RULE §19.1002  Additional Nursing Services Staffing Requirements

(a) The ratio of licensed nurses to residents must be sufficient to meet the needs of the residents.

(1) At a minimum, the facility must maintain a ratio (for every 24-hour period) of one licensed nursing staff person for each 20 residents or a minimum of .4 licensed-care hours per resident day. To determine licensed-care hours per resident day, multiply the number of licensed nurses by the number of hours they work in a single day and divide the product by the number of residents in the facility. Three nurses working eight-hour shifts is 24 hours, divided by 60 residents, equals .4 licensed-care hours per resident day.

(2) Licensed nurses who may be counted in the ratio include, but are not limited to, director of nursing, assistant directors of nursing, staff development coordinators, charge nurses, and medication/treatment nurses. These licensed nurses may be counted subject to the limitations of paragraphs (3) and (4) of this subsection.

(3) Staff, who also have administrative duties not related to nursing, may be counted in the ratio only to the degree of hours spent in nursing-related duties.

(4) If a multi-level facility (nursing facility or Medicare SNF) has one director of nursing over the entire facility, he may not be counted in the nursing ratio. A director of nursing for a single distinct part may be counted in the ratio for the distinct part.

(b) The facility must maintain continuous time schedules showing the number and classification of nursing personnel, including relief personnel, who are scheduled or who worked in each unit during each tour of duty. The time schedules must be maintained for the period of time specified by facility policy or for at least two years following the last day in the schedule.

Source Note: The provisions of this §19.1002 adopted to be effective May 1, 1995, 20 TexReg 2393.