condition.

6.9. Waste and Refuse Disposal (Class II)

6.9.1. Accumulated waste or refuse shall be kept in sanitary, covered refuse containers and shall be removed from the building daily or more often as necessary.

6.9.2. A facility shall have procedures for disposing of soiled dressings and similar items in a safe and sanitary manner.

6.10. Cleaning Supplies (Class III) - A facility shall have sufficient supplies and equipment, properly stored and conveniently located, to permit frequent cleaning of floors, walls, woodwork, windows, screens, and to facilitate all necessary building and grounds maintenance.

6.11. Laundry (Class I) - The facility shall have written procedures for handling, storing, processing and transporting of linens and other laundered goods in such a manner to prevent the spread of infection.

§64-13-7. Facility Governance and Management.

7.1. Governing Body (Class II)

7.1.1. A facility shall have an effective governing body, or designated persons so functioning, which is legally responsible for the operation of the facility.

7.1.2. The governing body shall adopt and enforce rules and regulations governing the health care and safety of patients, the protection of their personal and property rights, and the operation of the facility.

7.1.3. The governing body shall develop a written facility plan (See also Section 5.3.8 of these regulations) which shall be reviewed annually. In addition to the other requirements described in law and in these regulations, the facility plan shall include: (a) an annual operating budget including all anticipated income and expenses; and (b) a capital expenditure plan for at least a three-year period.

7.1.4. The governing body shall assure the development and maintenance of written policies and procedures which govern the services the facility provides. Such policies and procedures shall include as a

minimum all policies and procedures required by these regulations.

7.1.5. A copy of each written policy shall be available for inspection on request by staff, residents, patients and members of the public.

7.2. Administrator (Class II)

7.2.1. The owner or governing body of a facility shall appoint a qualified administrator who holds a currently valid license or an emergency permit issued by the West Virginia nursing home administrators licensing board, pursuant to Chapter 30, Article 25 of the West Virginia Code of 1931, as amended.

7.2.2. A facility shall notify the director in writing within ten days of any change in administrators.

7.2.3. An emergency administrator shall be employed only upon prior verbal approval from the director which the director shall confirm in writing.

7.2.4. The administrator shall be given the necessary authority and responsibility to manage the facility, to implement administrative policy, and to plan, organize and direct the responsibilities delegated to him by the owner or governing body or assigned to him under these regulations.

7.2.5. A facility having an administrator performing in that capacity on other than a full-time basis shall have a written contract, or, if the owner functions as the administrator, a written statement, specifying the extent of the administrator's responsibility to the facility and stating specifically how the facility will assure that the functions assigned to the administrator under these regulations will be performed.

7.2.6. An individual shall not act as or be the administrator of more than two long-term care facilities, and shall otherwise conform to applicable rules and regulations promulgated by the West Virginia nursing home administrator's licensing board including limitations and documentation of service.

7.2.7. The governing body or owner shall designate in writing, by name or position, a qualified individual to act for the administrator in his absence.

7.3. Administrator Functions (Class II)

7.3.1. The administrator shall be responsible for managing the operations of the facility and delegating his authority as necessary.

7.3.2. The administrator shall have the authority to assure facility compliance with applicable provisions of laws and regulations.

7.3.3. The administrator shall assure that public information describing the facility's services is accurate and fully descriptive.

7.3.4. The administrator shall serve as liaison to the governing body, medical staff and other professional and supervisory staff.

7.3.5. The administrator shall evaluate and implement recommendations from the facility's committees established pursuant to these regulations.

7.3.6. The administrator shall participate regularly in continuing education programs and other professional activities in the field of long-term care and health services administration.

7.3.7. The administrator shall be responsible for the completion, maintenance and submission of reports and records required by the director.

7.3.8. Each member of the governing body and each owner shall be apprised by the administrator of all:

(a) official inspection reports and complaint investigation reports issued by the director;

(b) plans of correction submitted by the facility to the director;

(c) facility licensure classification; and

(d) requests, orders, complaints or policy statements filed with the administrator by the director.

7.3.9. Where these regulations require either statements of policy or procedures, or documentation the administrator shall be responsible for ensuring that all such statements are in writing, and unless these regulations state otherwise, such statements shall be reviewed annually, and signed and dated by the administrator at the most recent review.

7.3.10. The administrator shall be responsible for the reporting of deaths, reportable diseases, and any other reports required by state and federal law and regulations.

7.4. Admission, Discharge and Transfer Policies (Class II)

7.4.1. A facility shall develop and implement written policies regarding the admission, discharge and transfer of patients. Policies shall include but are not limited to those in this Section.

7.4.2. A facility shall admit only those persons whose needs it can meet with its services alone or in cooperation with other providers with whom it has appropriate written agreements to ensure its responsibility for the care provided to its patients.

7.4.3. A facility shall maintain written agreements assuring that medical and remedial services required by the patient but not regularly provided within the facility can be obtained promptly when needed.

7.4.4. A facility shall have written transfer agreements with one or more hospitals assuring prompt transfer of a patient to a hospital or other appropriate provider when that patient's physical or mental condition has changed so that the facility can no longer meet that patient's needs.

7.4.5. Except in an emergency, a facility shall consult the patient, his next of kin, his physician and the responsible agency, if any, at least seven (7) days in advance of a patient's transfer or discharge.

7.5. Admission Contract (Class II)

7.5.1. The relationship of a patient to the facility shall be covered by a contract entered into at the time of or prior to the patient's admission, between the patient or his legal representative and the facility.

7.5.2. Each party to the contract shall have a copy of the contract.

7.5.3. The facility shall keep each contract on file for five (5) years after the date it is terminated.

7.5.4. A contract shall include at least the following provisions:

(a) the daily, weekly or monthly rate charged by the facility, and refund provisions for unused portions;

(b) the services and accommodations to be provided by the facility in consideration for the daily, weekly or monthly rate;

(c) the services for which the facility will make arrangement;

(d) delineation of responsibilities for provision of payment for services not covered by the basic rate, including but not limited to medical treatment, medications, special equipment and appliances, dressings, clothing, personal supplies of the patient, services of related medical and paramedical personnel;

(e) facility procedures governing emergencies including immediate care of the patient, persons to be notified, and reports to be prepared;

(f) provision for review and renegotiation of the contract thirty (30) days prior to any change in the terms of the contract; and

(g) the specification of any rights, duties, and obligations of the parties in addition to those required by law.

7.5.5. Subsection 7.5.4 shall not apply to patients receiving care and treatment pursuant to a provider agreement between the nursing home and the Department of Welfare under Title XIX and Chapter 9 of the Public Welfare Law of West Virginia; except that such patients shall receive a written contract delineating their responsibilities in accordance with Subsection 7.5.4.

7.6. Life Care Contract (Class III)

7.6.1. A facility or licensee is prohibited from entering into a life care contract as a provider of services without the director's prior written authorization.

7.6.2. An application for authorization must be submitted to the director, on forms provided by the director, stating fully the terms and conditions of the contract, the financial conditions of the applicant and other information as the director may require.

7.6.3. For the purposes of this Subsection, a life care contract is an agreement between a facility and an individual in which the facility agrees to provide to the individual for the duration of his life or for a term of more than one year, nursing services, medical services or personal care services, in addition to board and lodging. The agreement is conditioned upon the individual's paying consideration to the facility in lieu of or in addition to the payment of the facility's customary charges for the care and services involved.

7.7. Prohibited Activities (Class III)

7.7.1. A facility is prohibited from advertising, asserting, representing or otherwise implying in any manner that it may render care or services other than those specifically within the scope of the license issued to it by the director.

7.7.2. A facility is prohibited from renting, leasing or using its premises for any purposes not related to that for which it is licensed, unless the use is specifically authorized in advance, in writing, by the director.

7.7.3. Residence in a facility is restricted to patients and staff, unless otherwise approved in writing by the director.

7.8. General Recordkeeping Requirements (Class III)

7.8.1. The facility shall maintain records in accordance with these regulations and accepted professional standards and practices.

7.8.2. Compliance with this Section shall not preclude compliance with other specific provisions in these regulations.

7.8.3. Records and reports required by the provisions of these regulations shall be completed legibly in ink or typewritten.

7.8.4. Complete legible photocopies of records will be accepted in fulfillment of the requirements of these regulations.

7.9. Administrative Records (Class III) - The facility shall maintain on file in its administrative office the following records:

(a) documentation of the facility's professional

and administrative staff meetings;

(b) documentation of visits by professional consultants employed by the facility in accordance with the requirements of these regulations;

(c) a current copy of these regulations;

(d) a copy of the facility's current policy and procedures manual containing copies of all policies and procedures required by the provisions of these regulations;

(e) reports of all inspections by government agencies together with summaries of corrective action taken in response to each report during the previous five years;

(f) reports of any other inspections required by these regulations;

(g) copies of contracts and agreements, including agreement for the provision of professional services by outside agencies or contractors, to which the facility is a party;

(h) documents demonstrating control and ownership of the facility;

(i) bylaws of the governing body, if applicable;

(j) reports of accidents or incidents involving patients as required by Section 9.6.1 and Section 11.8 of these regulations;

(k) records of all transactions conducted by the facility involving personal funds of patients in the facility during the previous five years (See Section 9.9 of these regulations);

(l) all menus prepared by the facility in accordance with the requirements of Section 12.3 of these regulations;

(m) records of food purchases made in compliance with Section 12.3 of these regulations;

(n) a copy of the facility's emergency evacuation plan as required by Section 8.2 of these regulations;

(o) a chronological record of all patients admitted to the facility with an identifying number, date of admission and where appropriate date of discharge;

and

(p) all other records required by state or federal laws and regulations, except those for which maintenance elsewhere is required.

7.10. Personnel Records (Class III)

7.10.1. The facility shall maintain a confidential personnel record for each employee containing sufficient information to support the employee's assignment. The record shall contain at least the following information:

(a) a dated application for employment which includes a resume of the applicant's training and experience and verification by references;

(b) an employee health record containing the results of pre-employment and annual physical examination, including tuberculosis screening if indicated by exposure or prevalence;

(c) evaluations of work performance signed by employee and supervisor;

(d) subsequent change of status forms including change of address, salary adjustments, merit increases, promotions;

(e) current licensure, registration or certification status demonstrating appropriate licensure, registration or certification and periodic verification; and

(f) a summary record of each employee's in-service training.

7.10.2. The facility shall make available to employees and assure explanation of written personnel policies, procedures, organizational charts and job descriptions.

7.10.3. The facility shall maintain a job description for each job category, including the following:

(a) job title and qualifications, including educational and skill requirements;

(b) general description of duties and responsibilities including limitations, if applicable; and

(c) supervision to be given and received.

7.11. Staff Development (Class II)

7.11.1. Reference should be made to the following sections of these regulations to determine the minimum appropriate orientation and training requirements:

(a) Section 7.10.1(f) (relating to in-service training records);

(b) Sections 7.10.2 and 7.10.3 (relating to personnel policies, job descriptions, etc.);

(c) Section 8.3.1 (relating to training for disasters);

(d) Section 9.1.4 (relating to patients' rights training);

(e) Section 9.10.7 (relating to training in complaint procedures);

(f) Section 10.1.3(h) (relating to physician participation in training);

(g) Section 11.2.4(e) (relating to director of nursing duty to orient and train nursing service personnel); and

(h) Section 11.5.2 (relating to orientation and training in restorative nursing).

7.11.2. Personnel who provide direct patient care but are not required to be licensed, registered or certified shall receive special instruction under the direction of the director of nursing services.

7.11.3. A facility shall provide for a written plan covering a period of twelve (12) months at a time for continuing education and training to develop the skills of all personnel. This program shall include at least:

(a) training related to problems and needs of the aged, ill and disabled;

(b) in-service training concerning prevention and control of infections, fire and safety rules, accident prevention, confidentiality of patient information, protection of patient privacy and personal property rights, and all other topics required by these regulations; and

(c) provisions for periodic in-service training for all employees of the facility.

7.11.4. A facility shall document the contents of and attendance at in-service training.

7.11.5. A facility shall designate an in-service training coordinator who shall be responsible for:

(a) implementing the planned program of in-service training; and

(b) ensuring the documentation of attendance at all in-service training programs.

7.11.6. No employee with more than one year's tenure with the facility shall be counted in terms of meeting staffing requirements for licensure purposes unless that employee has completed appropriate in-service training requirements.

7.11.7. No employee shall be counted in terms of meeting staffing requirements for licensure purposes, unless that employee has completed appropriate orientation requirements.

§64-13.8. General Health and Safety.

8.1. General Health and Safety Requirements (Class I)

8.1.1. A facility shall develop and implement written policies and procedures to assure that a safe and sanitary environment exists for patients and personnel.

8.1.2. Employees with symptoms or signs of communicable diseases or infected skin lesions shall not be permitted to work.

8.1.3. Incidents and accidents to patients and personnel shall be reviewed to identify health and safety hazards.

8.2. Disaster Plan (Class II)

8.2.1. The facility shall have a written disaster plan approved by the director which states procedures to be followed in the event of fire, explosion or other internal disaster or occurrence which severely affects the functioning of the facility.

8.2.2. The disaster plan shall be developed and

maintained with the assistance of qualified fire, safety, and other appropriate experts.

8.2.3. Brief instructions and guidelines regarding procedure shall be available at the nurses station

8.2.4. Evacuation routes shall be posted as appropriate.

8.2.5. There shall be policies and procedures for implementing the plan.

8.2.6. The disaster plan shall include at least the following:

(a) assignment and training of personnel for specific tasks and responsibilities;

(b) procedures for identification and prompt transfer of casualties and records, when necessary, to the facility most appropriate for the administration of definitive care;

(c) policies and procedures with regard to transporting casualties and uninjured individuals;

(d) instructions regarding the location and use of alarm systems and signals, and of firefighting equipment;

(e) information regarding methods of fire containment;

(f) procedures for notification of appropriate personnel;

(g) specification of evacuation routes and procedures; and

(h) frequency of fire drills.

8.3. Disaster Training (Class II)

8.3.1. The facility shall operate an internal disaster preparedness program which includes orientation and ongoing training and drills in procedures and specific assignments.

8.3.2. The disaster plan shall be rehearsed at least annually.

8.4. Fire Drills (Class I) - Fire drills shall be held at least quarterly for each shift.

8.5. Disaster Rehearsal and Fire Drill Reports (Class II) - A dated written report and evaluation of each disaster rehearsal and fire drill shall be maintained on file for at least two years.

8.6. Provisions for Emergency Calls (Class I)

8.6.1. A facility shall have at least one noncoin-operated telephone or one extension on each patient occupied unit and additional telephones and extensions if needed to summon help in case of emergency.

8.6.2. A facility shall post emergency call information conspicuously near each telephone, exclusive of patient telephones, in the facility. Such information shall include at least the following:

(a) telephone number of fire, police and other appropriate emergency services;

(b) names and telephone numbers of all personnel to be called in case of fire or emergency;

(c) the name and telephone number of the physician on call; and

(d) where applicable, name and telephone number for the consulting nurse when on call.

8.7. Infection and Communicable Disease Control (Class I)

8.7.1. A nursing home shall establish an infection control committee which shall consist of at least the following persons:

(a) the administrator;

(b) the medical director or another physician;

(c) the director of the nursing services;

(d) the director of the dietetic services; and

(e) the housekeeper.

8.7.2. The infection control committee shall develop for the facility written policies and procedures on at least the following:

(a) preventing and controlling infection in the facility;

- (b) maintaining a sanitary environment;
- (c) identifying infections within the facility;
- (d) reviewing the health status of employees;
- (e) ensuring staff compliance with infection control policies and procedures; and
- (f) aseptic and isolation techniques.

8.7.3. The infection control committee shall meet no less than twice a year.

8.8. Isolation (Class I)

8.8.1. Any patient who contracts a communicable disease shall be segregated from other patients as described in the policies required by Section 8.7.2 of these regulations.

8.8.2. Isolation techniques to prevent the transfer of the disease to other patients and staff of the facility shall be employed.

8.8.3. If ordered by a physician, the patient shall be removed from the facility as soon as suitable arrangements are made for continuing his care.

8.9. Animals (Class II)

8.9.1. No dogs, cats or other domestic animals shall be permitted within a nursing home or on its premises other than as specified herein.

8.9.2. If domestic animals other than strays are present on the nursing home grounds, there shall be provisions or areas set off and restricted so that patients may be free from risk of exposure to or physical harm from the animals, or the animals shall be leashed or otherwise limited in movement.

8.9.3. In the case of the presence of animals as part of a therapeutically designed and professionally supervised program which is of short duration, Subsection 8.9.2 need not apply.

8.9.4. If animals are present in the nursing home, they shall not be permitted in:

- (a) food preparation areas;
- (b) the pharmacy;

- (c) any storage areas; and
- (d) patient areas except as specified in Subsections 8.9.5, 8.9.6 and 8.9.7 herein.

