**Nurses’ Station & Resident Call System**

(3) There shall be a signal system or a hand bell at each patient's bedside, in sitting rooms, in bathrooms, in shower and tub rooms and in all other patient areas. The method used for signaling shall be approved by the Department.

(8) Facilities that provide only Level IV care shall provide a first-aid kit in a convenient place. The contents of the kit shall be in accordance with the recommendations of the American Red Cross.

(e) Oxygen tanks shall be safely stored and labeled when empty.

(1) Equipment and supplies appropriate in quantity and kind shall be provided for the routine care, comfort and special nursing care of patients or residents.

(2) All equipment and supplies shall be kept in good working condition and in a clean and sanitary manner.

(3) All facilities shall use techniques approved by the Department to autoclave, sterilize, disinfect or dispose of equipment and supplies.

(6) The following equipment and supplies shall be readily available as needed for the administration of medications, the performance of treatments, or other use. Items marked with an asterisk shall be disposable (single use) or sterilized by autoclave.

* Syringes and needles
* Instruments
* Glassware
* Rubber goods
* Thermometers (rectal and oral)
* Enema Equipment
* Stethoscope
* Blood pressure apparatus
* Tourniquets
* Flash Lights
* Mouth bites
* A standard scale for weighing
* Catheters and catheterization equipment
* Suction equipment
* I.V. poles

Sand bags, wheelchairs, walkers, foot boards, cradles, armboards and other such equipment.

(7) All equipment used for personal care of more than one individual, such as electric shavers, shall be thoroughly cleaned after each use.
(8) All facilities shall provide adequate space, equipment and procedures for the proper disinfection of beds, springs, mattresses and bed pillows and for the proper sterilization of equipment as needed.

(9) A SNCFC shall provide a chair or non-ambulatory scale.

(10) In a SNCFC, accommodations, equipment and supplies shall be appropriate in quantity, kind and size to meet the needs of patients.

(3) General Storage. Adequate storage space and equipment shall be provided for patients' or residents' towels and wash cloths when not in use, clothing during all seasons of the year, personal effects and valuables; beds, bedsides, bed springs, mattresses, bed pillows and blankets, when not in use; clean linen; glassware, enamelware, instruments, syringes and needles, rubber goods, mouth and rectal thermometer and other such equipment and supplies.

(4) Examination and Treatment Room. If an examination and treatment room is provided, it shall be equipped with a sink with hot and cold running water, soap dispenser, disposal towel dispenser, treatment table, instrument table, instrument sterilizer, locked storage cabinet, a hospital scale, and a non-combustible waste receptacle with a foot-operated top.

(6) Restorative Service Units.

(a) The rooms and areas shall be sized, arranged and equipped so that they are consistent with the programs of treatment within the particular facility. The unit shall be well lighted, well-ventilated and adequately heated and it shall be separate and apart from rooms used for resident living.

(b) There shall be a bell or signal system to summon aid in an emergency.

(c) Adequate storage facilities shall be provided and maintained in a sanitary and safe manner and in good repair.

(d) A handwashing sink with hot and cold running water shall be provided and equipped with a plaster trap if occupational therapy is given.

(e) All physical therapy equipment shall be of known quality and serviced at least annually by a qualified person. No repairs shall be made except by a qualified person.

(f) The following basic equipment shall be provided for the physical therapy unit:
   Treatment table, footstool and chairs
   Adequate linen supply
   Sanitary waste containers
   Hamper for soiled linen
   Disposable towels
   Curtains or cubicles to assure privacy
   Desk or table and chair for clerical use

Shower/Tub Room

(4) Grip bars, properly placed, shall be in all bathrooms, toilets, tub rooms and showers. In a SNCFC, appropriate adaptive equipment shall be installed in all bathrooms, toilets, tub rooms and showers
to ensure patient and staff safety and maximum patient independence. (7) Toilet, Bath and Shower Rooms.

(a) Adequate toilets, handwashing sinks, baths and showers shall be provided on each floor.

(d) A shower or tub shall be provided in a ratio of one per 15 patients or residents. Separate showers or tub baths for males and females are required only if they are located in the same room with toilets. (Exceptions may be made upon written approval of the Department.)

(e) Toilets, bath or shower compartments shall be separated from all rooms by solid walls or partitions. Adequate provision to insure patient privacy shall be made.

(g) Handrails or grab bars shall be provided near showers, tub baths and toilets.

(h) Toilet, handwashing and bathing equipment and areas must be kept in good repair, and the floor area surrounding the toilet must be maintained in a sanitary manner and in good repair.

New Construction: Nursing Unit

(b) Nurses’ or Attendants’ station -- A nurses’ or attendants’ station shall be provided for every unit in a central location. (Exceptions may be allowed upon written approval of the Department). At a minimum, each nurses’ station shall be provided with a desk or counter, chair, sufficient cabinets and an acceptable record holder or chart rack.

(c) Medicine Cabinet or Room. See 105 CMR 150.008(D).

(d) Utility Room.

1. Facilities that provide Level I or II care shall provide a utility room for every unit and for each floor. Facilities that provide Level III care shall provide a utility room for each unit. The utility room shall be physically partitioned from any toilet or bathing area for patients or personnel and shall have a separate entrance directly from a corridor.

2. A minimum of 35 square feet of floor area shall be provided for utility rooms.

3. The following equipment shall be provided in utility rooms:
slop sink with gooseneck faucet and hot and cold running water; adequate cupboard and work space; adequate facilities for the storage of clean equipment used in the administration of patient care; adequate space for the storage of individual patient equipment; adequate facilities for the cleansing, disinfection and sterilization of individual patient equipment; adequate facilities for emptying, cleansing and disinfecting bedpans and urinals; an instrument sterilizer; adequate facilities for the proper storage of all rubber goods, such a hot water bottles, ice caps, rectal tubes, catheters, rubber air rings and rubber gloves; handwashing facilities with hot and cold running water.

(e) Utility rooms are not required in facilities that provide only Level IV care.
**Summary:** Call System; Equipment and Supplies; First-Aid Kit; Storage; Treatment Rooms; Grab Bars; Tub/Shower Ratio; New Construction