Nurses' Station & Resident Call System

R432-5-7. Nursing Unit.

(1) When more than one nursing unit shares spaces and service areas, as permitted in this rule, the shared spaces and service areas shall be contiguous to each nursing unit served.

(2) Facility service areas shall be accessible from common areas without compromising resident privacy.

(3) Each nursing unit shall have a maximum number of 60 beds.

(7) A nurse call system is not required in facilities which care for persons with mental retardation or developmental disabilities. With prior approval of the Department, a nursing facility may modify the system to alleviate hazards to residents.

(8) Handwashing facilities shall be located near the nursing station and the drug distribution station.

(9) A staff toilet room may also serve as a public toilet room if it is located in the nursing unit.

(10) A clean workroom or clean holding room with a minimum area of 80 square feet shall provide for preparing resident care items.

(a) The clean work room shall contain a counter, handwashing facilities and storage facilities.

(b) The work counter and handwashing facilities may be omitted in rooms used only for storage and holding, as part of a larger system for distribution of clean and sterile supply materials.

(11) If a medical cart is used it shall be under visual control of staff.

(a) Double locked storage shall be provided for controlled drugs.

(b) Provisions shall be made for receiving, assembling, and storage of drugs and other pharmacy products.

(12) If a closed cart is used for clean linen storage, it shall be stored in a room with a self closing door. Storage in an alcove in a corridor is prohibited.

(13) Ice intended for human consumption shall be dispensed by self dispensing ice makers. Bin type storage units are prohibited.

R432-5-8. Resident Support Areas.

(1) Occupational therapy service areas may be counted in the calculation of support space.
(2) Physical Therapy, personal care room, and public waiting lobbies shall not be included in the calculation of support space.

(6) Examination and Treatment rooms.

(a) An examination and treatment room shall be provided except when all resident rooms are single bed rooms.

(b) An examination and treatment room may be shared by multiple nursing units.

(c) When provided, the room shall have a minimum floor area of 100 square feet, excluding space for vestibules, toilet, closets, and work counters, whether fixed or moveable.

(d) The room shall contain a lavatory equipped for handwashing, work counter, storage facilities, and a desk, counter, or shelf space for writing.

(7) In addition to facility general storage areas, at least five square feet per bed shall be provided for resident storage.

**R432-5.9. Rehabilitation Therapy.**

(1) A separate storage room for clean and soiled linen shall be provided contiguous to the rehabilitation therapy area.

(2) Storage for rehabilitation therapy supplies and equipment shall be provided.

**Shower/Tub Room**

(14) Gurney showers for residents may be provided at the option of the facility.

(a) One bathtub and shower shall be provided on each nursing floor in addition to bath fixtures in resident toilet rooms.

(b) At least one shower on each floor shall be at least four feet square without curbs designed for use by a resident using a wheelchair.

(c) Each resident bathtub and shower shall be in a separate room or enclosure large enough to ensure privacy and to allow staff to assist with bathing, drying, and dressing.

(15) At least one toilet room shall be provided on each floor containing a nursing unit to be used for resident toilet training.

(a) The room shall contain a toilet and lavatory with wheelchair turning space within the room.

(b) A toilet room with direct access from the bathing area shall be provided at each central bathing area if a toilet is not otherwise provided in the bathing area. The toilet training facility may serve this function if there is direct access from the bathing area.

(c) Doors to toilet rooms shall have a minimum width of 34 inches to admit a wheelchair. The doors shall permit access from the outside in case of an emergency.

(d) A handwashing fixture shall be provided in each toilet room.
(16) An equipment storage room with a minimum area of 120 square feet for portable equipment shall be provided.

**New Construction: Nursing Unit**

**Summary:** Units Contiguous; Maximum Beds per Unit/Station; Hand-washing; Rehabilitation Therapy Area; Medical Cart; Resident Call System; Shower Dimensions; Privacy; Equipment Storage