8.9.5. Animals may be permitted in:

(a) non-patient areas not otherwise prohibited by these regulations;

(b) recreation areas or rooms;

(c) areas especially set aside for such usage; and

(d) halls, if leashed or caged, in transit to and from permissible areas. Animals shall not be displayed or transported during meal times.

8.9.6. Patients shall not be permitted to have pets living in their rooms.

8.9.7. Animals may be allowed in patient rooms only under strictly supervised conditions; only if none of the occupants of the room object; and only if the patients' medical conditions are not prohibitive.

8.9.8. Wild, dangerous or obviously ill animals are prohibited, except that such wild animals as squirrels, birds, chipmunks and the like which are natural to the neighborhood of the facility shall not be prohibited from the facility grounds.

8.9.9. Animals and their quarters shall be kept clean at all times.

8.9.10. State and local laws regarding rabies prevention and animal licensure shall be observed.

8.9.11. Appropriate sanitation procedures shall be applied.

8.9.12. Residents shall not be physically endangered.

8.9.13. The provisions of Section 8.9.1 do not apply to fish in aquariums.

§64-13-9. General Patients' Rights Policies and Procedures.

9.1. Implementation of Patients' Rights (Class II)

9.1.1. The governing body of a facility shall develop written policies and procedures regarding the rights and responsibilities of patients.

9.1.2. Policies adopted shall be consistent with the provisions of these regulations.

9.1.3. The governing body shall be responsible for the facility's adherence to procedures implementing patients' rights policies.

9.1.4. The staff of a facility shall be oriented to and trained at least annually in proper implementation of patients' rights policies.

9.1.5. A copy of patients' rights policies and procedures shall be made available to patients, guardians, committee, next of kin, sponsoring agencies, and representative payees, as applicable, and upon request shall be made available to members of the public.

9.2. Limitation of Patients' Rights and Derivative Rights (Class II)

9.2.1. When the rights of an individual must be limited or restricted for medical reasons, those reasons shall be set forth in specificity in the individual's medical record and such restriction shall be only for a specific and limited period of time.

9.2.2. The rights and responsibilities set forth in these regulations shall devolve to parties other than the patient only under the following circumstances:

(a) a patient is adjudicated incompetent; or

(b) a patient has appointed, in writing, a power of attorney.

9.2.3. Nothing in these regulations shall in any way be construed to diminish or deprive any individual of rights recognized and established under other laws of the State of West Virginia or of the United States.

9.3. Civil Rights (Class II)

9.3.1. No facility which offers services to members of the general public shall deny admission to a prospective patient on the grounds of race, color, religion or national origin.

9.3.2. No patient shall be segregated, given separate treatment, restricted in the enjoyment of any advantage or privilege enjoyed by others in the facility, or provided with any aid, care services, or other benefits which are different or are provided in a different manner from those provided to others in the facility on the grounds of race, color, religion or national origin.

9.4. Rights to be Informed (Class II)

9.4.1. A patient shall be fully informed of these rights and of all rules and regulations governing patient conduct and responsibilities during the duration of the patient's stay.

9.4.2. A patient shall be notified and informed of his rights, responsibilities and any applicable rules and regulations prior to or at the time of admission, and at least annually thereafter.

9.4.3. A patient shall acknowledge in writing that he has received notification of rights, responsibilities, rules and regulations.

9.4.4. An individual already in a facility at the time these regulations become effective shall be given notification of these patient rights within thirty (30) days of the effective date of these regulations.

9.4.5. When a mentally retarded person is notified, notification shall be witnessed by a third person.

9.5. Rights to Communication and Personal Property (Class II)

9.5.1. A patient shall be encouraged and assisted throughout the duration of his stay to exercise his rights as a patient and as a citizen.

9.5.2. A patient shall be permitted to express grievances and to communicate to facility staff and outside representatives of the patient's choice the need for changes in facility policies.

9.5.3. A patient shall be free from restraint, interference, coercion, discrimination or reprisal as a result of exercising any of his rights.

9.5.4. A patient has the right to associate and communicate privately with persons of his choice.

9.5.5. A patient has the right to send and re-

ceive personal mail unopened.

9.5.6. A patient shall have access to telephones to make and receive calls in privacy.

9.5.7. A patient has the right to meet with and participate in the activities of social, religious and community groups, at his discretion.

9.5.8. A married patient shall be assured privacy for visits by his spouse. If both spouses are inpatients in a facility, they shall be permitted to share a room.

9.5.9. A patient has the right to retain and use personal clothing and possessions subject to space limitations and the potential for infringing upon the rights of other patients.

9.5.10. A facility may specify in the admission contract conditions of facility liability for a patient's personal clothing and possessions.

9.6. Rights with Regard to Treatment (Class I)

9.6.1. No patient shall be verbally, mentally or physically abused, or neglected or mistreated, or restrained by physical or chemical means except in accordance with Section 11.6 of these regulations (relating to use of restraints). Alleged violations shall be reported immediately to appropriate individuals as designated by the facility and there shall be evidence that:

(a) such alleged violations are thoroughly investigated;

(b) the results of such investigation are reported to the administrator or his designated representative within twenty-four (24) hours of the report of the incident; and

(c) appropriate sanctions are invoked when the allegation is substantiated.

9.6.2. A mentally retarded individual who is a minor shall participate in a behavior modification program involving the use of restraints or aversive stimuli only upon the prior written informed consent of his parent or guardian.

9.6.3. A patient shall participate in experimental research only on the basis of prior written in-

formed consent. Any such informed consent procedures shall be in conformance with applicable state and federal laws and regulations.

9.6.4. A patient shall be given the opportunity to participate in the planning of his total health and medical treatment.

9.6.5. A patient shall have the right to be fully informed of his medical condition.

9.6.6. A patient has the right to refuse any medical treatment.

9.6.7. A patient shall not be required to perform services for the facility, nor be required to participate in any social, recreational or religious activity.

9.7. Rights to Confidentiality (Class II)

9.7.1. A patient shall be assured confidential treatment of his personal and health care records and condition, which shall not be discussed without the patient's consent with persons not treating or caring for the patient.

9.7.2. A patient has the right to refuse the release of his personal or health care records to any individual outside the facility, except as required by law or third-party payment contracts applicable to that patient. A specific signed release shall be obtained for all other releases and no prior executed blanket release shall be used.

9.7.3. A patient shall have access to his record

9.7.4. A patient who is being discharged shall have the right to obtain a copy of his records subject to paying the facility's reasonable fee to cover the expense of copying the records.

9.7.5. A patient shall be treated in a manner which assures privacy in treatment and in care for his personal needs.

9.8. Financial Rights (Class II)

9.8.1. A patient has the right to manage his personal financial affairs.

9.8.2. A facility shall manage a patient's personal funds only on the written prior authorization of the patient.

9.8.3. A patient shall be liable only for charges which have been included in the admission contract between the patient and the facility pursuant to Section 7.5 or Section 7.6 of these regulations or included in any written modification of the contract as provided in Section 7.5 or Section 7.6 of these regulations, except in the case of charges for emergency services which could not have been reasonably anticipated when the contract was signed or amended.

9.8.4. If emergency services provided are not included in the admission contract, the facility shall, when feasible, obtain the prior written consent of the patient or other financially responsible persons or agency stating the amount of the applicable charges.

9.8.5. No patient shall be transferred from or discharged by a facility except for medical reasons, for the patient's welfare or safety or the welfare or safety of other patients, for nonpayment for his stay or upon the patient's consent or request.

9.8.6. A patient whose cost of care is reimbursed under Titles XVIII or XIX of the Social Security Act shall be discharged for nonpayment only in accordance with the provisions of the Social Security Act and regulations.

9.9. Fiduciary Responsibilities of the Facility (Class III)

9.9.1. A facility which handles money for patients within the facility shall hold separately and in trust all patients' funds.

9.9.2. The facility shall administer the funds on behalf of the patient in the manner directed by the depositor.

9.9.3. The facility shall render a true and complete account upon request to the depositor and to the director and at least quarterly to the patient on forms provided by the director.

9.9.4. Upon termination of the deposit the facility shall account to the depositor for all funds received, expended and held on hand on forms specified by the director.

9.9.5. A facility which, in any one month, handles at least twenty-five dollars (\$25) of patients' funds per patient, or at least five hundred dollars (\$500) for all patients shall give evidence of furnish-

ing bond as assurance that the facility will comply with the requirements of this Subsection.

9.9.6. The amount of the bond shall be at least twenty-five hundred dollars (\$2,500).

9.9.7. The director shall have the discretion to require more than a twenty-five hundred dollars (\$2,500) bond based on the amount of patients' funds handled by the facility.

9.9.8. The facility shall execute the bond with a corporate surety licensed to do business in the State of West Virginia.

9.9.9. The director may require a facility to file an additional bond in the following circumstances:

9.9.10. When the director determines that the amount of the bond or collateral on deposit is insufficient to protect the patients' money; or

9.9.11. When the amount of the bond or collateral is impaired by recovery against it pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 16, Article 5C, Section 7 of the West Virginia Code of 1931, as amended by a person injured as a result of improper or unlawful handling of a patient's funds.

9.9.12. When a facility ceases to handle patients' funds in amounts which require a bond under this Section, the director shall allow the release of the bond upon the facility's rendering a true and complete account to the depositors of patients' funds.

9.9.13. When a facility determines on the basis of medical judgment that a patient appears unable to manage his affairs, the administrator of the facility shall notify the patient's next of kin to initiate guardianship or incompetency proceedings.

9.9.14. A facility may initiate guardianship or incompetency proceedings on behalf of the patient if the patient has no family or if the family, once notified, fails to act.

9.9.15. An employee of a facility, or a person having a financial interest in the facility, with the exception of anyone related to such a person by consanguinity as defined in Section 5.2.2 of these regulations is prohibited from accepting appointment as guardian, committee or conservator of the estate of a patient, or from accepting a power of attorney for a

patient.

9.9.16. An individual serving in a prohibited capacity under Subsection 9.9.15 of these regulations on the effective date of these regulations shall initiate proceedings within thirty (30) days following the effective date of these regulations, to have himself removed from the prohibited capacity and to have another qualified person appointed.

9.10. Complaint Procedures (Class II)

9.10.1. A facility shall develop and implement written procedures for registering and responding to complaints by patients, their sponsors and the public

9.10.2. A facility shall designate an employee to be responsible for receiving complaints.

9.10.3. A facility shall establish a method to inform the administrator of all complaints.

9.10.4. A facility shall establish a process for investigation and assessment of the validity of all complaints.

9.10.5. A facility shall provide a mechanism to record all complaints received and action taken on them.

9.10.6. A facility shall assure that careful consideration is given to each complaint even when it has been made by an individual who often makes complaints having no valid basis.

9.10.7. A facility shall establish a program to assure that its personnel are familiar with complaint policies and procedures.

9.10.8. A facility shall establish a program to educate patients, their next of kin and sponsors about the facility's complaint policies and procedures.

9.10.9. A facility's compliance with this Section shall not obviate compliance with the provisions of Section 5.12 of these regulations.

9.11. Access (Class II)

9.11.1. A facility shall establish visiting hours, consisting of at least eight (8) hours per day between 8:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m., seven (7) days per week. Visiting hours shall be posted conspicuously in a public

place in the facility.

9.11.2. Relatives and members of the clergy shall be permitted to visit a critically ill patient at any time.

9.11.3. A facility shall permit full and free access to the facility to representatives of recognized community organizations and groups approved for such access by the director in the registry described in Section 5.14 of these regulations. Such access shall be limited to normal visiting hours unless by permission of the facility or as specified in Section 9.11.12 of these regulations regarding complaint investigation by the State commission on aging and its agents or as permitted by other state and federal law or rules and regulations.

9.11.4. Such representatives shall be permitted to visit, talk with, and to make personal, social and legal services available to any patient and to inform patients of their rights, entitlements and corresponding obligations under federal and state laws and rules and regulations through distribution of educational materials and in discussion with individual patients or groups of patients.

9.11.5. Such representatives shall be permitted to assist patients in asserting their legal rights including claims for public assistance, medical assistance, social security benefits and in other legal matters. Assistance may be provided individually or on a group basis, and may include organizational activity, counseling and litigation.

9.11.6. Such representatives shall be permitted to view all areas of the facility with the following exceptions:

(a) living areas of a patient who objects to such inspection;

(b) business records of the facility, unless the administrator consents;

(c) personal and medical records of a patient, unless the patient consents in writing;

(d) drug storage areas which are not secure from access by unauthorized persons;

(e) food service areas requiring sanitary conditions; and

(f) any other areas where inspection might endanger any individual or might invade the privacy of any employee or patient.

9.11.7. An individual entering a facility pursuant to Section 9.11.3 of these regulations shall, upon entering the facility, notify the administrator or other available agent of the facility of said individual's presence. If requested by the facility, the individual shall provide identification as an authorized representative of an agency on the registry of such agencies maintained by the director.

9.11.7.1. No such person shall enter a patient's room without identifying himself to the patient and receiving the patient's permission to enter.

9.11.7.2. A patient shall have the right to refuse a visit pursuant to Section 9.11.3 of these regulations and such visit shall be terminated upon the patient's request.

9.11.7.3. Such individuals shall coordinate their activities with the facility's social worker or activity director.

9.11.8. A facility may restrict a particular visitor, or individual obtaining access under Section 9.11.3 of these regulations from the facility if his behavior is, in the judgment of the administrator, unreasonably disruptive of the functioning of the facility. The reasons for such judgment and restriction must be documented in writing and kept on file.

9.11.9. Communications between a patient and a person visiting pursuant to Section 9.11.3 of these regulations are deemed confidential.

9.11.10. No patient shall be punished or harassed by a facility, its agents, its employees or its contractors because of his efforts to avail himself of his rights to communicate with others under this Section. Violation of this provision shall be subject to the provisions of Section 5.12.17 of these regulations.

9.11.11. Nothing in this Section shall be construed to restrict the rights of a patient to receive or refuse visitors other than those obtaining access under the provisions of Section 9.11.3 of these regulations.

9.11.12. The board of health recognizes the lawful interests of and the responsibilities of the State

commission on aging with respect to the senior citizens of the state. In accordance with those interests and responsibilities, the commission on aging and its recognized affiliates, including the nursing home ombudsman program shall be granted full and free access privileges for the necessary conduct of complaint investigations.

9.12. Notice and Posting Requirements (Class III)

9.12.1. A facility shall post its license in a conspicuous and public place in plain view of all patients and visitors to the facility.

9.12.2. A facility shall post in a conspicuous place on each floor a legible notice stating the civil rights requirements of Section 9.3 of these regulations, the patients' rights requirements of Sections 9.4 through 9.8 of these regulations, the complaint procedures of Section 9.10 of these regulations, and the access requirements required in Section 9.11 of these regulations. In addition, a notice stating the visiting hours and access requirements of Section 9.12 shall be posted conspicuously at or near the entrance to the facility.

9.12.3. A facility shall provide each patient with a personal copy of a statement setting forth the requirements of Section 9 of these regulations.

9.12.4. The document shall include in a prominent position the following statement:

"This Bill of Rights sets forth some fundamental human rights to which you, as a facility resident or patient, are entitled under West Virginia law and regulations. If you see a violation of any of the rights listed here, you are encouraged to report the violation to the administrator or (insert the name of the individual identified under Section 9.10.2 here), who is responsible for handling complaints. If the facility does not respond to your complaint promptly, favorably or sufficiently, or if you are dissatisfied for another reason, you may contact the Health Facilities Evaluation Division of the West Virginia Department of Health at 1800 Washington Street, East, Charleston, West Virginia, 25305, telephone (304) 348-0050, to report the violation and to request an inspection of the facility. Alternatively, you may contact the West Virginia Commission on Aging at the State Capitol, Charleston, West Virginia, 25305, telephone (304) 348-2241 or their local representative, if any ?insert the appropriate name, address and telephone number

here?. The names of those filing complaints will be kept confidential."

9.12.5. A copy of the above statement shall be given to each patient upon admission.

9.12.6. A copy of the above statement shall be given to each person already a patient or resident in a facility within fourteen (14) days of the effective date of these regulations.

9.12.7. A facility staff member shall read the statement to any patient who for any reason cannot read the notice and shall also give the patient a written copy.

9.12.8. A facility shall include in the patient's record a certification that the patient has received the required document, and where necessary that it has been read to him. The certification shall be signed both by the patient and the administrator of the facility and shall be dated to show when actual notice was received by the patient.

9.12.9. The facility shall inform each patient of the availability within the facility of a complete copy of these regulations and of Chapter 16, Article 5C of the West Virginia Code of 1931, as amended.

9.12.10. Upon request by a patient, the facility shall provide the patient the opportunity to inspect the law and these regulations.

§64-13-10. Medical and Dental Services.

10.1. Medical Director (Class II)

10.1.1. Pursuant to a written agreement, a nursing home shall retain a physician licensed in West Virginia to serve as a medical director.

