

Connecticut

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19-13-D8t. Chronic and convalescent nursing homes and rest homes with nursing supervision

(i) Medical staff.

(4) Requirements for active organized medical staff members.

(A) Members shall meet at least once every ninety (90) days. Minutes shall be maintained for all such meetings. The regular business of the medical staff meetings shall include, but not be limited to, the hearing and consideration of reports and other communications from physicians, the director of nurses and other health professionals on:

(iii) interdisciplinary care issues, including nursing, physical therapy, therapeutic recreation, social work, pharmacy, podiatry, or dentistry.

(r) Therapeutic Recreation.

(2) Each facility shall employ therapeutic recreation director(s).

(D) "Related field" in subparagraphs (B) and (C) of this subdivision shall include but not be limited to the following: sociology, social work, psychology, recreation, art, music, dance or drama therapy, the health sciences, education or other related field as approved by the commissioner or his/her designee.

(s) Social Work.

(1) Definitions:

(A) Social Work Designee A social work designee shall have at least an associate's degree in social work or in a related human service field. Any person employed as a social work designee on January 1, 1989 shall be eligible to continue in the facility of employment without restriction.

(B) Qualified Social Worker A qualified social worker shall hold at least a bachelor's degree in social work from a college or university which was accredited by the Council on Social Work Education at the time of his or her graduation, and have at least one year social work experience in a health care facility. An individual who has a bachelor's degree in a field other than social work and a certificate in Post Baccalaureate Studies in Social Work awarded before the effective date of these regulations by a college accredited by the Department of Higher Education, and at least one year social work experience in a health care facility, may perform the duties and carry out the responsibilities of a qualified social worker for up to three years after the effective date of these regulations.

(C) Qualified Social Work Consultant A qualified social work consultant shall hold at least a master's degree in social work from a college or university which was accredited by the Council on Social Work Education at the time of his or her graduation and have at least one year post-graduate social work experience in a health care facility. An individual who holds a bachelor's degree in social work from a college or university which was accredited by the Council on Social Work Education at the time of his or her graduation, and is under contract as a social work consultant on January 1, 1989, shall be eligible to continue functioning without restriction as a social work consultant in the facility(ies) which had contracted his or her services.

(2) Each facility shall employ social work service staff to meet the social and emotional problems and/or needs of the patients based on their medical and/or psychiatric diagnosis.

(3) The administrator of the facility shall designate in writing a qualified social worker or social work designee as responsible for the social work service.

(4) The social work service shall be directed by a qualified social worker or a social work designee. If the service is under the direction of a social work designee the facility shall contract for the regular consultation of a qualified social work consultant at least on a quarterly basis.

(5) Social work service staff shall be employed in each facility sufficient to meet the needs of the patients but not less than the following ratio of hours per week to the number of licensed beds in the facility:

(A) One (1) to thirty (30) beds, ten (10) hours per week.

(B) Thirty-one (31) to sixty (60) beds, twenty (20) hours per week.

(C) Each additional thirty (30) beds or fraction thereof, ten (10) additional hours.

(6) Written social work service policies and procedures shall be developed and implemented by a qualified social worker, or social work designee under the direction of a qualified social work consultant, and ratified by the governing body of the facility. Such standards shall include, but not be limited to:

(A) Ensuring the confidentiality of all patients' social, emotional, and medical information, in accordance with the General Statutes of Connecticut Section 19a-550 (a)(8).

(B) Requiring a prompt referral to an appropriate agency for patients or families in need of financial assistance and requiring that a record is maintained of each referral to such agency in the patient's medical record.

(7) The social work service shall help each patient to adjust to the social and emotional aspects of the patient's illness, treatment, and stay in the facility. The medically related social and emotional needs of the patient and family shall be identified, a plan of care developed, and measurable goals set in accordance with the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies Sections 19-13-D8t (o) (2) (H) and (o) (2) (I).

(8) All staff of the facility shall receive inservice training by or under the direction of a qualified social worker or social work designee each year concerning patients' personal and property rights pursuant to Section 19a-550 of the Connecticut General Statutes.

(9) All staff of the facility shall receive inservice training by a qualified social worker or qualified social work consultant each year in an area specific to the needs of the facility's patient population.

(10) A qualified social worker or social work designee shall participate in planning for the discharge and transfer of each patient.

(11) Office facilities shall be easily accessible to patients and staff or alternate arrangements shall be available. Each facility shall ensure privacy for interviews between staff and: patients, patients' families and patients' next friend.

(Added effective September 25, 1990; Amended effective December 28, 1992; July 2, 1993; March 30, 1994; March 29, 2001; March 8, 2004.)