§11-94-23 Nursing services.

(a) Each facility shall have nursing staff sufficient in number and qualifications to meet the nursing needs of the patients. In a skilled nursing facility there must be at least one registered nurse, full time, twenty-four hours per day, seven days a week. In an intermediate care facility there must be at least one registered nurse, full time on the day shift and at least one licensed nurse whenever medications are administered.

(b) Nursing services shall include at least the following:

(1) Assessment of each patient and development and implementation of an appropriate plan of care.

(2) A nursing care plan incorporated in the overall patient care plan and reviewed at least as often as the patient is certified and recertified for a level of care.

(3) Nursing observations and summaries of the patient’s status recorded monthly or more frequently if appropriate due to changes in patient’s condition.

(4) Completion of all physicians’ orders with appropriate documentation.

(5) Restorative and preventive nursing care including patient education as appropriate for each patient.

(6) Supportive services to patients to enable them to participate fully in appropriate daily activities.

(7) Physical care to keep patients clean, comfortable, well-groomed, and protected from accidents and infections. As appropriate, patients shall be dressed in their own clothes appropriate to the activity in which they are engaged.

(8) Proper care to prevent or treat decubitis ulcers and deformities.

(9) Weighing each patient at least monthly and height taken upon admission.

(10) Coordination of an overall plan of care for each patient, consonant with the attending physician’s medical care plan, and developed by the disciplines providing services in the facility.