Nurses’ Station & Resident Call System

1200-08-06-.07 SPECIAL SERVICES: ALZHEIMER’S UNITS. Structurally distinct parts of a nursing home may be designated as special care units for ambulatory residents with dementia or Alzheimer’s Disease and related disorders. Such units shall be designed to encourage self-sufficiency, independence and decision-making skills, and may admit residents only after the unit is found to be in compliance with licensure standards and upon final approval by the department. Units which hold themselves out to the public as providing specialized Alzheimer’s services shall comply with the provisions of T.C.A. § 68-11-1404 and shall be in compliance with the following minimum standards:

(2) Special care units shall be separated from the remaining portion of the nursing home by a locked door and must have extraordinary and acceptable fire safety features and policies which ensure the well being and protection of the residents.

(3) The residents must have direct access to a secured, therapeutic outdoor area. This outdoor area shall be designed and maintained to facilitate emergency evacuation.

(4) There must be limited access to the designated unit so that visitors and staff do not pass through the unit to get to other areas of the nursing home.

(5) Each unit must contain a designated dining/activity area which shall accommodate 100% seating for residents.

(6) Corridors or open spaces shall be designed to facilitate ambulation and activity, and shall have an unobstructed view from the central working or nurses’ station.

(7) Drinking facilities shall be provided in the central working area or nurses’ station and in the primary activities areas. Glass front refrigerators may be used.

(8) The unit shall be designed, equipped and maintained to promote positive resident response through the use of:

(a) Reduced-glare lighting, wall and floor coverings, and materials and decorations conducive to appropriate sensory and visual stimulation; and,

(b) Meaningful wandering space shall be provided that encourages physical exercise and ensures that residents will not become frustrated upon reaching dead-ends.

Shower/Tub Room

New Construction: Nursing Unit

Summary: Alzheimer’s Special Care Unit