Nurses’ Station & Resident Call System

(2) RESIDENT CARE EQUIPMENT.
(a) Personal need items. When a resident because of his or her condition needs a mouthwash cup, a wash basin, a soap dish, a bedpan, an emesis basin, or a standard urinal and cover, that item shall be provided to the resident. This equipment may not be interchanged between residents until it is effectively washed and sanitized.
(b) Thermometers. If reusable oral and rectal thermometers are used, they shall be cleaned and disinfected between use.
(c) First aid supplies. Each nursing unit shall be supplied with first aid supplies, including bandages, sterile gauze dressings, bandage scissors, tape, and a sling tourniquet.
(d) Other equipment. Other equipment, such as wheelchairs with brakes, footstools, commodes, foot cradles, footboards, under-the-mattress bedboards, walkers, trapeze frames, transfer boards, parallel bars, reciprocal pulleys, suction machines, patient lifts, and Stryker or Foster frames, shall be used as needed for the care of the residents.

(3) MAINTENANCE. All furnishings and equipment shall be maintained in a usable, safe and sanitary condition.

(4) STERILIZATION OF SUPPLIES AND EQUIPMENT. Each facility shall provide sterilized supplies and equipment by one or more of the following methods:
(a) Use of an autoclave;
(b) Use of disposable, individually wrapped, sterile supplies such as dressings, syringes, needles, catheters, and gloves;
(c) Sterilization services under a written agreement with another facility; or
(d) Other sterilization procedures when approved in writing by the department.

(5) SANITIZATION OF UTENSILS. Utensils such as individual bedpans, urinals, and wash basins which are in use shall be sanitized in accordance with acceptable sanitization procedures on a routine schedule. These procedures shall be done in an appropriate area.

(6) DISINFECTION OF RESIDENT GROOMING UTENSILS. Hair care tools such as combs, brushes, metal instruments, and shaving equipment which are used for more than one resident shall be disinfected before each use.

(7) OXYGEN.
(a) No oil or grease shall be used on oxygen equipment.
(b) When placed at the resident’s bedside, oxygen tanks shall be securely fastened to a tip-proof carrier or base.
(c) Oxygen regulators shall not be stored with solution left in the attached humidifier bottle.
(d) When in use at the resident’s bedside, cannulas, hoses, and humidifier bottles shall be changed and sterilized at least every 5 days.
(e) Disposable inhalation equipment shall be presterilized and kept in contamination-proof
containers until used, and shall be replaced at least every 5 days when in use.

(f) With other inhalation equipment such as intermittent positive pressure breathing equipment, the entire resident breathing circuit, including nebulizers and humidifiers, shall be changed daily.

(g) Housing blind, nonambulatory, or handicapped residents. In an existing facility of 2 or more stories which is not of at least two-hour fire-resistive construction, blind, nonambulatory, or physically handicapped residents shall not be housed above the street level floor unless the facility is either of one-hour protected noncombustible construction (as defined in national fire protection standard 220), fully sprinklered one-hour protected ordinary construction, or fully sprinklered one-hour protected woodframe construction.

(h) Storage of oxygen. Oxygen tanks, when not in use, shall be stored in a ventilated closet designated for that purpose or stored outside the building of the home in an enclosed secured area.

(3) STAFF WORK STATIONS AND OTHER REQUIRED FACILITIES.

Each resident living area shall have all of the following:

(a) A staff work station whose location allows staff to provide services to all living areas, resident bedrooms and resident use spaces. The facility shall contain adequate storage space for records and charts and shall contain a desk or work counter for staff, a functional telephone for emergency calls and a resident communication system as required under sub.

(b) Space for storage of linen, equipment and supplies, unless a central space for storage is provided.

(c) 1. Except as provided in subds. 2. and 3., a well-lit, secure medicine preparation, storage and handling room or area available to each staff work station with a work counter, refrigerator, sink with hot and cold running water, and a medicine storage cabinet with lock or space for drug carts. The room shall be mechanically ventilated.

   2. In period A nursing homes, a well-lit medicine preparation, storage and handling area equipped with a sink and hot and cold running water may continue to be used. Mechanical ventilation is not required.

   3. In period B nursing homes, cart storage space and mechanical ventilation within the medicine preparation room are not required.

(d) 1. Except as provided in subds. 2., 3. and 4., a soiled utility room central to each resident sleeping room wing or module that is equipped with a flush-rim siphon jet service sink, a facility for sanitizing bedpans, urinals, emesis basins, thermometers and related nursing care equipment, appropriate cabinet and counter space, and sink with hot and cold running water. The room shall be mechanically ventilated and under negative pressure.