10.1.2. The medical director shall be responsible to the administrator as to medico-administrative matters.

10.1.3. The medical director's responsibilities shall include, but not be limited to the following:

(a) delineating the responsibilities of attending physicians;

(b) communicating with attending physicians to ensure that medical care plans are written as

required by Section 10.3 of these regulations;

(c) establishing written policies for the utilization of medical consultants and specialist services;

(d) monitoring the health status of the facility's personnel, as required by Section 7.10.1 and Section 8.1 of these regulations;

(e) documenting investigation of incidents and accidents that occur on the premises;

(f) providing documented information to the administrator, in order to ensure a safe and sanitary environment for patients and personnel;

(g) assuming with the administrator responsibility for the execution of patient care policies;

(h) participating in the development of ongoing staff educational programs;

(i) participating or ensuring physician participation in facility committees such as: pharmaceutical and infection control; and

(j) reviewing and approving the credentials of any physician's assistant who will be working in the facility. A physician assistant shall be duly certified by the West Virginia board of medicine or the West Virginia board of osteopathy.

10.1.4. A facility of sixty (60) beds or less may be granted a waiver of the requirement for medical director upon documentation of alternative means for effectuating the duties of the medical director as specified in Section 10.1.3.

10.2. Availability of Medical Services (Class I)

10.2.1. A nursing home shall require upon admission the patient or the patient's sponsor to designate in writing a physician to attend the patient.

10.2.2. A facility shall confirm with the designated physician as soon as possible after the admission of the patient that the physician will provide at least those services required in Section 10.3 herein.

10.2.3. A facility shall require the attending physician or the patient to designate or authorize the administrator to designate an alternate physician to attend the patient in an emergency or whenever the

attending physician is unavailable.

10.2.4. The administrator or his designee shall assure availability of physician services in at least the following ways:

(a) verify that the patient's medical record contains documentation of the name, address and telephone number of the attending physician and the alternate physician;

(b) notify the attending physician whenever a physician is required or in an emergency;

(c) ensure that the patient is visited by a physician for required visits and in response to an emergency;

(d) assist in the development of, and implement, written procedures to provide emergency medical care;

(e) provide at each nurses' station a list of physicians available to provide emergency care; and

(f) ensure that efforts are made to notify the patient's next of kin or sponsor promptly after the patient has had an accident or suffers a serious deterioration in condition, in accordance with Section 11.8 of these regulations regarding accident and illness and Section 11.9 regarding death.

10.3. Services of Attending Physician (Class I)

10.3.1. An attending physician shall provide at least the following services:

(a) not more than five (5) days before nor more than forty-eight (48) hours after a patient's admission to a nursing home, a signed, dated admission and medical history including: a current physical examination; a current assessment of mental status; an admission diagnosis; and an estimate of rehabilitation potential;

(b) a medical visit to the patient as is medically necessary but at least every thirty (30) days unless longer intervals are documented as sufficient by the physician in the patient's record. In no case shall the interval between visits be longer than sixty (60) days;

(c) a written, signed and dated progress note

in the patient's record at the time of each visit;

(d) orders for medical care;

(e) a documented review and such revision as is necessary in the medical care plan at each visit;

(f) emergency medical service when available; and

(g) a signed review of any report made under Section 11.8 of these regulations (relating to incidents or accidents).

10.3.2. If the interval between physician visits to a patient is more than thirty (30) days, that patient's medical plan of care shall be reviewed by the designated physician with a licensed nurse of the facility by telephone and rewritten at least every thirty (30) days.

10.3.3. Whenever a physician fails to comply with the requirements of Section 10.3.1(b) or Section 10.3.2 of these regulations regarding visits to patients, the nursing home shall notify the physician of record of the requirements by registered mail and request the physician's compliance. If the physician then fails either to comply with the requirements or to make other arrangements for his patients within ten (10) days, the nursing home administrator shall declare the patient to be abandoned and notify the director in writing. The director shall notify the West Virginia board of medicine. The nursing home administrator shall then be allowed to seek other medical care for the patient.

10.3.4. If a physician uses a physician's assistant in a nursing home, the physician first shall write to the facility identifying the physician assistant, delineating the physician assistant's functions and limitations, and documenting that the physician assistant is duly certified by the West Virginia board of medicine or the West Virginia board of osteopathy.

10.4. Availability of Dental Services (Class II)

10.4.1. A facility shall have a written plan to assist patients in obtaining routine and emergency dental care.

10.4.2. A facility shall help a patient to arrange transportation to and from a dentist, as appropriate.

10.5. In-service Training in Dental Care (Class II) - A facility shall ensure that a dentist participates at least annually in its staff development program on dental and oral hygienic practices. If approved in writing by a dentist, this requirement may be satisfied by a licensed dental hygienist.

§64-13-11. Nursing Services.

11.1. Nursing and Patient Care Staffing (Class I)

11.1.1. A nursing home shall provide licensed nursing services twenty-four (24) hours a day, seven days a week.

11.1.2. The number of nursing personnel on duty shall be determined by the number of patients, their medical needs and the physical arrangement of the facility, but will at no time other than during short unforeseeable emergencies be less than sufficient to make available an average of two (2) hours of nursing personnel time per patient per day. This two (2) hours shall include four tenths (4/10) of an hour of licensed nurse time and one and 6 tenths of an hour (1.6 hours) of aide time as shown in the table in Section 11.1.3 of these regulations.

In facilities with less than sixty (60) beds, the director of nursing may be included in these staff to patient ratio calculations; in facilities with sixty (60) or more beds, the director of nurses shall not be included for purposes of evaluating compliance with this standard. In facilities with forty (40) or fewer beds, some exceptions to the general average have been made to provide for minimum coverage on all shifts. These exceptions are detailed in Section 11.1.3.

For purposes of evaluating compliance with these ratios, licensed nurses are included as nursing personnel. Adequate personnel to meet patient needs must be employed on each nursing shift. "Available" or "on call" does not meet the requirements for minimum staffing. For purposes of determining compliance with the minimum staffing allowable, no individual shall be counted as meeting these numerical requirements on any two consecutive shifts, unless the facility can demonstrate extenuating circumstances and only then as a non-routine occurrence. The director shall have the authority to require staff above the specified minimum ratios if required to meet patient needs.

11.1.3. (See Table 64.13E found at the end of this regulation.)

(a) Numbers are full-time personnel equivalents based on forty (40) hours per week per shift.

(b) May include the director of nurses.

11.1.4. In addition to the requirements of Section 11.1.1, Section 11.1.2 and Section 11.1.3 of these regulations, if there is not a registered professional nurse on duty, there shall be a registered professional nurse on call.

11.1.5. There shall be a written agreement identifying the responsibilities of the individual on call.

11.2. Management of Nursing Services (Class I)

11.2.1. A nursing home shall organize, manage and operate its nursing services in accordance with a written organizational plan which describes the responsibility, authority and accountability relationships for the functions, activities and training of the nursing staff.

11.2.2. The facility shall have on duty at least five (5) days a week, eight (8) hours a day during the day shift a registered professional nurse designated in writing as the director of nursing services.

11.2.3. The director of nurses shall be a graduate of a school accredited by the West Virginia board of examiners for registered professional nurses. In addition, this individual shall meet, as a minimum, the following requirements for experience:

(a) for a graduate of a two-year program, three (3) years of nursing experience, at least one of which shall have been in a supervisory capacity; or

(b) for a graduate of a three-year program, two years (2) of nursing experience, at least one of which shall have been in a supervisory capacity; or

(c) for a graduate of a four-year program, at least one (1) year of nursing experience; or

(d) for an individual with education beyond a four (4) year program (post-graduate), at least one (1) year of nursing experience.

11.2.4. The director of nursing services shall be responsible for the direction, provision and quality of nursing care including, but not limited to, the following:

(a) assuring that a nursing care plan is established for each patient and the plan is reviewed and modified as necessary, but not less often than quarterly;

(b) establishing written nursing procedures which are: essential to ensure safe practices; up to date and consistent with the type of service provided by the nursing home;

(c) evaluating nursing care practice;

(d) coordinating nursing services with other patient care services such as medical, physical therapy, occupational therapy, recreational activities, social services and dietary services;

(e) planning and conducting orientation and training programs for new nursing service personnel and a continuing in-service education program for all nursing service personnel;

(f) participating in the selection of prospective patients in terms of nursing services they need and nursing competencies available; and

(g) designating in writing a charge nurse on each nursing unit for each shift, seven (7) days a week.

11.2.5. The director of nursing services shall establish procedures to assure that the patient's medical record is completed in a timely manner in accordance with the requirements of Section 15 of these regulations and includes at least the following:

(a) patient care plan, in accordance with the orders of the attending physician establishing and maintaining the plan;

(b) treatment notes;

(c) nursing notes in accordance with Section 15.4.1(f) of these regulations;

(d) nursing summaries;

(e) summaries of conferences with the design-

ated physician or other personnel involved in patient care;

(f) a record of medications administered; and

(g) the signed nursing discharge note.

11.3. Charge Nurse (Class II) - The charge nurse designated according to the provisions of Subsection 11.2.4.(g) of these regulations shall be responsible for at least the following:

(a) supervising all nursing and ancillary personnel and activities related to nursing care in the nursing unit; and

(b) assessing the needs of each patient, initiating the nursing care plan for meeting those needs, and coordinating the patient care plan.

11.4. Nursing Staff Responsibilities (Class I)

11.4.1. Each patient shall receive care in accordance with the physician's written orders and the nursing care plan.

11.4.2. Patients shall be kept clean, dry and comfortable.

11.4.3. Each patient shall receive care toward prevention of decubitus ulcers, infection, accidents and injury.

11.4.4. If necessary, a patient shall receive assistance in feeding.

11.4.5. All patients shall be treated in accordance with the provisions of Section 9 of these regulations specifying patient rights, policies and procedures.

11.4.6. Each patient shall have an individual medication record.

11.4.7. After each administration of medication, the following information shall be recorded on the medication record by the person who administers the medications:

(a) name and strength of the drug administered;

(b) date and time of administration;

(c) dosage administered;

(d) route of administration; and

(e) signature of the individual administering the drug.

11.4.8. Drugs and biologicals shall be administered to the patient as soon as possible after the doses have been prepared.

11.4.9. The medication shall be administered by the same person who prepared the doses for administration, except under single unit dose package distribution systems.

11.4.10. Self-administration of medications by patients is not permitted except on written order of a physician and only permitted in special circumstances, which shall be set forth specifically in the individual's medical record.

11.5. Restorative Nursing Care (Class I)

11.5.1. An active restorative nursing care program shall be an integral part of the nursing service. The purpose of the program is to assist the patient to achieve and maintain an optimum level of functioning and self-care through education and retraining in the activities of daily living. Restorative nursing care services shall be performed daily for those patients who need such services. The program shall include, but not be limited to, such techniques as:

(a) maintaining proper body alignment and positioning of bedfast patients and those confined to chairs;

(b) encouraging the activity of patients by getting them out of bed for reasonable periods of time, except when this is contraindicated by physician's orders;

(c) maintaining a program of skin care to prevent pressure sores;

(d) maintaining a bowel and bladder training program;

(e) assisting patients to ambulate and to carry out prescribed exercises between visits of the physical therapist;

(f) assisting patients to adjust to any disabilities and to direct their interest into useful activities; and

(g) assisting and teaching patients the activities of daily living such as: eating, dressing, grooming, and toilet activities.

11.5.2. Restorative nursing shall be a distinct part of the in-service education program. There shall be orientation and training of new employees and continuing education of all the nursing service employees in restorative nursing.

11.5.3. Observation of patients documented in the nursing notes shall give evidence that care is adequate and that the restorative nursing care program is followed. Observations which assist in determining if care is adequate may include such items as personal appearance and grooming, freedom from offensive odors, absence of pressure sores, and clean mouth and dentures. There shall be evidence that the staff encourage the patient to be out of bed, maintain good body positioning, eat in the dining room if able and to take part in diversional or recreational activities.

11.6. Use of Restraints (Class I)

11.6.1. Restraints shall be used only when necessary to protect the patient from self-injury or from injuring others. No patient shall be restrained for the convenience of the staff.

11.6.2. The use of physical or chemical restraints shall be authorized in writing by a physician for a specified and limited period of time.

11.6.3. The use of restraints on a mentally retarded individual shall be permitted when authorized by a physician or qualified mental retardation professional for use during behavior modification sessions.

11.6.4. For purposes of evaluating compliance with Section 11.6.3 of these regulations, a qualified mental retardation professional shall be:

(a) a currently licensed physician, psychologist or registered nurse who has had at least one year of specialized training or experience in working with the mentally retarded; or

(b) an M.S.W. with at least one year of specialized training or experience in working with the

mentally retarded.

11.6.5. In case of emergency, licensed nursing personnel authorized by the facility in writing may order the use of restraints. Non-physician personnel shall notify the attending physician promptly.

11.6.6. Patients shall not be subjected to the following types of restraints under any conditions: canvas jackets, canvas sheets, or canvas cuffs; leather belts, leather cuffs or leather hand mitts. Locked restraints are prohibited. A patient shall not be confined to any room by locking or fastening a door from the outside.

11.6.7. A patient who is restrained shall have his position changed and the restraints removed long enough to give skin care every two hours.

11.6.8. Methods of restraint shall permit quick removal in case of fire or other emergency.

11.6.9. Side rails on beds are not subject to the provisions of Section 11.6.7 of these regulations.

11.7. Notice to Physician of Accident or Illness (Class I)

11.7.1. Any accident or change in a patient's condition shall be reported immediately to a registered professional nurse who shall notify the attending physician and the patient's family, guardian, committee or sponsor, as relevant.

11.7.2. The physician shall be notified within a reasonable period of time, depending upon the seriousness of the patient's condition.

11.8. Accident and Incident Reports (Class II)

11.8.1. A written report shall be made of any incident or accident in which a patient is involved, either inside or outside the nursing home.

11.8.2. The report shall include the following:

- (a) date;
- (b) time of occurrence;
- (c) place of occurrence;
- (d) details of the occurrence;

(e) date and time physician was notified; and

(f) date and signature of reviewing physician (as required in Section 10.3.1(g) of these regulations)

11.8.3. The report shall be written and signed by the person who is responsible for the patient at the time that the accident or change in condition occurred.

11.9. Report of Death (Class III) - The death of a patient shall be reported immediately to the attending physician and to the patient's family, guardian, committee or sponsor, as relevant.

§64-13-12. Dietetic Services.

12.1. Dietetic Service to be Maintained (Class I)

12.1.1. A nursing home shall maintain a dietetic service which shall be organized either directly by the nursing home or through written agreement with a contractor who complies with the standards of these regulations concerning the dietetic service.

12.1.2. The dietetic service shall be in full compliance with current Food Service Sanitation Regulations, West Virginia Department of Health Legislative Rules, Series 17, 1983.

12.2. Director and Staffing of Dietetic Service (Class II)

12.2.1. The dietetic service shall be under the direction of a qualified dietitian employed by the nursing home on a full or part-time basis.

12.2.2. A qualified dietitian must be registered, or eligible for registration, as determined by the Commission on Dietetic Registration of the American Dietetic Association.

12.2.3. If a part-time consultant dietitian is employed, the consultant visits must be at appropriate times and of sufficient duration to allow the carrying out of the duties set forth in Section 12.2.4 of these regulations.

12.2.4. The duties of a dietitian director or consultant dietitian shall include at least the following:

- (a) advice to the administrator;

(b) liaison with the medical and nursing staff;

(c) patient counseling;

(d) planning or approval of all menus;

(e) guidance to the food service supervisor and staff; and

(f) all duties of the food service supervisor as set forth in Section 12.2.7 of these regulations if a food service supervisor is not employed on a full-time basis.

12.2.5. A dietetic service shall employ a full-time qualified food service supervisor as defined in Section 12.2.6 of these regulations whenever a full-time dietitian director is not employed.

12.2.6. A qualified food service supervisor must be:

(a) a qualified dietitian; or

(b) a graduate of a dietetic technician or dietetic assistant training program, correspondence or classroom, approved by the American Dietetic Association; or

(c) qualified for membership in the Hospital, Institution, and Educational Food Service Society or its equivalent; or

(d) trained and experienced in food service supervision and management in a military service equivalent in content to the requirements specified in paragraphs (b) or (c) of this Section.

12.2.7. The food service supervisor, under the direction of the dietitian director or consultant dietitian, shall be responsible for at least the following:

(a) daily operation of the dietetic service;

(b) ensuring that therapeutic diets are served as ordered by a physician, and that no patient receives a therapeutic diet except as ordered by a physician;

(c) recommending the quantity, kinds and variety of food and supplies to be purchased; and

(d) maintaining a file of standardized recipes for menu items which shall be used in preparing foods listed on the posted menus.

12.2.8. The dietetic service shall have sufficient supportive personnel trained in the preparation and service of food to carry out the functions of the dietetic service.

12.3. Menus and Supplies (Class II)

12.3.1. A facility shall have written dated menus which state portion sizes, as applicable, planned at least fourteen (14) days in advance for all diets. Menus shall be posted in the food preparation area.

