

KENTUCKY

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902 KAR 20:300. Operation and services; nursing facilities.

Section 3. Resident Rights. The resident has a right to a dignified existence, self-determination and communication with and access to persons and services inside and outside the facility. A facility must protect and promote the rights of each resident, including each of the following rights:

(1) Exercise of rights.

(a) The resident shall have the right to exercise his or her rights as a resident of the facility and as a citizen or resident of the United States.

(b) The resident shall have the right to be free of interference, coercion, discrimination, or reprisal from the facility in exercising his or her rights.

(c) In the case of a resident adjudged incompetent under the laws of a state by a court of competent jurisdiction, the rights of the resident shall be exercised by the person appointed under state law to act on the resident's behalf.

(2) Notice of rights and services.

(a) The facility shall inform the resident both orally and in writing in a language that the resident understands of his or her rights and all rules and administrative regulations governing resident conduct and responsibilities during the stay in the facility. Such notification shall be made prior to or upon admission and during the resident's stay. Receipt of such information, and any amendments to it, shall be documented in writing.

(b) The resident shall have the right to inspect and purchase photocopies of all records pertaining to the resident, upon written request and forty-eight (48) hours notice to the facility;

(c) The resident shall have the right to be fully informed in language that he or she can understand of his or her total health status, including but not limited to, his or her medical condition;

(d) The resident shall have the right to refuse treatment, and to refuse to participate in experimental research; and

(e) The facility shall inform each resident before, or at the time of admission, and periodically during the resident's stay, of services available in the facility and of charges for those services, including any charges for services not covered by third party payors or the facility's per diem rate.

(f) The facility shall furnish a written description of legal rights which includes:

1. A description of the manner of protecting personal funds, under paragraph (3) of this section; and

2. A statement that the resident may file a complaint with the licensure agency concerning resident abuse, neglect, and misappropriation of resident property in the facility.

(g) The facility shall inform each resident of the name, specialty and way of contacting the physician responsible for his or her care.

(h) The facility shall have available a manual and contact person to provide residents and potential residents oral and written information about how to apply for and use third party benefits, and how to receive refunds for previous payments covered by such benefits.

(i) Notification of changes.

1. Except in a medical emergency or when a resident is incompetent, a facility shall consult with the resident immediately and notify the resident's physician, and if known, the resident's legal representative or interested family member within twenty-four (24) hours when there is:

a. An accident involving the resident which results in injury;

b. A significant change in the resident's physical, mental, or psychosocial status;

c. A need to alter treatment significantly; or

d. A decision to transfer or discharge the resident from the facility as specified in Section 4(1) of this administrative regulation.

2. The facility shall also promptly notify the resident and, if known, the resident's legal representative or interested family member when there is:

a. A change in room or roommate assignment as specified in Section 6(5)(b) of this administrative regulation; or

b. A change in resident rights under federal or state law or administrative regulations as specified in subsection (2)(a) of this section.

3. The facility shall record and periodically update the address and phone number of the resident's legal representative or interested family member.

(3) Protection of resident funds.

(a) The resident shall have the right to manage his or her financial affairs and the facility shall not require residents to deposit their personal funds with the facility.

(b) Management of personal funds. Upon written authorization of a resident, the facility shall hold, safeguard, manage and account for

the personal funds of the resident deposited with the facility, as specified in paragraphs (c) through (g) of this subsection.

(c) Deposit of funds.

1. Funds in excess of fifty (50) dollars. The facility shall deposit any resident's personal funds in excess of fifty (50) dollars in an interest bearing account (or accounts) that is separate from any of the facility's operating accounts, and that credits all interest earned on the resident's account to his or her account.

2. Funds less than fifty (50) dollars. The facility shall maintain a resident's personal funds that do not exceed fifty (50) dollars in a noninterest bearing account or petty cash fund.

(d) Accounting and records. The facility shall establish and maintain a system that assures a full and complete and separate accounting, according to generally accepted accounting principles, of each resident's personal funds entrusted to the facility on the resident's behalf.

1. The system shall preclude any commingling of resident funds with facility funds or with the funds of any person other than another resident.

