

.08 Admission and Discharge.

A. **Discrimination Prohibited.** A facility licensed under these regulations may not discriminate in admitting or providing care to an individual because of the race, color, national origin, or physical or mental handicap of the individual.

B. **Contract.** Before or at admission, a contract shall be executed by the administrator and patient, guardian, or responsible agency which is consistent with the requirements of Health-General Article, § 19-344, Annotated Code of Maryland, "Rights of Individuals".

C. **Registry.** Facilities shall maintain a permanent patient registry in which the name of each patient is entered in chronological order with the date and number of entry.

D. **Admission Record.** A copy of the clinical record, identification, and summary sheet described in Regulation .20B shall be used as an admission record.

E. **Notification of Responsible Persons When Patient Moves.** The administrator or the administrator's designee shall notify the private or public agency or relative responsible for the patient when the patient is transferred from the facility for any reason or at time of death. The attending physician shall also be notified.

F. **Restrictions on Admission and Retention of Patients.** Patients may not be admitted or retained if, in the judgment of the attending physician, they are:

- (1) Acutely ill and require medical, surgical, or nursing care beyond the capabilities of the facility; or
- (2) Dangerous to themselves or others.

G. **Admissions Procedures for Patients With Communicable Diseases.** The following procedures are to be used when admitting an individual with a communicable disease into a nursing facility:

(1) A facility may not deny admissions to, or involuntarily discharge, an individual solely because the individual has a communicable disease;

(2) Any facility that intends to accept an individual with a communicable disease shall notify the Department before admitting the individual; and

(3) The Secretary or a designee of the Secretary may prohibit a facility from accepting an individual with a communicable disease if it is determined that admitting the individual with a communicable disease could pose a risk to the health, safety, or welfare of any other resident or individual associated with the facility.