12.3.2. A menu shall not be used more than once in a week.

12.3.3. If cycle menus are used, the cycle must cover a minimum of (3) three weeks.

12.3.4. A current therapeutic diet manual approved by the dietitian must be readily available to dietetic service personnel, nursing staff and attending physicians.

12.3.5. All menu changes shall be recorded.

12.3.6. The dietetic service shall keep on file all menus and menu changes for at least ninety (90) days.

12.3.7. The dietetic service staff shall identify patients' likes and dislikes and substitute foods and drinks with equivalent nutritional values.

12.3.8. A supply of non-perishable foods sufficient to meet all patient needs for three (3) days or such period as the department shall designate shall be kept on the premises for use in the event of an unforeseen interruption in normal food service. This supply may be incorporated with the regular stock of food supplies.

12.4. Meals (Class I)

12.4.1. The dietetic service shall ensure that each patient receives at least three (3) meals daily or their equivalent which are prepared and served that day.

12.4.2. Dietetic service staff shall offer substitute foods and drinks with equivalent nutritional val-

ue to all patients who refuse the food served at meal times.

12.4.3. Meals served to a patient shall provide nutrients and calories for each patient, as ordered by a physician, based upon current recommended dietary allowances of the Food and Nutrition Board of the National Academy of Sciences, National Research Council as adjusted for age, sex, weight, physical activity and therapeutic needs; or as follows:

(a) Meat Group: Two (2) or more servings of lean meat, fish, poultry, eggs or cheese with dried beans, other legumes or peanut butter as occasional alternatives. At least four (4) ounces of edible meat or its equivalent shall be served daily. Eggs shall be served at least four (4) times per week;

(b) Milk: Two (2) or more cups of milk or its equivalent. Cheese, cottage cheese, yogurt or ice cream may be used to meet part of the milk requirement;

(c) Vegetables: Two (2) or more 1/2 cup servings each day including yellow, orange or leafy green vegetables or other good source of Vitamin A at least four (4) times per week;

(d) Fruit: Two (2) or more 1/2 cup servings each day, at least one of which shall be a citrus fruit or other good source of Vitamin C;

(e) Whole Grain or Enriched Bread and Cereal Products: One (1) or more servings each meal with at least four (4) servings each day;

(f) Other foods to round out meals and snacks to provide additional calories.

12.4.4. Therapeutic and regular diets shall be served to patients in accordance with a physician's written orders retained in the patient's record of care

12.4.5. Food service personnel shall be advised in writing of such diet orders.

12.4.6. Physician orders for regular and therapeutic diets shall be reviewed at the same time all other orders are reviewed and at least every (3) three months.

12.4.7. Not more than fourteen (14) hours shall elapse between an evening meal and breakfast the

next morning, which shall not be served before 7:00 a.m.

12.4.8. Every patient shall be encouraged to eat in designated dining areas, unless medically contraindicated.

12.4.9. Bedtime snacks of nourishing quality shall be offered routinely to all patients, unless medically contraindicated.

12.4.10. Trays served to patients in their rooms shall be provided with firm supports.

12.4.11. Self-help feeding devices shall be provided as appropriate and their use shall be encouraged.

12.4.12. Foods shall be prepared by methods that conserve nutritional value, flavor and appearance and shall be attractively served at optimum temperatures in a form to meet the needs of individual patients.

12.4.13. All salt used shall be iodized.

12.4.14. Salt shall not be omitted in food preparation unless by physician's orders.

§64-13-13. Pharmaceutical Services.

13.1. Provision of Pharmaceutical Services (Class I)

13.1.1. A facility shall ensure the provision of pharmaceutical services. All pharmaceutical services shall be provided in accordance with these regulations and all other applicable federal, state and local laws and rules and regulations of the West Virginia board of pharmacy.

13.1.2. The nursing home shall have a written agreement with any consultant pharmacist in accordance with these regulations and rules and regulations of the West Virginia board of pharmacy.

13.2. Supervision of Pharmaceutical Services (Class II)

13.2.1. The pharmaceutical services shall be under the supervision of a pharmacist currently registered with the West Virginia board of pharmacy.

13.2.2. The consultant pharmacist shall be responsible for:

(a) the receipt, control and distribution of drugs and for maintaining at least those records required by applicable federal, state and local laws and regulations;

(b) developing in consultation with the pharmaceutical services committee a manual of policies and procedures in accordance with these regulations and including at least those matters required by the rules and regulations of the West Virginia board of pharmacy;

(c) providing at least one educational program each year and additional in-service training as necessary for all nursing personnel on any subject pertaining to the pharmaceutical service of the facility or drug therapy in geriatric patients;

(d) participating in the activities of the pharmaceutical services committee;

(e) providing the pharmaceutical services committee with a written report at least quarterly concerning the status of the facility's pharmaceutical services and an analysis of any incidents relating to drug therapy;

(f) providing a documented drug regimen review in the medical record of each patient at least monthly and reporting any irregularities in writing to the attending physician, the director of nursing services and to the facility administrator; and

(g) inspecting each nursing station and all other areas of the nursing home where drugs are stored at least once each month. The inspection shall be documented in writing with a signed and dated report by the pharmacist; the reports shall be submitted to the pharmaceutical services committee at its next scheduled quarterly meeting.

13.3. Pharmaceutical Services Committee (Class III)

13.3.1. A nursing home shall have a pharmaceutical services committee which develops written policies and procedures for safe and effective drug therapy, administration, distribution, control and use.

13.3.2. The committee shall be composed of at least the pharmacist, the director of nursing services, the nursing home administrator and one physician.

13.3.3. The committee shall oversee pharmaceutical services in the nursing home, make recommendations for improvement and monitor the pharmaceutical service to ensure its accuracy and adequacy.

13.3.4. The committee shall meet at least quarterly and document its activities, findings and recommendations in writing.

13.3.5. The pharmaceutical services committee shall review incidents relating to drug therapy and the monthly inspection reports of the pharmacist.

13.4. Pharmaceutical Policies and Procedures (Class I)

13.4.1. All orders for medications and treatments for patients shall be in writing and signed by the attending physician.

13.4.2. A physician's verbal or telephone order for medications or treatments may be received only by a licensed nurse, a pharmacist or a certified physician assistant, if identified as a responsibility in the physician assistant's job description.

13.4.3. A physician's verbal or telephone orders shall be written immediately on the patient's order sheet, noted in the permanent medical record and signed by the accepting licensed nurse, pharmacist or certified physician's assistant and shall be countersigned by the physician on his next visit or by mail if returned within ten (10) days.

13.4.4. Drugs shall be administered only by physicians, licensed nurses or certified physician assistants as detailed in their job descriptions.

13.4.5. Written policies and procedures shall be established by the pharmaceutical services committee to ensure that drugs are checked against physicians' orders before the drugs are administered to the patient.

13.4.6. Medication errors and adverse drug reactions shall be reported immediately to the patient's physician verbally, and entered in the Board of patient's medical record. A written incident report shall

be submitted to the pharmaceutical services committee.

13.4.7. An adverse drug reaction or allergy shall also be documented on the outside cover of the medical record.

13.4.8. An up-to-date medication information reference book, determined by the pharmaceutical service committee, concerning prescription and non-prescription drugs, their indications, actions, adverse reactions, interactions, contraindications, administration, precautions and dosages shall be kept at each nursing station.

13.4.9. Medications not specifically limited as to time or number of doses when ordered by the physician shall be controlled by automatic stop orders in accordance with written policies and procedures established by the pharmaceutical services committee.

13.5. Patient Medications (Class I)

13.5.1. A patient's medications shall be labeled in accordance with these regulations and rules and regulations of the West Virginia board of pharmacy.

13.5.2. Except for single unit dose package drug distribution systems, the label of each patient's individual prescription medication container shall clearly state the following information:

- (a) the patient's name;
- (b) the name and strength of the drug;
- (c) drug's date of issue from the pharmacy;
- (d) name of prescribing physician;
- (e) the pharmacy name, address and telephone number;
- (f) the prescription number; and
- (g) the directions on how and when to administer the medication.

13.5.3. All drugs shall be stored in a locked cabinet or medicine cart near the nurses station, and only personnel authorized in writing shall have access to the keys.

13.5.4. A patient's prescription medication shall be stored in the container in which it is received from the pharmacy and all nonprescription drugs shall be stored in their original container as labeled and distributed by the manufacturer. Nursing personnel shall not package, repack, bottle or label in whole or in part any medication or alter in any way by tampering or defacing any labeled medication.

13.5.5. A medication container with an incomplete or illegible label shall be returned to the pharmacy for relabeling.

13.5.6. Medication shall be released to a patient upon discharge only on the written authorization of a physician.

13.5.7. Medication released to a patient shall be properly labeled and packaged by the pharmacist with directions for use in accordance with the rules and regulations of the West Virginia board of pharmacy.

13.5.8. Documentation of medication released to a patient shall be entered in the patient's medical record.

13.5.9. All discontinued, outdated, adulterated, deteriorated and deceased patients' medications shall be disposed of or destroyed in the nursing home by the consulting pharmacist and a licensed nurse employed by the nursing home once each month or more often if needed. This procedure shall be documented in writing in accordance with guidelines established by the director. All medication destruction records shall be signed and dated by the consultant pharmacist and by the licensed nurse. All medication destruction records shall be kept on file at the nursing home for a period of two (2) years. The medication destruction record shall clearly state the following information:

- (a) the name of the patient for whom the drug was prescribed;
- (b) the prescription number;
- (c) the name of the pharmacy;
- (d) the name and strength of the drug; and
- (e) the amount of drug that was destroyed.

13.6. Medication Storage (Class II)

13.6.1. Schedule II controlled drugs shall be stored in such a manner so that they are securely protected by two locks.

13.6.2. Medications which require refrigeration shall be kept in a locked medication refrigerator, in a refrigerator located in a locked area, or in a locked box in a refrigerator separate from food. The refrigerator shall have a thermometer to indicate temperature.

13.6.3. Medication for external use only shall be kept separate from medications which are taken internally.

13.6.4. The control of drugs subject to the Uniform Controlled Substances Act (Chapter 60A of the West Virginia Code of 1931, as amended) shall comply with federal and state laws and rules and regulations of the West Virginia board of pharmacy concerning procurement, storage, dispensing, administration and disposition of controlled substances.

13.6.5. The pharmaceutical services committee shall establish and approve in writing each year the list of contents of the emergency medication kits. In accordance with guidelines established by the director and rules and regulations of the West Virginia board of pharmacy, an emergency medication kit shall be stored in a locked room or locked compartment near each nursing station.

13.6.6. There shall be a typewritten list of contents of the emergency medication kit, stating the name, strength and quantity of the drugs present in the emergency medication kit and posted near the telephone at each nursing station.

13.6.7. Each time the emergency medication kit is used the following information shall be written on an Emergency Medication Kit Inventory Record as described below:

- (a) the patient's name;
- (b) the name and strength of the drug administered;
- (c) the route of administration;
- (d) the date and time the drug is administered;

(e) the amount of drug administered;

(f) the amount of drug remaining in the kit;

(g) the type of emergency;

(h) the name of the physician who ordered the drug; and

(i) the signature of the licensed nurse administering the drug.

13.6.8. Emergency oxygen and tracheal suction devices shall be readily available in the facility.

§64-13-14. Social Work Services and Recreation and Activity Services.

14.1. Social Work Services to be Provided (Class II)

14.1.1. A facility shall maintain the capacity directly or through contracted services to identify and meet social, psychosocial, emotional and cultural needs which are related to illness, stress, family and community relationships, death, treatment and stay in the facility.

14.1.2. If social services are provided by contract, a nursing home shall keep a current list of available social service agencies and resources including but not limited to those agencies affiliated with the West Virginia commission on aging.

14.1.3. The social work service shall serve as a liaison between patient needs and community resources and where multiple-agency contacts are necessary the social work service shall serve as the coordinating agent for the patient.

14.2. Plan for Social Work Services (Class II)

14.2.1. There shall be written policies and procedures regarding the scope and conduct of the social work service.

14.2.2. In addition to general social work activities, the social work service responsibilities shall include at least:

- (a) preadmission contact and assessment, including the exploration of alternative types of placement or services with both the patient and the family

(b) orientation at admission;

(c) integration of social services with other services and care provided for the patient;

(d) communication to other services of psychosocial factors which could affect services rendered or care delivered to the patient;

(e) provision of counseling to patient's families;

(f) participation in the development of patient care plans as described in Section 15.1 of these regulations;

(g) special attention to needs related to death and dying; and

(h) coordination of discharge planning as described in Section 15.1.7 and Section 15.1.8 of these regulations.

14.3. Social Work Services Staffing (Class II)

14.3.1. A designated staff member shall be responsible for directing social work services.

14.3.2. An individual may serve as the director of social services provided one of the following requirements regarding education, experience and post-degree training is met:

(a) a B.S.W. graduate of a school of social work accredited by the Council of Social Work Education or a masters level graduate in social work or gerontology;

(b) a B.S., B.A. or masters level graduate in a related field or a B.S.W. graduate of a nonaccredited school of social work with two years of experience in a health care facility, medical social work, or gerontology;

(c) an individual meeting the educational requirements of (b) above but not the experience requirements, provided supervision be provided by a qualified social work consultant with consultation no less than quarterly for a period of two years; or

(d) a non-degreed individual or an individual with a degree in a non-related field with three year's experience in a health care facility, medical social

work or gerontology, provided that supervision by a qualified social worker be provided no less than quarterly. If a facility complies with the requirements of (a) or (b) above but does not comply with the requirements of Section 14.1 or Section 14.2 or both, the director may require that the facility obtain consultation until such time as the facility shall be judged in compliance with Sections 14.1 and 14.2. If a facility director of social work services meets only the requirements of (c) or (d) above and the facility is in compliance with the requirements of both Sections 14.1 and 14.2, the director may modify or waive the requirement of (c) or (d) for consultation or supervision by a qualified social worker.

14.3.3. An individual who meets the requirements of Section 14.3.2(a) shall qualify as a social work consultant for the purposes of these regulations

14.3.4. For purposes of evaluating compliance with the requirements of Section 14.3.2 of these regulations, a degree related to social work shall include: gerontology, clinical psychology, sociology, vocational rehabilitation, community mental health, counseling and guidance or any other degree for which prior written approval is obtained from the director.

14.3.5. There shall be sufficient social work staff to provide the equivalent of one staff person per one hundred and twenty (120) patients. This requirement may be satisfied by part time staff or staff with assignments and responsibilities in both social services and recreation and activities, provided the overall requirements of Section 14 of these regulations are met.

14.3.6. The director of social services may also serve as the director of recreation and activities, provided the overall requirements of Section 14 of these regulations are met.

14.4. Social Work Services Facilities (Class II) - Facilities shall be adequate for social services personnel and easily accessible to patients, families and staff and shall provide privacy for interviews and space for confidential storage of records.

14.5. Recreation and Activities Program (Class II)

14.5.1. A nursing home shall provide a planned and diversified program of therapeutic recreation and activity.

14.5.2. The recreation and activities program, as indicated by individual needs and capabilities, shall be designed to:

- (a) maximize self care and independence;
- (b) facilitate social and general rehabilitation;
- (c) promote adjustment to the long-term care environment;
- (d) promote the dignity of patients; and
- (e) maximize the opportunity to patients to return to meaningful active lives within or without the confines of the nursing home setting.

14.5.3. Only upon a physician's order shall a patient's participation in an activities program be restricted and such order shall be given in accordance with Section 9.5.7 Section 9.6.7 and Section 9.2 of these regulations.

14.5.4. There shall be a written plan for the facility's recreation and activities program which shall address the following types of activities as appropriate to the needs of the facility's patients:

- (a) social and interpersonal activities which provide opportunity for fun, enjoyment and the development of friendships, such as: parties, dances, banquets, coffee hours and games;
- (b) diversional and recreational activities designed to emphasize individual accomplishment, provided diversion and aid in adjustment to long-term rehabilitation, such as: sewing, painting, and other craft-type activities;
- (c) opportunities for participation in volunteer service activities, such as: assisting in community fund drives, making toys for underprivileged children, assisting other residents, and preparing church literature;
- (d) intellectual activities designed to provide mental stimulation, such as: discussion groups, library services and materials, book review groups, music appreciation, and lectures or classes;
- (e) spiritual or religious activities, such as: formal worship, scripture reading and study, mission

work, and hymn singing. Care shall be taken to insure the representation of all faiths of individual residents in the nursing home;

(f) exercise and physical activities to assist residents to keep active and alert, such as: individual and group exercise sessions and programs, outdoor walks, and sports and games adapted to the capabilities and needs of the individual participants; and

(g) a resident council which meets monthly and shall consider and have the right to express patient's grievances, to represent patients in the facility generally and to make recommendations concerning facility policies and procedures.

The activities specified in Section 14.5.4 are included only as examples and as such shall not be taken as exhaustive lists nor shall the lists be interpreted as a minimum or maximum set.

