Nurses' Station & Resident Call System

(10) Facilities shall provide a bulk storage area consisting of a locked room, shelving, bins and large cans for storing long-term supplies of food and other dietary materials above the floor in a dry room with adequate ventilation, cool, but not freezing. The bulk storage area shall be one (1) square foot per bed, but in no case shall it be less than one hundred (100) square feet. III

(28) The facility shall have a designated physical therapy area large enough to give rehabilitative care to physically disabled residents. This area shall be sized to accommodate all equipment and activities in the facility’s proposed physical therapy program. In no case shall this area be less than two hundred (200) square feet. III

(29) The facility shall provide the following elements: treatment areas and equipment as dictated by the facility’s physical therapy program; a handwashing sink; an exercise area; storage for clean linen, supplies and equipment; a toilet room located in the physical therapy room or within the immediate area of the physical therapy department; and an office or sufficient space for the physical therapy director’s desk and file. The physical therapy area may be located adjacent to an occupational therapy area and share any or all of the required elements providing that the sharing of elements conforms with the facility’s therapy programs. III

(30) If there is a designated occupational therapy area, it shall be large enough to accommodate all the equipment and activities in the facility's proposed occupational therapy program. When the facility locates physical therapy and occupational therapy in the same area, there shall be a space that can be separated from the rest of the area if ceramics, sculpture, minor woodwork and light mechanical work are a part of the occupational therapy program. III

(33) Facilities shall provide storage rooms as listed: general storage—ten (10) square feet per bed for the first fifty (50) beds, plus eight (8) square feet per bed for the next twenty-five (25) beds, plus five (5) square feet per bed for any additional beds over seventy-five (75). No storage room shall be less than one hundred (100) square feet of floor space. The required residents’ clothes storage room and storage for outdoor equipment may be included in the minimum area required for general storage. III

(36) There shall be an oxygen storage room that is surrounded by one (1)-hour rated construction with a powered or gravity vent to the outside. II

(39) To provide for the isolation of a resident(s) with a communicable disease(s), each unit shall have at least two (2) private resident rooms provided with a separate room equipped with a toilet and handwashing sink to serve the isolation room only. III

(47) Each nursing unit shall have a centrally located nurses’ work station with a work counter and storage space for charts. The entire counter shall have a four foot (4’) distance between the wall located behind the counter and the edge of the counter nearest the wall. III
Facilities shall provide a medicine preparation room next to each nurses’ station that has at least sixty (60) square feet of useable floor space. Facilities shall provide a special locked medication cabinet for storage of the Class II medications inside the locked medication cabinet. If the outer cabinets are not locked, the facility must provide a closer and hardware that cannot be left unlocked on the door to the medicine room. A facility is also required to have the following in the medicine room: a work counter, handwashing sink, under cabinet storage, a medicine refrigerator, adequate lighting and provisions for proper temperature control. II/III

Each nursing unit shall have a clean utility room accessible directly from the nursing unit corridor and near enough to the nurses’ station to facilitate control by the nurses. The floor and walls shall have impervious surfaces. The facility shall provide this room with adequate lighting and heating, a handwashing sink and at least one (1) locking cabinet. II/III

Clean linen storage with adequate shelving is required in each nursing unit. III

Each nursing unit must have a stretcher and wheelchair parking area. III

Equipment and supply storage is required in each nursing unit. III

Shower/Tub Room

Each nursing unit shall contain one (1) training or handicapped toilet per sex, each with a floor area of at least five feet by six feet (5’ × 6’). This toilet may be located in the central bath. III

Each nursing unit shall have a separate bathroom for each sex. II

Tubs shall be institutional-type, free standing with a minimum of three feet (3’) clearance from the wall on each side and four feet (4’) at the end. The shower shall be a minimum of four feet (4’) wide and of ample length for a wheelchair resident. Thirty-inch by sixty-inch (30” × 60”) Americans with Disability Act (ADA)-approved showers will be accepted. The facility may replace required institutional-type tub(s) with whirlpool tubs or other types of bathing fixtures. III

The aggregate number of tubs or showers or both shall not be less than one for each fifteen (1:15) beds on each floor. II/III

The facility shall provide a locked cabinet in or near each bathroom for the storage of cleaning supplies. III

Centralized bathing facilities shall have fixed partitions or fire-resistant curtains to provide a private compartment for each water closet, bathtub and shower. Curtains or doors shall be installed on access openings. III

Facilities shall provide grab bars or handrails, secured in proper positions to facilitate the bodily movements of residents, next to all bathtubs, within all showers and on at least one (1) side of all toilets. II

New Construction: Nursing Unit

Facilities shall provide an electrically powered nurses’ call system with indicator lights at the corridor entrance of each bedroom. Audible signals and indicating panels shall be located in each
nurses’ station and utility room. Facilities shall provide signal buttons at the head of each resident bed, in each toilet room and in each bathroom. III

(11) The facility shall make provisions for a room(s) which can be used for isolation of a resident(s) with communicable diseases. Facilities licensed after July 1, 1965 and prior to June 11, 1981 shall have at least two (2) private rooms with a toilet room equipped with toilet and handwashing sink. Rooms designated as isolation rooms may be occupied by residents provided there is a written agreement on file indicating the resident’s willingness to relocate without prior notice if the room is needed for isolation purposes. III

(21) The facility shall provide one (1) shower or tub for each fifteen (15) residents or fraction of fifteen. II/III

(22) Facilities shall have metal grab bars securely mounted for bathtubs, shower stalls and toilets. The facility shall also provide rubber or similar type nonskid mats or strips in tubs and showers to reduce or prevent slipping accidents and hazardous conditions. II

(23) Facilities shall provide fixed partitions or curtains in bathrooms and toilet areas to ensure privacy. III

(24) The facility shall ensure that plumbing fixtures that supply hot water and are accessible to the residents, shall be thermostatically controlled so the water temperature at the fixture does not exceed one hundred twenty degrees Fahrenheit (120°F) (49°C). The water shall be at a temperature range of one hundred five degrees Fahrenheit to one hundred twenty degrees Fahrenheit (105°F–120°F) (41°C–49°C). I/II

(25) Facilities shall provide adequate space and locations for the proper cleansing, disinfection, sterilization, and storage of nursing supplies and equipment. This area shall be specifically designated as a clean utility area. There shall be a separate area designated as a dirty utility area, and neither area shall be located in or open into a kitchen, dining room, or a bathroom. The facility shall have utility areas that are easily available to personnel and located conveniently for the nursing station staff. Utility areas shall be well ventilated and well-lighted. II/III

(26) The facility shall provide either a nursing station or a nurses’ work area on each floor of a multistory facility. This area shall have chart storage space on current residents. Facilities licensed or with plans approved on or after July 1, 1965, shall have a nurses’ station for every sixty (60) beds. Handwashing facilities at or near the nurses’ station shall be available for physicians, nurses and other personnel attending residents. II/III

(27) The facility shall be equipped with a call system that consists of an electrical intercommunication system, a wireless pager system, a buzzer system, or hand bells for each resident bed, toilet room, and bathroom. The call system shall be audible in the attendant’s work area and be in compliance with 19 CSR 30-85.012(124). II/III

Summary: Minimum Requirements per Unit/Station; Exemptions; Electrical Intercom, Buzzer, or Hand Bell (date-specific); Storage; Isolation Rooms (Date-Specific); Physical Therapy Area; Tub/Shower Ratio; Separate by Sex; New Construction