2. The individual financial record shall be available on request to the resident or his or her legal representative.

(e) Conveyance upon death. Upon the death of a resident with a personal fund deposited with the facility, the facility shall convey promptly the resident's funds, and a final accounting of those funds, to the individual administering the resident's estate.

(f) Assurance of financial security. The facility shall purchase a surety bond, or provide self-insurance to assure the security of all personal funds of residents deposited with the facility.

(g) Limitation on charges to personal funds. The facility shall not impose a charge against the personal funds of a resident for any item or service for which payment is made by a third party payor.

(4) Free choice. The resident shall have the right to:

(a) Choose a personal attending physician;

(b) Be fully informed in advance about care and treatment of any changes in that care or treatment that may affect the resident's wellbeing; and

(c) Unless adjudged incompetent or otherwise found to be incapacitated under the laws of the state, participate in planning care and treatment or changes in care and treatment.

(5) Privacy and confidentiality of personal and clinical records. The resident shall have the right to personal privacy and confidentiality of his personal and clinical records.

(a) Personal privacy includes accommodations, medical treatment, written and telephone communications, personal care, visits, and meetings of family and resident groups, but this does not require the facility to provide a private room;

(b) Except as provided in paragraph (c) of this subsection, the resident may approve or refuse the release of personal and clinical records to any individual outside the facility;

(c) The resident's right to refuse release of personal and clinical records shall not apply when:

1. The resident is transferred to another health care institution; or
2. Record release is required by law or third-party payment contract.

(6) Grievances. A resident shall have the right to:

- (a) Voice grievances with respect to treatment or care that is, or fails to be furnished, without discrimination or reprisal for voicing the grievances; and
- (b) Prompt efforts by the facility to resolve grievances the resident may have, including those with respect to the behavior of other residents.

(7) Examination of survey results. A resident shall have the right to:

- (a) Examine the results of the most recent survey of the facility conducted by federal or state surveyors and any plan of correction in effect with respect to the facility. The results shall be posted by the facility in a place readily accessible to residents; and
- (b) Receive information from agencies acting as client advocates, and be afforded the opportunity to contact these agencies.

(8) Work. The resident shall have the right to:

- (a) Refuse to perform services for the facility;
- (b) Perform services for the facility, if he or she chooses, when:
 1. The facility documents the need or desire for work in the plan of care;
 2. The plan specifies the nature of the services performed and whether the services are voluntary or paid;
 3. Compensation for paid services is at or above prevailing rates; and
 4. The resident agrees to the work arrangements described in the plan of care.

(9) The resident shall have the right to privacy in written communications, including the right to:

- (a) Send and receive mail promptly that is unopened; and
- (b) Have access to stationery, postage and writing implements at the resident's own expense.

(10) Access and visitation rights.

(a) The resident shall have the right and the facility shall provide immediate access to any resident by the following:

1. Any representative of the federal government;

2. Any representative of the state;
3. The resident's individual physician;
4. Any representative of the Kentucky long-term care ombudsman program;
5. The agency responsible for the protection and advocacy system for developmentally disabled individuals and for mentally ill individuals;
6. Subject to the resident's right to deny or withdraw consent at any time, immediate family or other relatives of the resident; and
7. Subject to reasonable restrictions and the resident's right to deny or withdraw consent at any time, others who are visiting with the consent of the resident.

(b) The facility shall provide reasonable access to any resident by any entity or individual that provides health, social, legal, or other services to the resident, subject to the resident's right to deny or withdraw consent at any time.

(c) The facility shall allow representatives of the ombudsman, described in paragraph (a)4 of this subsection, to examine a resident's clinical records with the permission of the resident or the resident's legal representative, and consistent with state law .

(11) Telephone. The resident shall have the right to have regular access to the private use of a telephone.

(12) Personal property. The resident shall have the right to retain and use personal possessions, including some furnishings, and appropriate clothing, as space permits, unless to do so would infringe upon the rights or health and safety of other residents.

(13) Married couples. The resident shall have the right to share a room with his or her spouse when married residents live in the same facility and both spouses consent to the arrangement.