15. TRANSFER AGREEMENTS

15.1 Agreement with Hospital

The facility must have in effect a written transfer agreement with one or more hospitals approved for participation under the Medicare and Medicaid programs that reasonably assures that:

(a) residents will be transferred from the facility to the hospital, and ensured of timely admission to the hospital, when transfer is medically appropriate as determined by the attending physician; and

(b) medical and other information needed for care and treatment of residents, and, when the transferring facility deems it appropriate, for determining whether such residents can be adequately cared for in a less expensive setting than either the facility or the hospital, will be exchanged between the institutions.