14.5.5. A facility shall make provisions to enable and shall encourage relatives and friends of patients to participate in activities with patients.

14.5.6. The recreation and activities program shall provide for a variety of activities to occur during evenings and weekends as well as during the daytime hours of the usual business day.

14.5.7. The recreation and activities program shall provide individual activities for those who are unable or unwilling to participate in group activities. Both small and large group activities shall be provided.

14.5.8. Recreation and activity staff shall participate in the development of patient care plans.

14.6. Recreation and Activities Staffing (Class II)

14.6.1. A nursing home shall appoint a patient activities director and such additional staff as needed to carry out the patient activities program, but not to be less than the equivalent of one staff member per 120 patients in the nursing home.

14.6.2. The patient activities director's duties shall include at least the following:

- (a) development of the recreation and activities plan;

(b) organizing and directing the recreation and activity program;

(c) organizing and directing a program of volunteer services for patients;

(d) maintenance of a current record of community services, resources, programs and facility materials accessible to the staff, patients, and patients' relatives and friends;

(e) development of a written monthly activities schedule at least one month in advance;

(f) ascertaining from each patient's care plan any physician's orders limiting any patient's participation in the activities program; and

(g) documenting patients' participating in activities and reasons for nonparticipation in otherwise appropriate activities;

(h) working in collaboration with the director of social work services with the resident council; and

(i) providing in-service training to other staff members and volunteers in recreation and activities.

14.7. Recreation and Activities Facilities (Class II)

14.7.1. A patient activities area shall be provided with comfortable furniture in good repair.

14.7.2. A facility shall provide transportation for patients to and from patient activities.

14.7.3. Appropriate activities shall be provided to patients unable to leave their rooms.

§64-13-15. Plans for Care and Medical Records.

15.1. Plans for Care and Discharge (Class I)

15.1.1. A patient care plan shall be developed for each patient upon admission and maintained by the nursing service in cooperation with all other services. The plan of care shall provide a profile of the needs of the individual patient, identify the role of each service in meeting those needs, and the supportive measures each service will use to complement each other service in the accomplishment of the overall goal of care. The patient care plan shall be in

writing and contain at least the following:

(a) goals to be accomplished;

(b) individually designed activities to meet goals;

(c) therapies;

(d) treatments, including diet requirements; and

(e) a statement of which professional service or individual is responsible for each element prescribed in the plan.

15.1.2. A nursing home shall have written policies and procedures to ensure that through patient care conferences or other methods of coordination, the patient care plan shall be reviewed and revised as needed but at least quarterly. Such review shall be noted in the medical record.

15.1.3. Policies and procedures shall delineate the rules and responsibilities of each service in relation to the patient care plan.

15.1.4. The patient care plan shall be available for use by all personnel caring for the patient.

15.1.5. Relevant information from the patient care plan shall be made available with other information that is transmitted when the patient is transferred to another facility or referred for continuing care by other agencies upon discharge to the community.

15.1.6. A nursing care plan shall be maintained in accordance with the orders of the designated physician establishing and maintaining the plan. It shall include directions for the following:

(a) how the nursing staff will provide care needed to achieve the goals in the patient care plan;

(b) medications and treatments;

(c) diets and special dietary needs;

(d) activity limitations, if any;

(e) a bathing and grooming schedule; and

(f) recreational activities and limitations for the patient.

15.1.7. A discharge plan shall be maintained and shall include at least the following:

(a) an initial assessment at admission or within no less than seven (7) days after the date of admission, including discharge potential and goals;

(b) relevant information concerning such areas as nursing assessment, social history, rehabilitation potential, patient needs at discharge and community resources available;

(c) periodic review and reevaluation at regular intervals, preferably on a monthly basis for the first three months after admission and in no instance less than quarterly. Detail and content of the discharge plan after the initial assessment will vary with the condition of the patient.

15.1.8. When a patient is discharged to another facility or agency or to his home, a discharge summary shall be prepared prior to the discharge. The complete discharge summary shall be transmitted to the receiving facility or agency at the time of discharge. If the patient is discharged to his home, the patient shall be given appropriate information concerning his needs for care and medication. The discharge summary shall include:

(a) patient name and identifying number;

(b) name of attending physician;

(c) date of admission;

(d) date of discharge;

(e) provisional and final diagnosis; (f) course of treatment and care in the facility;

(g) pertinent diagnostic findings;

(h) essential information regarding the patients' illness or problems;

(i) restorative procedures;

(j) medication instructions;

(k) facility, agency or location to which dis-

charged; and

(l) dated physician signature.

15.2. Medical Record Required (Class II)

15.2.1. A facility shall maintain a medical record for each patient, which complies with the standards set forth in this Section.

15.2.2. Medical records shall be completed promptly within a time specified in the facility's policies and procedures, not to exceed thirty (30) days past discharge.

15.2.3. All clinical information pertaining to a patient's stay and medical care shall be centralized in a single medical record following discharge.

15.2.4. Medical records of discharged patients shall be maintained for at least three (3) years from date of discharge, or in the case of a minor, three (3) years after the patient becomes of age under state law.

15.2.5. Overall supervisory responsibility for the maintenance of medical records services shall be assigned to a full-time employee of facility.

15.2.6. The facility shall employ sufficient personnel competent to perform the functions required of a medical record service.

15.2.7. Records shall be maintained at a location that is accessible to appropriate staff.

15.2.8. Medical records shall be kept in a manner which is orderly and which maintains ready accessibility and retrieval of information.

15.3. Confidentiality of Medical Records (Class II)

15.3.1. The facility shall safeguard medical record information against loss, destruction or unauthorized use.

15.3.2. The facility shall establish written policies and procedures specifying who may use medical records, under what conditions they may be removed from the facility and under what conditions information from them may be released.

15.3.3. Access to medical records shall be limit-

ed to designated staff members, physicians, representatives of the West Virginia board of health, authorized representatives of federal or state departments of health, agencies designated by a third party payment contract, the patient or a person or agency given written permission by the patient or by the patient's guardian or committee.

15.4. Contents of Medical Records (Class II)

15.4.1. A patient's medical record shall contain at least:

(a) basic identifying information as listed in Section 15.4.4;

(b) date and time of admission;

(c) a signed, dated admission and medical history, completed in accordance with Section 10.3.1(a);

(d) signed physician's orders, including those pertaining to medication, special procedures, treatments, diet and medical procedures;

(e) progress notes signed and dated at the time of each entry by appropriate staff authorized to write notes according to the written policies of the facility;

(f) nursing notes as kept current and signed by nursing personnel;

(g) signed and dated laboratory and x-ray reports, when such procedures have been ordered;

(h) a patient care plan as required in Section 15.1.1;

(i) a nursing care plan as required in Section 15.1.6;

(j) a discharge plan as required in Section 15.1.7; and

(k) a discharge summary as required in Section 15.1.8.

15.4.2. A physician shall countersign all verbal orders at the time of his next visit or by mail if returned within ten (10) days.

15.4.3. Policies shall specify the authority of at least the following types of practitioners in addition to physicians to write progress notes in medical records: nurses; social workers; therapists; psychologists; dentists; and podiatrists.

15.4.4. Basic identifying information shall include:

(a) patient's name and any identification number;

(b) room number;

(c) social security number;

(d) marital status;

(e) date of birth;

(f) sex;

(g) home address;

(h) telephone number of referral agency including hospital from which admitted;

(i) name, address, telephone number of attending physician;

(j) name, address and telephone number of next of kin or other responsible person;

(k) religious preference; and

(l) any pre-burial arrangements.

15.4.5. Nursing notes shall include at least:

(a) description of the care provided;

(b) nursing history;

(c) assessment of observed signs and symptoms;

(d) reactions to treatments and medications

(e) changes in patient's physical or emotional condition;

(f) documentation of any unusual incident involving a patient; and

(g) nursing summary as indicated by patient needs.

§64-13-16. Penalties.

16.1. Director's Authority

16.1.1. The director shall have the authority to invoke penalties against a facility violating the provisions of these regulations in accordance with the provisions of these regulations and pursuant to Chapter 16, Article 5C of the West Virginia Code of 1931, as amended.

16.1.2. The director shall by order reclassify a facility or reduce the bed capacity of a facility or both, when on the basis of inspection he makes the following findings:

(a) that the licensee is not providing adequate care under the facility's existing classification or bed capacity; and

(b) that reclassification, reduction in bed capacity or both would place the facility in a position to render adequate care.

16.1.3. The director shall notify a licensee of reclassification, reduction in bed capacity or both, stating the terms of the order, the reasons therefor and the date set for compliance.

16.1.4. The director may suspend or revoke a license if he finds upon inspection that there has been a substantial failure to comply with the provisions of these regulations or Chapter 16, Article 5C of the West Virginia Code of 1931, as amended.

16.1.5. The director may refuse to grant a license and may revoke a license if he determines there has been subterfuge or other dishonest action in applying for an original or renewal license.

16.1.6. The suspension, expiration, forfeiture or cancellation by operation of law or order of the director of a license issued by the director shall not deprive the director of the authority as provided by law and these regulations to take any of following actions:

(a) institute or continue a disciplinary proceeding;

(b) institute or continue a proceeding for the

denial of a license application;

(c) enter an order denying a license application; and

(d) take any other disciplinary action as provided by state law or rules and regulations.

16.1.7. Withdrawal of a license application shall not deprive the director of the right to penalize the applicant on any other ground using any authority otherwise provided by law or these regulations.

16.2. Procedure for Director's Action

16.2.1. When the director takes action pursuant to Section 16.1 of these regulations, the director shall file a complaint stating the facts constituting a ground or grounds for the action.

16.2.2. When the director files a complaint, the director shall notify the licensee, in writing, of the filing of the complaint.

16.2.3. Notice shall include the following item

(a) a copy of the complaint; and

(b) notification of the availability of a hearing pursuant to Section 17 of these regulations.

16.2.4. Notice shall be served by certified mail, return receipt requested.

16.2.5. The director has the right to enforce a regulation, administratively or in court, without first affording an opportunity to correct a deficiency pursuant to Section 5.7 of these regulations when the director finds either of the following:

(a) that violation of the regulation jeopardizes the health or safety of a patient; or

(b) the violation is the second or subsequent violation of the same regulation within twelve (12) months.

16.3. Procedure for Civil Penalties

16.3.1. Upon a determination that civil penalties are to be imposed pursuant to the West Virginia Code of 1931, as amended and Section 5.7.11 of these regulations, the director shall issue a citation to the

licensee or non-- licensed operator. Provided that in the case of a penalty for a facility's failure to correct a deficiency of a non life threatening nature, the director shall prior to issuing the citation notify the licensee or non-licensed operator by registered or certified mail that civil penalties will be imposed on a date to be specified by the director unless the corrective actions specified by the director are implemented in an acceptable manner.

16.3.2. The citation shall be served personally upon the licensee or non-licensed operator by a duly authorized representative of the director. If a citation is not served personally, it shall be sent by registered or certified mail, return receipt requested.

16.3.3. Each citation shall be in writing and shall include at least the following:

(a) an assessment of civil penalties according to the nature of the violation or violations; and

(b) a description of the nature of the violation fully stating the manner in which the licensee or non-licensed operator violated a specific statutory provision or regulation and the particular place or area of the facility in which it occurred.

16.3.4. The name of any patient jeopardized by the violation shall not be specified in the citation in order to protect the privacy of the patient. However, at the time the licensee or non-licensed operator is served with the citation, the licensee or non-licensed operator shall also be served with a written list of each of the names of the patients alleged to have been jeopardized by the violation. If the violation jeopardized all of the patients of the entire facility, such fact shall be specified in the citation and a written list of the names of the patients involved is not required to be furnished to the licensee or non- licensed operator.

16.3.5. For each violation of a Class I standard, as listed in Section 5.10.5 a civil penalty of not less than one hundred or more than one thousand dollars shall be imposed. For each violation of a Class II standard, as listed in Section 5.10.6, a civil penalty of not less than fifty dollars and not more than one hundred dollars shall be imposed. For each violation of a Class III standard, as listed in Section 5.10.7, a civil penalty of not less than twenty- five dollars and not more than fifty dollars shall be imposed.

16.3.6. Each day a violation continues, after the

date by which correction was required by an approved plan of correction, or if an approved plan of correction was not submitted, the date on which such plan was due, shall constitute a separate violation.

16.3.7. In fixing the amount of the civil penalty to be imposed for violations, the director shall consider:

(a) the gravity of the violation, which shall include:

(1) the degree of substantial probability that death or serious physical harm will result and, if applicable, did result from the violation;

(2) the severity of serious physical harm most likely to result, and if applicable, that did result, from the violation; and

(3) the extent to which the provisions of the applicable statutes or regulations were violated; and

(b) any previous violations committed by the licensee.

16.3.8. If a licensee or non-licensed operator does not wish to contest a citation, he shall submit to the director, within four (4) business days after the issuance of the citation, the total sum of the penalty assessed.

16.3.9. If a licensee or a non-licensed operator desires to contest a citation, or the date specified for correction of a violation, he shall, within four (4) business days after service of the citation or specification of time in which a violation is to be corrected, serve upon the director, either personally or by registered or certified mail, the licensee's or non-licensed operator's written notice pursuant to the Rules of Procedure for Contested Case Hearings and Declaratory Rulings, West Virginia Department of Health Procedural Rules, Series 1, 1983.

§64-13-17. Administrative Due Process.

17.1. An applicant for a license or a licensee or any other person aggrieved by an order or other action by the director pursuant to these regulations or to Chapter 16, Article 5C of the West Virginia Code of 1931, as amended, shall have the opportunity for a hearing by the director, upon written request to the director in a

manner prescribed in and by the aforementioned Rules of Procedure for Contested Case Hearings and Declaratory Rulings, West Virginia Department of Health Procedural Rules, Series 1, 1983.

17.2. A hearing pursuant to this Section shall be conducted in accordance with the pertinent provisions of Chapter 29A, Article 5 of the West Virginia Code of 1931, as amended and the aforementioned Rules of Procedure for Contested Case Hearings and Declaratory Rulings, West Virginia Department of Health Procedural Rules, Series 1, 1983.

17.3. Notice of an order suspending a facility's license shall specify the conditions giving rise to the suspension which the licensee must correct during the period of suspension in order to have the license reinstated.

17.4. If the director revokes a license, the director may stay the effective date of revocation by no more than ninety (90) days upon a showing that the stay is necessary to assure appropriate placement of patients.

17.5. The director's order shall be final unless vacated or modified either personally or by registered or certified mail or the licensee's or non-licensed operator's written notice pursuant to the Rules of Procedures for Contested Case Hearings and Declaratory Rulings, West Virginia Department of Health Procedural Rules, Series 1, 1983.

17.6. In addition to all other powers granted to the director under Chapter 16, Article 5C of the West Virginia Code of 1931, as amended and these regulations,

the director may hold a case under advisement and make a recommendation as to requirements to be met by the licensee in order to avoid suspension or revocation of a license, in accordance with Chapter 16, Article 5, Section 11 of the West Virginia Code of 1931, as amended.

17.7. Where the director takes a case under advisement, the director shall:

(a) enter an order stating the decision to hold the case under advisement;

(b) notify the licensee and his attorney of record, if any, of the action, by certified mail, return receipt requested;

(c) enter an order showing satisfactory compliance, dismissing the complaint, if the licensee meets the requirements of the order; and

(d) upon entering the second order, under this Section, the director shall notify the licensee and his attorney of record, if any, by certified mail, return receipt requested.

§64-13-18. Severability.

18.1. If any provisions of these rules or the application thereof to any person or circumstance shall be held invalid, such invalidity thereof shall not affect the provisions or application of these rules which can be given effect without the invalid provisions or application, and to this end the provisions of these rules are declared to be severable.

TABLE 64-13A

- 6.3. Construction, Life Safety and Related
- **6.4. Site Characteristics/Accessibility
- 6.5. Increase in Bed Capacity
- 6.7. Nursing Equipment, Sterile Supplies, and Linens
- 6.11. Laundry
- **8.1. General Health and Safety Requirements
- 8.4. Fire Drills
- 8.6. Provisions for Emergency Calls
- 8.7. Infection and Communicable Disease Control
- 8.8. Isolation
- 9.6. Rights with Regard to Treatment
- **10.2. Availability of Medical Services
- 10.3. Services of Attending Physician
- **11.1. Nursing and Patient Care Staffing
- 11.2. Management of Nursing Services
- **11.4. Nursing Staff Responsibilities
- **11.5. Restorative Nursing Care
- **11.6. Use of Restraints
- 11.7. Notice to Physician of Accident or Illness
- 12.1. Dietetic Service to be Maintained
- **12.4. Meals
- 13.1. Provision of Pharmaceutical Services
- **13.4. Pharmaceutical Policies and Procedures
- **13.5. Patient Medications
- **15.1. Plans for Care and Discharge.

