7.9.2.49 PHYSICIAN SERVICES IN ALL FACILITIES: The facility shall assure that the following services are provided:

A. ATTENDING PHYSICIANS: Each resident shall be under the supervision of a physician of the resident's or guardian's choice who evaluates and monitors the resident's immediate and long-term needs and prescribes measures necessary for the health, safety and welfare of the resident. Each attending physician shall make arrangements for the medical care of the physician's residents in the physician's absence.

B. PHYSICIAN'S VISIT:
   (1) Each resident who requires skilled nursing care shall be seen by a physician at least every thirty (30) days and an intermediate care resident at least every sixty (60) days unless the physician specifies and justifies in writing an alternate schedule of visits.
   (2) The physician shall review the plan of care required at the time of each visit.
   (3) The physician shall review the resident's medications and other orders at least at the time of each visit.
   (4) The physician shall review the resident's medications and orders at least at the time of each visit.

C. AVAILABILITY OF PHYSICIANS FOR EMERGENCY PATIENT CARE: The facility shall have written procedures, available at each nurse's station, for procuring a physician to furnish necessary medical care in emergencies and for providing care pending arrival of a physician. The names and telephone numbers of the physicians or medical service personnel available for emergency care shall be posted at each nursing station.

7.9.2.50 NURSING SERVICES:

A. DEFINITIONS:
   (1) Nursing personnel: means nurses, nurse aides, nursing assistants, and orderlies.
   (2) Ward clerk: means an employee who performs clerical duties of the nursing personnel.

B. DIRECTOR OF NURSING SERVICES IN SKILLED CARE AND INTERMEDIATE CARE FACILITIES:
   (1) Staffing requirement: Every skilled care facility and every intermediate care facility shall employ a full-time director of nursing services who may also serve as a charge nurse. The director of nursing services shall work only on the day shift except as in an emergency or required for the proper supervision of nursing personnel.
   (2) Qualifications: The director of nursing services shall:
      (a) Be a registered or licensed practical nurse; and
      (b) Be trained or experienced in areas such as nursing service administration, restorative nursing, psychiatric nursing, or geriatric nursing.
   (3) Duties: The director of nursing services shall be responsible for:
      (a) Supervising the functions, activities and training of the nursing personnel;
      (b) Developing and maintaining standard nursing practice, nursing policy and procedure manuals, and written job descriptions for each level of nursing personnel;
      (c) Coordinating nursing services with other resident services;
      (d) Designating the charge nurses provided for by this section;
      (e) Ensuring that the duties of nursing personnel shall be clearly defined and assigned to staff members consistent with the level of education, preparation, experience, and licensing of each.

C. CHARGE NURSES IN SKILLED CARE FACILITIES AND INTERMEDIATE CARE FACILITIES:
   (1) Staffing requirement:
      (a) A skilled nursing facility shall have at least one charge nurse on duty at all times.
      (b) An intermediate care facility shall have a charge nurse during every tour of duty.
   (2) Qualifications: Unless otherwise required under this paragraph, the charge nurses shall be registered nurses or licensed practical nurses, and shall have had training, or be acquiring training, or have had experience in areas such as nursing service administration, restorative nursing, psychiatric nursing, or geriatric nursing.

7.9.2 NMAC