**Nurses’ Station & Resident Call System**

(3) Service areas in each nursing unit. The size of each service area will depend on the number and types of beds within the unit and shall include:

(a) Nurses’ station for nurses’ charting, doctors’ charting, communications, and storage for supplies and nurses’ personal effects;

(d) Clean workroom for storage and assembly of supplies for nursing procedures, containing work counter, sinks and a small sterilizer;

(e) Soiled workroom containing clinical sink, work counter with two (2) compartment sink, waste receptacles, soiled linen receptacles, and a bedpan washing device;

(f) Medicine room adjacent to nurses’ station with sink, refrigerator, locked storage, and facilities for preparation and dispensing of medication. (This may be designated area within clean workroom if a self-contained cabinet is provided.) The controlled substances locker must be under double lock and wired to warning light at nurses’ station;

(g) Clean linen storage with enclosed storage space. (This may be a designated area within the clean workroom.);

(h) Nourishment station with storage space, sink, hot plate and refrigerator for serving between-meal nourishments. (This may serve more than one (1) nursing unit on the same floor.);

(i) Equipment storage room for storage of "IV" stands, inhalators, air mattresses, walkers, and similar bulky equipment;

(k) Stretcher and wheelchair parking area or alcove;

(4) Special purpose room(s) for consultation, examination, treatment, and therapeutic and nursing procedures. This may serve more than one (1) nursing unit on the same floor. Provide lavatory, storage, and space for treatment table. Minimum floor area shall be nine (9) feet by eleven (11) feet.

Section 7. Therapy Units.

(1) If the facility has a physical therapy unit the following shall be provided (depending on the program):

(a) Office (may also serve for occupational therapy office);

(b) Exercise and treatment areas with sink or lavatory and cubicle curtains around treatment areas;

(c) Hydrotherapy areas with cubicle curtains around treatment areas;

(d) Storage for supplies and equipment;
Toilet rooms located for convenient access by physical therapy patients (may also serve occupational therapy patients).

Facilities with 100 beds or more shall have an occupational therapy unit which shall include:
(a) Office space (may be shared with physical therapy office);
(b) Therapy area with sink or lavatory;
(c) Storage for supplies and equipment;
(d) Toilet room (not required if other toilet facilities are convenient);
(e) Personal care room with shampoo sink and space for barber chair.

Section 11. Storage and Service Areas. The following shall be included:

(1) Central storage room(s). Provide at least ten (10) square feet per bed for the first fifty (50) beds and five (5) square feet per bed for all beds over fifty (50), to be concentrated in one (1) area;

(6) Nurses' calling systems. A nurses' calling station shall be installed at each patient bed and in each patient toilet, bath, and shower room. The nurses' call in toilet, bath, or shower rooms shall be an emergency call. All calls shall register at the nurses' station and shall actuate a visible signal in the corridor at the patients' door, in the clean workroom, soiled workroom, and nourishment station of the nursing unit. Nurses' call systems which provide two (2) way voice communication shall be equipped with an indicating light at each calling station which lights and remains lighted as long as the voice circuit is operating.

Shower/Tub Room

(j) Patient baths. One (1) shower stall or one (1) bathtub shall be required for each fifteen (15) beds not individually served. There shall be at least one (1) free standing bathtub in each bathroom. Grab bars or patient lift with a safety device shall be provided at all bathing fixtures. Each bathtub or shower enclosure in central bathing facilities shall provide space for the private use of bathing fixture, for dressing, and for a wheelchair and attendant. Showers in central bathing facilities shall not be less than four (4) feet square, without curbs, and designed to permit use from a wheelchair. Soap dishes in showers and bathrooms shall be recessed;

(g) Grab bars and accessories in patient toilet, shower, and bathrooms shall have sufficient strength and anchorage to sustain a load of 250 pounds for five (5) minutes.

(h) Lavatories intended for use by patients shall be installed to permit wheelchairs to slide under.

(i) The location and arrangement of lavatories and sinks with blade handles intended for hand-washing purposes shall provide sixteen (16) inches clearance each side of center line of fixture.

(j) Mirrors shall be arranged for convenient use by patients in wheelchairs as well as by patients in standing position.

(k) Towel dispensers shall be provided at all lavatories and sinks used for hand-washing.

New Construction: Nursing Unit

Summary: Call System; Soiled Workroom; Special Purpose Room; Medicine Room; Stretcher and Wheelchair Parking; Personal Care Room; Shower/Tub Ratio; Grab Bars; Accessibility; Mirrors