TABLE 64-13B

- *6.6. Equipment and Furnishing of Patient Rooms
- *6.8. General Maintenance
- 6.9. Waste and Refuse Disposal
- 7.1. Governing Body
- 7.2. Administrator
- 7.3. Administrator Functions
- *7.4. Admission, Discharge and Transfer Policies
- 7.5. Admission Contract
- *7.11. Staff Development
- *8.2. Disaster Plan
- *8.3. Disaster Training
- 8.5. Disaster Rehearsal and Fire Drill Reports
- 8.9. Animals
- *9.1. Implementations of Patients' Rights
- 9.2. Limitation of Patients' Rights and Derivative Rights
- 9.3. Civil Rights
- *9.4. Rights to be Informed
- *9.5. Rights to Communication and Personal Property
- 9.7. Rights to Confidentiality
- 9.8. Financial Rights
- *9.10. Complaint Procedures
- *9.11. Access
- 10.1. Medical Director
- *10.4. Availability of Dental Services
- *10.5. Inservice Training in Dental Care
- 11.3. Charge Nurse
- 11.8. Accident and Incident Reports
- 12.2. Director and Staffing of Dietetic Service
- *12.3. Menus and Supplies
- *13.2. Supervision of Pharmaceutical Services
- 13.6. Medication Storage
- 14.1. Social Work Services to be Provided
- *14.2. Plan for Social Work Services
- *14.3. Social Work Services Staffing
- 14.4. Social Work Services Facilities
- *14.5. Recreation and Activities Program
- *14.6. Recreation and Activities Staffing
- 14.7. Recreation and Activities Facilities
- 15.2. Medical Record Required
- 15.3. Confidentiality of Medical Records
- *15.4. Contents of Medical Records.

TABLE64-13C

- 6.10. Cleaning Supplies
- 7.6. Life Care Contract
- 7.7. Prohibited Activities
- *7.8. General Recordkeeping Requirements
- 7.9. Administrative Records
- 7.10. Personnel Records
- 9.9. Fiduciary Responsibilities of the Facility
- 9.12. Notice and Posting Requirements
- 11.9. Report of Death
- 13.3. Pharmaceutical Services Committee.

TABLE 64-13D

SCORES REQUIRED FOR A, B AND C RATINGS
IN EACH CATEGORY OF THE REGULATIONS

Sec. No.	Category	Rating			
		F	C	B	A
		Less than or equal:			
6	Physical Facilities, Equipment and Related	70	71-74	75-79	80-88
7	Facility Governance and Management	66	67-78	79-87	88-97
8	General Health and Safety	72	73-75	76-80	81-89
9	General Patients' Rights Policies and Procedures	81	82-91	92-100	101-112
10	Medical and Dental Services	38	39-41	42-45	46-50
11	Nursing Services	72	73-78	79-82	83-90
12	Dietetic Services	31	32-34	35-36	37-40
13	Pharmaceutical Services	44	45-50	51-53	54-59
14	Social Work Services and Recreation and Activity Services	48	49-55	56-60	61-67
15	Plans for Care and Medical Records	29	30-32	33-34	35-39

TABLE 64-13E

MINIMUM RATIOS^(a) OF PATIENT CARE PERSONNEL TO PATIENTS
 TOTAL PATIENT CARE
 PERSONNEL

NUMBER OF PATIENTS	LICENSED NURSES		AIDS		TOTAL PATIENT CARE PERSONNEL	
	NUMBER PER DAY	HOURS PER DAY	NUMBER PER DAY	HOURS PER DAY	NUMBER PER DAY	HOURS PER DAY
3-10	3(b)	24	3	24	6	48
11-20	3(b)	24	4	32	7	56
21-30	3(b)	24	6	48	9	72
31-40	3(b)	24	8	64	11	88
41-50	3(b)	24	10	80	13	104
51-60	3(b)	24	12	96	15	120
61-70	3.5	28	14	112	17.5	140
71-80	4	32	16	128	20	160
81-90	4.5	36	18	144	22.5	180
91-100	5	40	20	160	25	200
101-110	5.5	44	22	176	27.5	220
111-120	6	48	24	192	30	240
121-130	6.5	52	26	208	32.5	260
131-140	7	56	28	224	35	280
141-150	7.5	60	30	240	37.5	300
151-160	8	64	32	256	40	320
161-170	8.5	68	34	272	42.5	340
171-180	9	72	36	288	45	360
181-190	9.5	76	38	304	47.5	380
191-200	10.0	80	40	320	50	400
Over 200	Shall be calculated for each facility					

WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATIVE RULES
BOARD OF HEALTH

Nursing Home Licensure

Chapter 16-5C
Series I
(1983)

Now Obsolete

Bill

WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATIVE RULES
BOARD OF HEALTH

Nursing Home Licensure

Chapter 16-5C
Series I
(1983)

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WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATIVE RULES
BOARD OF HEALTH

Chapter 16-5C
Series I
(1983)

Subject: Nursing Home Licensure

Section 1. General

1.1. Scope - These legislative rules govern the licensing of nursing homes.

1.2. Authority - These legislative rules are issued under the authority of and are related to Chapter 16, Article 5C, Section 1 et seq of the West Virginia Code of 1931, as amended.

1.3. Filing Date - These legislative rules were promulgated on the 23rd day of January, 1973, and were filed on the 29th day of January, 1973, in the Secretary of State's office.

1.4. Effective Date - These legislative rules became effective on the 1st day of March, 1973.

1.5. Refiling Date - These legislative rules were refiled pursuant to Chapter 29A, Article 2, Section 5 of the West Virginia Code of 1931, as amended, on the 30th day of December, 1982 in the Secretary of State's office.

Section 2. Application and Enforcement

2.1. Application - These legislative rules shall apply to every

Editor's note: This regulation (now legislative rule) was promulgated and filed in 1973 by the West Virginia nursing home licensing board which was abolished in 1977. The authority for nursing home licensure was transferred to the state health department. The authority for promulgation of licensure regulations was transferred to the state board of health. References to the nursing home licensing board within this regulation to the nursing home licensing board should be interpreted in accordance with these and additional changes in the law in 1977. A detailed analysis has not been attempted for this refiling.

individual and every form of organization, whether incorporated or unincorporated, including any partnership, corporation, trust, association or political subdivision of the state which shall operate or apply to operate a nursing home as defined in these rules.

2.2. Enforcement - The enforcement of these legislative rules is vested with the West Virginia department of health.

Section 3. Definitions

3.1. Ambulant Patient - Any patient who, in an emergency, would be physically capable of traveling to safety without having to be carried by others.

3.2. Applicant - Shall mean the person who submits an application for a license, or a renewal of license, to operate a nursing home.

3.3. Bed Capacity - Means the greatest number of beds the nursing home is licensed to offer for patient use.

3.4. Chronic or Convalescent Care - Those services which provide (1) skilled nursing care and related services for persons who require medical or nursing care, or (2) rehabilitation services for injured, disabled, or sick persons.

3.5. License - Means the document issued by the West Virginia nursing home licensing board and constitutes the authority to receive patients and perform services included within the scope of these regulations.

3.6. Nursing Home - Means and shall be construed to include any building, structure, agency, institution, or other place for the reception, accommodation, board, care or treatment of not less than 24 hours in any week in which an accommodation of three or more beds is maintained, fur-

nished or offered for patients or individuals, who are unable sufficiently or properly to care for themselves, and for which reception, accommodation, board, care or treatment, a charge is made. Provided that the reception, accommodation, board, care or treatment in a household or family, for compensation, of a person or persons related by blood or marriage to the head of such household or family, or to his or her spouse or family, within the degree of consanguinity of first cousins, shall not be deemed to be a nursing home.

3.7. Nursing Home Patient - Is any individual admitted to a nursing home, even though such person does not require bedside nursing care.

3.8. Restraint - Any device to limit movement by the patient, which device cannot be removed easily by the patient.

3.9. Seclusion - Is defined as the retention of a patient in a room from which immediate exit is impeded by a lock, latch, bar, hook, or other device which cannot be operated by the patient.

3.10. Violation - Means failure to comply with the licensing law or any provisions of these regulations. A violation constitutes a misdemeanor as set forth in Section 12, Article 5C, Chapter 16, Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended.

3.11. Nursing Home Administrator - A person who is licensed to operate a nursing home pursuant to Article 5D, Chapter 16, Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended.

3.12. Transfer Agreement - A written agreement with one or more hospitals or personal care homes, which provides reasonable assurance that transfer of patients between facilities will be effected whenever such trans-

fer is determined to be medically indicated by the attending physician.

Section 4. Procedures Governing Adoption, Amendment, and Recision of Regulations - The West Virginia nursing home licensing board shall have the power to make, enforce, modify, amend, or rescind rules and regulations governing the operation and conduct of nursing homes as specified in Section 4, Article 5C, Chapter 16, Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended.

Section 5. Inspections - Duly authorized representatives of the West Virginia nursing home licensing board shall have the right to enter upon or into the premises of any nursing home or related facility in order to make whatever inspection is deemed necessary in accordance with the licensing authority vested in the board, but all such duly authorized representatives prior to making inspection shall properly identify themselves to the administrator of the nursing home or his duly authorized representative and after completing any inspection shall, prior to leaving the nursing home premises leave either an oral or written report of his findings with the administrator of the nursing home or his duly authorized representative.

Section 6. The License

6.1. Institutions to be Licensed - A license is required of all places that are conducted as nursing homes within the meaning of the term as defined in Section 3.6 of these regulations and in Section 2, Article 5C, Chapter 16, Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, provided that such place is not specifically excluded by the code.

A separate license shall be required for nursing homes maintained on separate premises even though operated under the same management.

6.2. Institutions Exempt from These Regulations - The term

"nursing home" shall not include institutions licensed as hospitals or institutions operated for the treatment and care of alcoholic patients, boarding homes for children, day nurseries, child-care institutions, children's homes and child-placing agencies, as defined under the laws of this state, nor hotels, offices of physicians, or personal care homes licensed by the West Virginia nursing home licensing board.

6.3. Application for License - Applicants for license shall file applications with the West Virginia nursing home licensing board upon forms prescribed by the board and shall pay an annual license fee as required in Section 8, Article 5C, Chapter 16, Code of West Virginia, as follows: "An application fee in the amount of one hundred dollars for an original nursing home license shall be paid at the time application is made for such license. The license fee for renewal of license shall be four dollars per bed based on the approved bed capacity as determined by the board. All such license fees shall be due and payable to the board on or before June thirtieth of each year. Such fee and application shall be submitted to the secretary of the board who shall retain both the application and fee pending final action on the application."

Subterfuge or other evasive means, such as filing for a license through a second party when an individual has been disqualified for licensure, shall constitute grounds for the refusal or revocation of a license.

Furnishing of an application form is in no way a guarantee that the completed application will be acceptable or that a license will be issued by the West Virginia nursing home licensing board.

6.3.1. Name of Nursing Home - Every nursing home shall be specifi-

cally identified as such by an appropriate name, which shall be used in applying for a license. It shall not be changed without the approval of the West Virginia nursing home licensing board. Following such approval, the new name will be shown on the next issue of a license. The words "clinic," "hospital," "sanitorium," "sanitarium," or any other such word which will reflect a different type of institution shall not appear in the title of a nursing home.

6.3.2. Number of Beds - Each application for license shall specify the maximum number of beds established by the West Virginia nursing home licensing board as the facility's legal bed capacity. Nursing homes shall not exceed their legal bed capacity at any time.

6.3.3. References - Each new applicant must provide the names of five reputable citizens with whom he is personally acquainted and who can certify to the good character and qualifications of the applicant.

6.3.4. Nursing Home Administrator - The nursing home administrator shall be emotionally stable, of good moral character, in good physical and mental health, and shall have genuine interest in the welfare of ill or aged people. He shall be capable of directing and supervising persons working in the home, and shall be free of obligations such as family, illness, or business interests which may interfere with the operation of the home.

No person shall be or act as nursing home administrator unless he is a holder of a currently valid administrator license or emergency permit, issued pursuant to Article 5D, Chapter 16, Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended.

6.4. Issuance of License - The license will be issued on a form

prescribed by the West Virginia nursing home licensing board and shall set forth the name, location, legal applicant, and number of beds for which the nursing home is licensed.

A Class I license will be issued when all requirements have been met.

A Class II license with deficiencies listed may be issued at the discretion of the board when the facility does not fully meet the requirements for sanitation and fire safety, but good nursing home care is being provided for the patients.

6.4.1. Expiration and Renewal of License - All licenses shall expire on the thirtieth day of June following the date of their issuance.

Applications for the renewal of licenses will be mailed to each nursing home at least 60 days prior to expiration of license, and shall be completed and returned by the applicant, with the required license fee, in the form of a certified check or money order, to the West Virginia nursing home licensing board before June thirtieth of each year.

The renewal of a Class I license shall be contingent upon evidence of compliance with the licensing law and all minimum standards and regulations.

The renewal of a Class II license with deficiencies shall be at the discretion of the board and shall be contingent upon the continued efforts of the licensee to comply with all minimum standards and requirements.

Each applicant will be duly notified of any noncompliances. He shall have complied with the provisions of the law, rules, and regulations before issuance of a license will be considered.

6.4.2. Posting of License - The license shall be conspicuously posted

within the nursing home so as to be plainly visible from the main entrance to the building.

6.4.3. A facility operating under a Class II license with deficiencies shall inform all current and incoming patients of the deficiencies listed on the license and make a detailed explanation, if requested.

6.4.4. Licenses are not Transferrable or Assignable Without the Written Consent of the Board - The West Virginia nursing home licensing board shall be immediately notified of any changes relating to the ownership, location, or operation of the nursing home. Each nursing home shall be conducted in the name of the licensee as indicated on the license certificate.

6.5. Revocation of License - In accordance with Chapter 16, Article 5C, Section II, after an opportunity for a hearing, the West Virginia nursing home licensing board may suspend or revoke the license of any facility found in violation of the licensing law or these regulations.

6.5.1. Reissuance of License - If a license is revoked, a new application for a license will be considered by the West Virginia nursing home licensing board when the conditions upon which revocation was based have been corrected and evidence of this fact has been furnished.

6.6. Return of License Certificate - Each license shall be returned by the licensee to the West Virginia nursing home licensing board immediately upon its revocation, or when the nursing home voluntarily ceases operation.

Section 7. Administration

7.1. Administrative Management

7.1.1. All nursing homes shall be operated by a licensed nursing home administrator.

7.1.2. Administrative policies and procedures shall be designed to meet the needs of each nursing home and its patients.

7.1.3. Activity Not Related to Nursing Home Operations - No part of the licensed nursing home may be rented, leased, or used for any purpose not related to the operation of same without permission of the board. Only those persons actively engaged in the operation of the nursing home shall be permitted to reside therein.

7.1.4. Admission Policies

(a) Types of Patients - Nursing homes shall not admit those persons:

(1) Who are acutely ill and in need of hospital care.

(2) Whose behavior is unmanageable, or who are dangerous to themselves or to others in the home.

(3) Who have an acute communicable disease.

(b) Medical Supervision - Each patient shall be under the supervision of a physician licensed in West Virginia who prescribes a plan for medical care which includes medications; treatments; activity; diet; restorative services; special procedures recommended for the health and safety of the patient; and, when the patient is ready for discharge, plans for discharge from the home and for continuing care.

(1) The plan for medical care is based on a physical examination done within 48 hours of admission unless such examination was performed within five (5) days prior to admission.

7.1.5. Inventories for Patients' Personal Effects - Valuable articles entrusted to the nursing home for safe keeping shall be inventories and properly stored by the licensee or a responsible designee. A written receipt for any such belongings or money turned over to the home for safekeeping shall be given to the patient or a responsible person.

7.1.6. Fraud or misrepresentation to secure money or property from patients, or persons applying for admission, will be reported to the county prosecuting attorney or the Attorney General of West Virginia for further investigation and prosecution.

7.1.7. Privacy of Patients - The privacy of patients shall be insured insofar as adequate care for them will permit. Patients shall receive their mail unopened and outgoing mail shall not be censored unless this is considered necessary by the patient's physician.

Official representatives of private or public social agencies shall be allowed privacy for interview with their own clients in the home.

7.1.8. Advertising - False or misleading advertising by a nursing home is prohibited.

7.1.9. Visiting Hours - Daily visiting hours shall be maintained. The visiting hours shall be posted in a conspicuous place on the premises.

7.1.10. Nursing homes shall have a transfer agreement with one or more hospitals which shall be reviewed annually.

7.2. Records and Reports

7.2.1. Admission records shall be completed without delay upon the patient's admission and shall contain the following information: date; time of admission; patient's name; social security number; age; sex; marital

status; home address; diagnosis; religion and name of minister; name and address of attending physician; and name, address and telephone number of at least one member of the immediate family and/or other person to contact in case of emergency. This record shall be signed by the patient or his agent and the nursing home employee responsible for admission.

7.2.2. Medical record files shall be established for each patient and shall contain the following: identification data; date of admission; diagnoses; nurses' notes; dated, written physician's orders, signed by the physician; reports of past and present history; reports of physical examination, diagnostic procedures, or consultations; progress notes; medication record; record of accidents or incidents which involve the patient; date, time, and condition on discharge; and, in case of death, the name of the mortician to whom the patient's body is released.