   2. Period A nursing homes shall have a utility room that shall be located, designed and equipped to provide areas for the separate handling of clean and soiled linen, equipment, and supplies.

   3. Period B nursing homes shall have a ventilated utility room with a flush-rim service sink.

   4. Central location of soiled utility rooms is not required in existing nursing homes.
1. Except as provided in subd. 2., a clean utility area or room central to each resident sleeping room wing or module that is equipped with a sink with hot and cold running water, counter, and cabinets for storage of clean utensils and equipment.

2. Period A and B nursing homes shall have a utility room located, designed and equipped to provide areas for the separate handling of clean and soiled linen, equipment and supplies.

(f) Period C nursing homes shall have staff toilet and hand−washing facilities separate from those used by residents.

(g) Period C nursing homes shall have a nourishment station with sink, hot and cold running water, refrigerator and storage for serving between−meal nourishment if a kitchen is not open at all times. Nourishment stations may serve more than one nursing area but not more than a single floor.

(4) RESIDENT AND STAFF COMMUNICATION.

(a) Except as provided in pars. (b) and (c), the nursing home shall have a department−approved resident and staff communication system comprised of components listed by an independent testing laboratory to permit each resident to activate the call from resident rooms, toilet area, bathing areas, and activity areas. Nurse calls shall be visible from corridor or access aisles within each resident living area and an audible sounder shall annunciate upon failure of staff response. The communication signal emanating from the toilet, bath and shower areas shall be that of a distinctive emergency call. The activation device shall be reachable by the residents from each toilet, bath or shower location.

Note: Underwriter’s Laboratory (UL) is an example of an independent testing laboratory.

(b) Nursing homes in existence November 1, 2004, may continue using a nurse call system that registers calls from each resident bed, resident toilet room and each tub and shower area. In addition, in period B and C nursing homes, the resident staff signal may register in the corridor directly outside the room and at the staff work station.

(c) In all nursing homes in existence November 1, 2004, the nursing home may retain use of non−source signal canceling equipment until any remodeling is undertaken within the smoke compartment where the equipment is located.

(d) Communication systems shall be functioning at all times.

(7) STORAGE.

(a) Resident’s storage. In period B and C facilities, one or more central storage spaces shall be provided in the facility building for the storing of residents’ possessions such as trunks, luggage, and off−season clothing. The storage space shall total at least 50 cubic feet per resident bed.

(b) General storage. A general storage area shall be provided for supplies, equipment, and wheelchairs. Period C facilities shall have such storage space on each nursing unit.

(c) Linen. 1. Period B facilities shall provide a linen closet or cabinet for each floor or wing.

2. Period C facilities shall provide a linen storage space or cabinet for each nursing unit.

(12) ISOLATION ROOM.

(a) Period B. Period B facilities shall have available a room with handwashing facilities for the temporary isolation of a resident.

(b) Period C. For every 100 beds or fraction thereof, period C facilities shall have available one separate single room, equipped with separate toilet, handwashing, and bathing facilities, for the
temporary isolation of a resident. The isolation room bed shall be considered part of the licensed bed capacity of the facility.

(13) ROOMS FOR OTHER SERVICES IN PERIOD C FACILITIES.
(a) Requirement. Period C facilities which are licensed for skilled care shall have at least one room available for examinations, treatments, dental services, and other therapeutic procedures needed by residents.
(b) Equipment. The examination room shall be of sufficient size and shall be equipped to provide for resident needs.
(c) Rooms for rehabilitative services. Rooms for rehabilitative services shall be of sufficient size to accommodate necessary equipment and facilitate the movement of disabled residents. Lavatories and toilets designed for use by wheelchair residents shall be provided in these rooms.

**Shower/Tub Room**

2. Toilet and bath facilities shall be located on the floors of the residents to be served, and shall be separated in such a manner that they can be used independently and afford privacy.
3. One tub or shower for every 20 residents of each sex shall be provided. The bath or shower shall be located on the same floor as the residents served. Facilities for showering with a wheeled shower chair shall be provided.
4. Every tub, shower, or toilet shall be separated in such a manner that it can be used independently and afford privacy.

**New Construction: Nursing Unit**

**Summary:** Minimum Requirements per Unit/Station; Sterilization; Supplies and Equipment; Oxygen; Resident Call System; Storage; Isolation Room; Staff Work Facilities; Shower/Tub Ratio; Privacy