Medical records shall be kept up to date from the time of admission with the current medical records remaining at the nurses' station. If the patient expires or is discharged, the records are then placed in the patient's individual file maintained on the premises.

Written nursing care plan shall be kept in a visual file accessible to staff.

7.2.3. Patients' individual file shall be established on admission and maintained on the premises. This file shall contain the patients' admission record, inventory of personal effects or signed waiver of responsibility for personal effects, medical records transferred from the nurses station, and all other pertinent information.

Patient's records are confidential and access shall be limited to

designated staff members, physicians, representatives of the West Virginia nursing home licensing board, and authorized representatives of the federal or state department of health, veterans administration, or the department of welfare, if the patient is a welfare recipient.

7.2.4. Personnel records shall be maintained with appropriate information on each employee, including health certificates.

7.2.5. Record Retention - Patients' records shall be kept current daily from the time of admission to the time of discharge or death, and shall then be filed for a period of five years before being destroyed. Records relating to licensure shall be kept for a period of five years before being destroyed.

7.2.6. A definite place shall be designated for keeping medical records.

7.2.7. A permanent "patients registry book" shall be maintained in which the name of each patient is entered in chronological order with the date and number of entry.

7.2.8. Vital Statistics Reports

(a) A complete list of all deaths, occurring within the month, shall be reported to the division of vital statistics, state department of health, by the tenth of the following month, on special blanks provided for this purpose. Should no deaths occur during the month, the report shall be submitted, indicating no deaths.

(b) Communicable disease reports shall be filed with the local health officer within 24 hours after the disease is diagnosed.

7.2.9. Annual reports shall be submitted to the West Virginia nursing

home licensing board and the state department of health on forms which will be supplied for this purpose.

Every home shall provide the board with such financial and statistical data as the board may reasonably request from time to time.

7.3. Staffing Nursing Homes

7.3.1. The administrator, if not the licensee, shall be appointed by the licensee. The administrator shall designate an individual who, in his absence but under his direction, will perform all the necessary duties of this position. The administrator and his representative each shall be at least 21 years of age, of reputable and responsible character, and otherwise qualified and licensed by the board as a nursing home administrator. At no time shall a nursing home be left without competent administrative direction.

The administrator shall be qualified through education, training, and/or experience in the skills appropriate to the functions and responsibilities of administration and be currently licensed by the board.

7.3.2. Personnel Requirements - The facility must meet all federal and state labor law requirements. There shall be on duty at all times such personnel as deemed sufficient by the board to render proper patient care and all related services.

Adequate relief personnel should be available to allow uninterrupted services to patients during scheduled staff absences, off days, or rest periods.

7.3.3. Physical Examinations

(a) Each employee shall have an annual physical examination including tuberculin skin test and/or chest x-ray. Such shall be in writing

and retained in the employees' personnel records.

(b) All persons engaged in the handling or serving of food shall obtain a food handler's permit from the local health department prior to employment and it shall be retained in the files of the nursing home and available for inspection upon request.

(c) Personnel absent from duty because of a communicable disease shall not return to duty until declared by a physician to be fully recovered.

7.3.4. Job Descriptions - Written job descriptions for each job classification shall be prepared and made available to the staff. They shall be reviewed annually and revised as necessary. The date of review and names of those who reviewed them shall be recorded in the policy manual where the job descriptions are kept. The date a job description is accepted (adopted) shall be recorded in the job description when it is written or revised.

7.3.5. Work Schedules - Written work schedules shall be prepared and posted. Completed work schedules shall be kept on file for at least a year.

Section 8. Requirements for Construction of New Nursing Homes Coming Into Existence, Renovations and/or Alterations to Existing Licensed Nursing Homes

8.1. Site Selection

8.1.1. Scope - The provisions of Sections 8.1 and 8.2 of this Section shall apply to all nursing homes coming into existence after the effective date of these regulations.

8.1.2. Location - The nursing home shall be accessible to physicians, services, medical facilities, and located within the service area of a fire department. There shall be good drainage, approved sewerage disposal, safe water supply, electricity, telephone, and other necessary facilities available on or near the site.

8.1.3. Site Inspection - An inspection of the proposed nursing home location shall be requested in writing and an approval shall be obtained from the West Virginia nursing home licensing board before construction is started or a nursing home facility is established in an existing building.

8.1.4. Environment - Newly established nursing homes shall be located in an environment which is free from excessive noises, such as railroads, freight yards, traffic arteries, airports, etc. The site shall not be exposed to excessive smoke, foul odors, or dust.

8.1.5. Local building codes and zoning restrictions shall be observed. Evidence to this effect, signed by local fire, building, and zoning officials, shall be available. Where local codes or regulations permit lower standards than required by these regulations, the standards contained herein shall govern.

8.1.6. Transportation shall be facilitated by hard surfaced, all-weather roads which are kept passable at all times. There shall be walks and parking areas provided.

8.2. New Construction

8.2.1. Regulations Adopted - For construction of new facilities, the West Virginia nursing home licensing board has adopted the following documents, one of which new facilities must comply with:

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(1) General Standards of Construction and Equipment for Hospitals and Medical Facilities - Public Health Service Regulations for the Hill-Burton Program.

(2) Minimum Property Standards for Nursing Homes - U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development - FHA Bulletin #4514.1.

(3) The National Building Code.

When a facility is constructed to National Building Code requirements, the services of the facility must comply with either the Public Health Service Regulations or Chapter IV of the Minimum Property Standards for Nursing Homes, U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

When standards of the West Virginia nursing home licensing board exceed requirements of the documents listed above, the board's standards shall prevail.

The board may alter or waive specific service requirements, referred to in subsection (2) when they are deemed unrealistic by the board for the purpose of construction under the National Building Code.

8.2.2. Plans and Specifications - Detailed plans, drawn to scale of not less than one-eighth inch equals a foot, shall be submitted to and approved by the West Virginia nursing home licensing board before construction is started.

Two copies of these plans and specifications signed by an architect registered in the state of West Virginia shall be submitted to the board, and shall show, properly identified, the general arrangement and construction of the building and location of all fixed equipment. It is recommended that preliminary drawings and outline specifications be submitted for appro-

val prior to preparation of working drawings. The requirement for a registered architect may be waived by the board.

A performance statement must be obtained by the owner from the builder of a proposed facility stating that he has followed the architect's plans in constructing the facility which has been approved by the board and filed with the board.

8.2.3. Unless substantial construction is started within one year of the date of approval of final drawings, it will be necessary for the owner and/or architect to secure written notification from the nursing home licensing board that such plan approval for construction is still valid and in compliance with current nursing home construction regulations.

8.3. Additions and Alterations to Existing Licensed Nursing Homes

8.3.1. Scope - Additions and alterations to all nursing homes shall conform to the minimum standards for new construction (Section 8.2 of these rules and regulations).

8.3.2. Plans and Specifications - Before making any structural changes to existing licensed facilities, the licensee shall be responsible for advising the West Virginia nursing home licensing board, in writing, as to what is intended. Upon the board's request, there shall be submitted such plans, specifications, or other information as may be required to approve the proposed changes.

8.4. Conversion of Existing Buildings - Conversion of existing buildings or portions thereof, for use as a new nursing home coming into existence shall be required to meet all standards as set forth for new construction (Sections 8.1 and 8.2 of these rules and regulations).

Section 9. Requirements Relating to General Building, Space, Equipment, Safety, Sanitation, Housekeeping, and Maintenance

9.1. Scope - The provisions of this chapter shall apply to all existing nursing homes as well as those coming into existence after the effective date of these regulations (see New Construction Standards, Sections 8.1 and 8.2). If changes, necessary for compliance with the new regulations, would create undue hardship, existing nursing homes may be governed by previously established requirements that have been approved by the West Virginia nursing home licensing board.

9.2. Structural Soundness and Repair - The building shall be structurally sound, in good repair, and painted at sufficient intervals to remain reasonably attractive inside and out.

9.3. Walls and ceilings shall be of a smooth surface that will permit frequent washing and painting.

Kitchen walls shall be without horizontal ledges.

Ceiling heights shall be a minimum of eight feet.

9.4. Floors shall be constructed of smooth, durable, nonabsorbent, easily cleanable material (terrazzo, concrete, ceramic tile, durable grades of plastic or linoleum, or tight wood impregnated with plastic).

9.5. Doors to external exits shall swing outward, be equipped with panic hardware, and free of any obstruction. A warning device that sounds when the door opens should be installed.

All doors shall be sufficiently wide to permit removal of the occupied bed.

9.6. Windows shall be constructed and maintained to fit snugly, yet can be opened and closed easily.

9.7. Outer openings shall be screened to prevent entrance of insects, and shall be protected against entrance of rain and snow. Screen doors shall swing outward and be self-closing. Removable window screens shall be designed and installed so as not to block exit in case of emergency.

9.8. Corridors, stairways and elevators shall be of a width and design that will easily accommodate the removal of patients by bed. They shall be constructed and maintained in compliance with all safety regulations and requirements.

9.9. Ramps and inclines shall not be less than 44" wide nor steeper than one foot of rise in eight feet of run, and shall be finished with a non-slip surface.

9.10. Handrails shall be installed in all hallways, ramps, steps, inclines, corridors, and passageways used by patients. Sturdily constructed porch rails, not less than 40" in height, shall be installed where they are necessary to insure the patient's safety.

9.11. Patient rooms shall have an outside exposure through a vertical transparent window with no substantial line of sight obstruction within twenty feet and the room shall communicate directly with a corridor. Rooms extending below ground level shall not be used for patients unless specifically approved by the West Virginia nursing home licensing board.

(a) The minimum floor space per bed shall be:

(1) Rooms for only one bed - 100 sq. ft.

(2) Rooms for two or more beds - 80 sq. ft.

(3) There shall be sufficient space to permit nursing procedures

and to permit placing of beds at least three feet apart.

(4) Minimum floor space per bed for facilities constructed after the effective date of these revisions shall be:

(1) Rooms for only one bed -- 100 sq. ft. of unencumbered floor space. Unencumbered floor space will include bed and night stand only.

(2) Rooms for two or more beds -- 80 sq. ft. of unencumbered floor space. Unencumbered floor space will include bed and night stand only.

(b) Equipment and furnishings shall include:

(1) A bed, for each patient, substantially constructed, not less than 36" wide, and in good repair. Each nonambulant patient shall be provided with a hospital-type bed. Rollaway beds, folding beds, and cots shall not be used. Bed springs and mattress shall be in good repair and fit the bed.

(2) At least one clean, comfortable pillow for each bed. Additional pillows shall be available to meet the needs of the patient.

(3) A bedside stand with a drawer to accommodate toilet articles and individual utensils for each patient.

(4) Reasonable closet and drawer space for clothing and personal items currently being used by the patient.

(5) Cubicle curtains or screens to provide privacy, individual towel and wash cloth racks, comfortable chairs as needed, window shades, and curtains or draperies in good condition.

9.12. Special Care Rooms - There shall be well ventilated special care rooms maintained ready for immediate occupancy for patients suspected

of, or diagnosed as having a communicable or infectious disease; those who develop acute illnesses and need to wait a short period before being transferred to a hospital; or those who may become disturbing to others.

Special care rooms shall be equipped with, or have accessible, a toilet and handwashing facilities that can be isolated from use by other patients and personnel.

These rooms shall meet all applicable standards previously set forth for one-bed patient rooms.

9.13. Bathing and toilet facilities for patients shall be provided in the minimum ratio of one toilet and one lavatory for every eight patients, or fraction thereof. There shall be separate facilities for each sex. Grab bars, conveniently located, shall be installed at commodes and bathing facilities used by patients. Skidproof mats shall be used in all bathtubs and showers.

All bathing and toilet facilities shall be kept clean, sanitary, and in proper working order. Storage or laundering of soiled linen in bathtubs, shower stalls, or lavatories is prohibited. Toilet rooms used by female staff shall be provided with a covered waste receptacle.

9.14. Separate toilets with handwashing facilities shall be provided for employees and the public. These facilities shall not be used by the patients and shall not open directly into the food service area.

9.15. Nurses' stations shall be centrally located, in relation to the beds served. They shall be large enough to accommodate such equipment as a charting desk, chairs, chart rack, and telephone.

9.16. Nursing Equipment, Sterile Supplies, and Linens

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(a) Nursing equipment sufficient in quantity to meet patients' needs shall include:

(1) Wash basin, bedpan, urinal, emesis basin, water pitcher and drinking glass for each individual patient; provided that where utensils are sterilized or sanitized after each use, they need not be kept individual.

(i) Equipment constructed of enamelware or materials which cannot be sterilized is prohibited.

(ii) Damaged utensils shall not be used.

(2) Thermometers sufficient in number to permit disinfection before using.

(3) Hot water bottles with suitable covers. If electric heating pads are used, they shall be maintained in safe working order.

(b) Nursing equipment and sterile supplies shall be stored in an area which is completely separated from contact with the patients.

(c) Linens - Storage space shall be provided on each nursing unit for clean linen. Sufficient quantities shall be available to nursing personnel to assure the cleanliness and comfort of each patient.

(1) Individual towels, wash cloths, and blankets must be provided for each patient.

(2) Waterproof mattress covers shall be provided for each mattress.

(3) If electric blankets are used, they shall be checked periodically and maintained in safe working order.

9.17. Utility Room - There shall be separate rooms, well illuminated and well ventilated, for clean supplies and equipment and for soiled

supplies and equipment. The soiled utility room shall provide adequate facilities for cleaning, sterilizing or sanitizing equipment for patient care. Bedpans and urinals shall be emptied in a commode or bedpan hopper, and shall be sterilized or sanitized in an appropriate place in the utility area... they shall not be cleaned in laundry or bath areas.

9.18. Recreation Area - Nursing homes shall provide adequate space where patients may receive visitors in reasonable privacy, participate in group entertainment, or pursue occupational therapy program.

9.19. Dining Room - Nursing homes shall provide an adequately furnished dining room for use by all patients who are able to go to the table, even though they may require assistance in feeding themselves or in getting to and from the room.

9.20. Laundry - Unless commercial service is used, the nursing home shall provide a laundry room, properly located and equipped for the cleaning of linen and other washable goods, with special provisions for handling and disinfecting contaminated linen. There shall be ventilation for the elimination of steam and odors, as well as proper insulation to prevent the transmission of noise to the patient areas. Equipment shall be provided with all necessary safety appliances and shall meet all sanitary requirements. Separate facilities must be available if patients are permitted to do their personal laundry and shall include a washing machine, laundry tub, electric iron, and ironing board.

Equipment used for storing and transporting soiled linen shall not be used for storing and transporting clean linen.

9.21. Lighting - Each patient's room shall have artificial light ade-

quate for reading and proper patient care. Throughout the institution, natural and artificial lighting shall be of sufficient intensity to prevent accidents and promote efficiency of service. Night lights shall be provided in all passageways and bathrooms.

Emergency lighting facilities shall be in readiness for use at all times throughout the institution.

9.22. Temperature to be Maintained - The heating system shall be capable of maintaining a temperature of 75 degrees F. throughout the patients' section of the building.

All combustion-type heating devices shall be vented in such a manner that noxious gases shall be carried to the outside of the building above the eaves of the roof.

Stoves and individual heaters are prohibited in new nursing homes. However, if present in existing institutions, they must be equipped with accepted devices to insure safety of patients and personnel.

9.23. Ventilation - The building shall have approved ventilation at all times. Special attention shall be given to the ventilation of patients' quarters so as to supply fresh air and to prevent accumulation of objectionable odors. The kitchen should be provided with exhaust systems which will discharge the air above the main roof, remote from any window or venting intake system. Toilets without outside window ventilation shall not be used unless there is an adequate system of forced ventilation.

9.24. Signal System - An approved call system shall be available at each patient's bed, toilet room, bathtub, or shower.

9.25. Fire Protection - A certificate of approval or a list of defi-

ciencies shall be obtained from the state fire marshal by any nursing home required to be licensed. A copy of such certificate of approval or list of deficiencies shall be filed with the West Virginia nursing home licensing board.

Fire drills should be held three times a year for each shift. A record shall be kept of the drills.

9.26. Evacuation Plan - There must be accessible, to all employees, an approved written procedure to be followed in case of fire or other emergency. Such plan must be posted at the nurses' stations and in each corridor.

9.27. Sanitation, Housekeeping, and Maintenance

9.27.1. Water Supply and Sanitation - All systems of water supply, plumbing, sewage, garbage, or refuse disposal shall be approved by the state department of health.

Plans for food service facilities, water systems, sewage systems, and incinerators must be submitted to the state department of health for approval prior to start of construction or installation.

9.27.2. Incineration - Adequate facilities shall be provided for the disposal of infected dressings and other similar materials. Incinerators shall be constructed, operated, and maintained in such a manner so as not to create nuisances. Ashes and noncombustible material shall be removed frequently and disposed of according to methods approved by the state department of health.

9.27.3. Housekeeping and Maintenance - Housekeeping and maintenance are required to be such that safe, comfortable, and sanitary living

conditions for patients and employees are maintained constantly.

Accumulated waste or refuse shall be kept in approved, easily cleanable, covered refuse containers and shall be removed daily or more frequently if necessary.

Stairwells and corridors shall be kept free from obstruction at all times.

The grounds shall be kept in sanitary, safe, and presentable condition.

There shall be sufficient supplies and equipment, properly stored and conveniently located, to permit frequent cleaning of floors, walls, woodwork, windows, and screens and to facilitate all necessary building and grounds maintenance.

All poison or toxic substances shall be stored in such a manner as to be non-accessible to patients.

9.27.4. Safe Plumbing - Plumbing shall be so sized, installed and maintained as to carry adequate quantities of water to required locations throughout the facility; as to prevent contamination of water supply; as to properly convey sewage and liquid waste from the establishment to the sewerage or sewage disposal system; and so that it does not constitute a source of contamination of food, equipment, or create an insanitary condition or nuisance.

Section 10. Patient Care

10.1. General Services

10.1.1. Medical Services - Each nursing home shall have a licensed physician who agrees to serve the patients in the nursing home in an emer-

gency if the patient's private physician is not available. He, or another licensed physician designated by him, shall be on call at all time.

All patients shall be seen by a physician at intervals in keeping with their conditions.

At each visit, the physician should review the orders and plan of care with the charge nurse. Documentation of the medical supervision shall be evidenced by signed written orders and by progress notes by the physician in the patient's record. Patients shall have at least an annual comprehensive re-evaluation documented in the record.

10.1.2. Dental Services - The nursing home shall make available the services of an advisory dentist for prophylactic, therapeutic, and emergency care when the services of the patient's personal dentist are not available.

10.1.3. Medications and Treatments - All orders for medications and treatments for patients shall be written and signed by the attending physician. Verbal or telephone orders may be accepted only by a licensed nurse. The verbal order shall immediately be written on the patient's order sheet, signed by the accepting nurse with the name of the physician and her own name and countersigned by the physician on his next visit.

(a) The supervising nurse and the prescribing physician shall jointly review each patients' orders at intervals not to exceed every thirty (30) days.

(b) Orders for medications and treatments shall be effective for the number of days specified by the physician, but in no case for longer than thirty days, unless recorded in writing by the physician.

10.1.4. Restraints and Seclusion - Restraints shall be used only when necessary to protect the patient from injuring himself or others. The need for restraint must be determined by a professional person and validated either by a written physician's order, or consent by the patient or a responsible person acting in his behalf. The nurse may exercise her professional judgement and apply restraints in case of emergency. (See Appendix)

(a) Methods of restraint shall permit speedy removal in case of fire or other emergency.

(b) Locked restraints shall not be permitted.

(c) The patient who is restrained shall have his position changed, and the restraints removed long enough to give skin care every two hours.

(d) Side rails are excluded from these requirements.

(e) No form of seclusion shall be permitted with the exception of half doors secured with some form of release which does not require a key, all subject to the prior approval of the state fire marshal's office.

10.1.5. Physical therapy treatments under the direction of a physician should be instituted and maintained for those patients likely to benefit from such treatments.

10.2. Nursing Services

10.2.1. Nursing Personnel - The nursing services shall be under the supervision of a registered professional nurse who is currently registered in West Virginia and there shall be such other nursing personnel as are necessary to provide adequate care for patients 24 hours a day.

Two weeks to one month notice must be given in case of termination

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of services to allow administrator time to secure replacement or to allow nurse time to secure other employment.

(a) Full-time director of nurses: Works 35-40 hours per week. The nursing director must be delegated the authority commensurate with her responsibilities; and she shall be held accountable to administration for the direction, supervision, and evaluation of nursing care practices and policies.

Her responsibilities shall include:

(1) Developing and maintaining nursing goals, standards of nursing practice, nursing procedure manual, and written job descriptions for each category of nursing personnel.

(2) Recommending to the administrator the number and categories of nursing personnel to be employed, participating in their recruitment, selection, training, assignment, supervision, evaluation, and termination of employment when necessary.

(3) Participating in planning and budgeting for nursing care.

(4) Participating with the medical staff in developing and implementing patient care policies.

(5) Assuring that a nursing care plan is established for each patient and that his plan is reviewed and modified as necessary.

(6) Evaluating nursing care practices.

(7) Coordinating nursing services with other patient care services such as medical, physical therapy, occupational therapy, recreational activities, social services, and dietary services.

(8) Planning and conducting orientation and training programs for

new nursing service personnel; and a continuing inservice education program for all nursing service personnel.

(9) Participating in the selection of prospective patients in terms of nursing services they need and nursing competencies available.

(b) Part-time director of nursing services: Responsibilities shall be the same as those of a full-time director of nursing services. She shall make daily visits to the nursing home and spend sufficient time to complete the work for which she is responsible. She shall keep a written record of her visits which includes:

(1) The date and time of arrival.

(2) A statement about patients admitted since her last visit, a record of the nursing care plans initiated or reviewed, and a record that a nursing care plan has been prepared for each new patient. She shall review nursing care plans of each patient weekly with the personnel of the home.

(3) The time of departure.

(c) Other nursing personnel.

(1) There shall be a registered professional nurse on duty or on call for advice or assistance at all times.

(2) Other personnel, including registered professional nurse, licensed practical nurses, nurses' aides, and orderlies shall be employed in sufficient numbers to ensure safe nursing care on a 24 hour basis. Appropriate records such as payroll and time sheets shall be maintained to show compliance with this requirement.

10.2.2. Nursing Care - The nursing home shall maintain a planned

program of nursing care with written policies and procedures adequate to meet the needs of patients. This shall include:

(a) Written nursing care plans for each individual patient in the nursing home. This nursing care plan shall indicate what care the patient needs, and how the nursing staff plans to provide the care needed. The nursing care plan shall be available for the use of all nursing personnel and shall be reviewed and revised at least monthly. The nursing care plan shall include directions for at least the following: medications, treatments; diet; activity limitations if there are any; safety measures necessary to protect the patient; bathing and grooming schedule; the amount of assistance the patient requires; short-term and long-term goals for the patient with indication of methods planned for helping the patient and his family to attain these goals; recreational or occupational activities of interest to the patient.

(b) Observation of patients shall give evidence that care is adequate. Observations which assist in determining if care is adequate may include personal appearance and grooming; freedom from offensive odors; absence of pressure sores; clean mouth and dentures. There should also be evidence that the personnel encourage the patient to be out of bed, maintain good body positioning, eat in the dining room if able, and to take part in diversional or recreational activities.

(c) Written nursing procedures shall be available for those procedures which are essential to ensure safe practice. The procedures shall be up to date and consistent with the type of service provided by the nursing home.

(d) Restorative Nursing Care - A restorative nursing care program shall be an integral part of every patient's individual care plan. The purpose of the program is to assist the patient to achieve and to maintain an optimum level of function and self-care through education and retraining in the activities of daily living. The nursing personnel shall be taught rehabilitation techniques which include:

(1) Maintaining proper body alignment and positioning of bedfast patients, and those confined to chairs.

(2) Encouraging the activity of patients by getting them out of bed for reasonable periods of time, except when this is contraindicated by physician's orders.

(3) Maintaining a program of skin care to prevent pressure sores.

(4) Maintaining a bowel and bladder training program.

(5) Assisting patients to ambulate and to carry out prescribed physical therapy exercises between visits of the physical therapist.

(6) Assisting patients to adjust to their disabilities and to direct their interest into useful activities.

(7) Assisting and teaching patients the activities of daily living: eating, dressing, grooming, toilet activities.

(e) An inservice education program shall be maintained. This program shall provide for the orientation and training of new employees and for the continuing education of all the nursing service employees. It shall be a program of education which is provided in the job setting, should be closely identified with the kind of service provided by the home and be designated to help the employees perform more effectively as a person and as a worker.

10.2.3. Communicable Disease - Any person who contracts a communicable disease shall be segregated from other residents, and isolation techniques employed to prevent transfer of the disease to other residents and personnel of the nursing home. The resident shall be removed from the nursing home as soon as suitable arrangements are made for continuing his care and for prevention of exposure of other persons to the disease.

10.2.4. Report of Illness or Accident - Any serious accident or change in the resident's condition, shall be reported immediately to the physician and his family or other responsible person.

(a) A written report shall be made of any incident or accident in which a patient is involved, either inside or outside the nursing home. The report shall include the date, time, place, and details of what happened. The report shall be written and signed by the person who is responsible for the patient at the time that the accident occurred. The patient's physician shall be notified within a reasonable period of time, depending upon the seriousness of the patient's condition, but not to exceed 48 hours. A notation of the incident, the patient's condition, and the date and time physician was notified shall be made in the patient's record.

10.2.5. Report of Death - In case of death, the resident's physician and family shall be notified immediately. The funeral director is responsible for completion of the death certificate. All deaths shall be reported to the West Virginia department of health, division of vital statistics.

10.2.6. Medications

(I) Policy of Handling:

(a) The nursing home shall provide appropriate methods and

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procedures for obtaining, dispensing, and administering drugs and biologicals, developed with the advice of a staff pharmacist, a consultant pharmacist, or a pharmaceutical advisory committee which includes a licensed registered pharmacist.

(b) If the facility does not have a pharmacy department, but does maintain a supply of drugs, the consultant pharmacist is responsible for the receipt, control and disposition of the drugs and for maintenance of the necessary records.

(c) Medications not ordered for a specific number of doses, shall be stopped automatically in accordance with written policy approved by the physician or physicians responsible for advising the facility on its medical administrative policies.

(d) Self-administration of medications by patients shall not be permitted.

(e) Medication errors and drug reactions shall be reported immediately to the patient's physician and an entry thereof made in the patient's clinical record as well as on an incident report.

(f) Up-to-date medication reference texts and sources of information shall be available.

(g) Labeling and storing medications - Patient's medications shall be properly labeled and stored in a locked cabinet or medicine cart near the nurses station.

(h) The label of each patient's individual medication container shall clearly indicate the patient's full name, name and strength of the drug; date of issue; expiration date of all time-dated drugs; name of prescribing

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physician; and if the pharmacy is not located in the home, the name, address and telephone number of the pharmacy issuing the drug.

(i) Medication containers which have incomplete, or illegible labels shall be returned to the issuing pharmacist for relabeling or disposal.

(j) Each patient's medications shall be stored in the containers in which they were received, and shall not be transferred to another container by the nursing personnel.

(k) All Class II Drugs (Narcotics and other abuse drugs), subject to State and Federal control shall be kept in a separate locked box or drawer inside a locked medicine cabinet, so that they are protected by two locks.

(l) Medications which require refrigeration shall be kept in a refrigerator separate from food.

(m) Poisons and medications for external use only shall be kept in a locked cabinet, which is separate from the cabinet for medications which are taken internally.

(n) Medications no longer in use shall be disposed of or destroyed in accordance with federal and state laws and regulations.

(o) Bureau of narcotics and dangerous drugs records - Federal and state laws require keeping a record of narcotics and other controlled drugs dispensed to each patient as follows: name of patient; date and time drug is administered; name and amount of drug given; name of physician who prescribed it; signature of person giving the medication and the amount remaining in the container.

(p) An emergency medication kit approved by the nursing home's

professional staff (physician, nurse, pharmacist and administrator) should be kept readily available. It may include a maximum of five doses of any medications. (Cannot include BNDD drugs, except Class V).

(q) Emergency oxygen and tracheal suction facilities shall be readily available.

Section 11. Food Service

11.1. Food Service Program - Nursing homes shall maintain a food service program which is adequately organized, equipped, and staffed to serve nutritionally adequate meals at optimum temperatures to all patients.

Salt shall not be omitted in food preparation unless it is contraindicated by the physician's order.

The food service shall be in full compliance with the West Virginia food service sanitation regulations, adopted by the West Virginia state board of health, effective April 10, 1965.

11.1.1. Meal Hours and Tray Service - At least three meals per day shall be served. Unless a substantial bedtime snack is provided, not more than fourteen hours shall elapse between a substantial evening meal and breakfast.

Trays served to patients in their rooms shall be provided with firm supports.

Patients who require assistance with eating shall be served promptly at regular dining hours. Special effort shall be made to offer fluids to patients at frequent intervals when the patient is unable to obtain fluid for himself.

11.1.2. Menu Planning - Menus shall be planned and written at least

one week in advance for general and modified diets. Menus shall be dated and posted in the kitchen for easy reference by food service employees. Menus, as served, with all substitutions noted, shall be filed for at least three months. Food purchasing records shall be kept on premises for three months.

The following foods and amounts are considered the minimum to meet nutritional requirements, and shall be served daily as the general or "regular" diet. The texture or form of these foods shall be modified as needed for patients with impaired dentition.

(a) Milk Group - One pint of milk or its equivalent. Cheese, cottage cheese, or ice cream may be used as part of the milk allowance, and part may be used in cooking.

(b) Meat Group - Two or more servings of lean meat, fish, poultry, eggs, or cheese, with dried beans or peanut butter as occasional alternates.

One serving shall be at least a two ounce edible portion of meat or its equivalent.

Eggs shall be served at least four times a week.

(c) Vegetables - Two or more servings, including a yellow or leafy green vegetable, at least four times each week.

(d) Fruits - Two or more servings, at least one of which shall be a citrus fruit or other good source of vitamin C. Fruit flavored drinks, preserves, jellies or plain gelatin desserts shall not be considered as fulfilling these requirements.

(e) Whole Grain, Enriched, or Restored Bread and Cereals - One or more servings each meal.

(f) Other foods to round out meals and snacks for individual appetites and to provide additional calories.

11.1.3. Special diets shall be served to patients in accordance with physicians' written orders. Special diets shall be reviewed every three months. Food service personnel shall be advised, in writing, of such orders for modified diets (or changes in orders) and the physician's orders shall be retained in the patient's medical record.

An approved diet manual should be available in the nursing home.

11.1.4. An adequate supply of quality food shall be kept on the premises as follows:

- (a) Staples for a minimum of one week period.
- (b) Perishables for a minimum of 48 hours.

APPENDIX

Recommended Drug Reference Texts:

1. Falconer, Mary W., et al, Current Drug Handbook, 1972, W. B. Saunders, Phila.
2. Govani, Laura, & Hayes, Janice, Drugs and Nursing Implications, 2nd Ed., 1971, Appleton-Century, Crafts, N. Y.

Excerpts Regarding Restraints:

1. Sarner, Harvey, The Nurse and the Law, 1968, Phila., W. B. Saunders, pp 47: "If the nurse permits the patient to leave the bed when he should not, ... the nurse will probably be found liable for the injury resulting from a subsequent fall."
2. Lesnik, Milton & Anderson, Bernice, Nursing Practice and the Law, 1962, Phila., J. B. Lippincott, pp 316-317. "Only insane persons who are dangerous either to themselves or to others may be restrained. The restraint must be limited to the exigencies of the circumstances, and if no danger exists, an action for false imprisonment may be maintained." ... further ... the privilege to effect restraints in emergencies is not limited to the insane only. The privilege described ... exists apart from the fact of emergency and is dependent upon danger." They further state: "Whenever consent, express or implied is granted for the rendition of personal or professional services and restraints are an ordinary or a necessary factor in connection with performance of these services, the consent to the services will be sufficient to warrant the imposition of restraints."
3. Murchison, Irene & Nichols, Thomas, Legal Foundations of Nurs-

ing, 1970, New York, Macmillan. pp 298. "Three defenses to interference with freedom close to professional practice are, first, that the restraint may have been authorized by an administrative official pursuant to the law that compels the person to accept medical procedures such as the commitment of the mentally ill, or, in some states, quarantine for smallpox, or venereal disease. Second, the restraint may have been applied in an emergency, as with a dangerously insane person or with an attempted suicide -- in either instance the restraint will be limited to that necessary to prevent harm to the individual or to others, and of sufficient length of time necessary to secure the assistance of the police or a member of the family. Third, the restraint may have been consented to by the patient himself or by one responsible for him; such consent could vary in duration from the time necessary for anesthesia during surgery to days or weeks of restraint for the treatment of drug addiction or alcoholism. At any point in the treatment the consent may be withdrawn and the physician is obligated to honor the request for withdrawal unless there is a statute that would supersede such a request." Murchison & Nicholas also state on pages 297-298: "The primary reason for restraints (for an elderly person) is to protect the patient from injuring himself, and, except for the mentally ill, restraints are seldom applied to protect others. A restraint, whether ordered by a physician or applied on the basis of a nursing judgment, should not be regarded as an easy solution for nursing problems; in fact, it may compound them. The possibility that the patient who is in a restraint may harm himself is an ever-present danger; for example, there is the danger of the constructure of a part and the trauma of resulting pressure or of a

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fall from the bed while confined in vest or ankle straps. The danger point to the need for more rather than less surveillance when a patient is in a restraint of any type."