

7.9.2.65 MAINTENANCE: All facility furnishings and equipment shall be maintained in a usable, safe and sanitary condition.

[7-1-60, 5-2-89; 7.9.2.65 NMAC – Rn, 7 NMAC 9.2.65, 8-31-00]

7.9.2.66 STERILIZATION OF SUPPLIES AND EQUIPMENT: Each facility shall provide sterilized supplies and equipment by one or more of the following methods:

- A. Use of an autoclave.
- B. Use of disposable, individually wrapped, sterile supplies such as dressings, syringes, needles, catheters, and gloves.
- C. Sterilization services under a written agreement with another facility; or
- D. Other sterilization procedures when approved in writing by the Department.

[7-1-60, 5-2-89; 7.9.2.66 NMAC – Rn, 7 NMAC 9.2.66, 8-31-00]

7.9.2.67 SANITIZATION OF UTENSILS: Utensils such as individual bedpans, urinals and wash basins which are in use shall be sanitized in accordance with acceptable sanitization procedures on a routine schedule. These procedures shall be done in an appropriate area.

[7-1-60, 5-2-89; 7.9.2.67 NMAC – Rn, 7 NMAC 9.2.67, 8-31-00]

7.9.2.68 DISINFECTION OF RESIDENT GROOMING UTENSILS: Hair care tools such as combs, brushes, metal instruments, and shaving equipment which are used for more than one resident shall be disinfected before each use.

[7-1-60, 5-2-89; 7.9.2.68 NMAC – Rn, 7 NMAC 9.2.68, 8-31-00]

7.9.2.69 OXYGEN:

- A. No oil or grease shall be used on oxygen equipment.
- B. When placed at the resident's bedside, oxygen tanks shall be securely fastened to a tip-proof carrier or base.
- C. Oxygen regulators shall not be stored with solution left in the attached humidifier bottle.
- D. When in use at the resident's bedside, cannulas, hoses, and humidifier bottles shall be changed at least every thirty (30) days.
- E. Disposable inhalation equipment shall be pre-sterilized and kept in contamination-proof containers until used, and shall be replaced at least every thirty (30) days when in use.
- F. With other inhalation equipment such as intermittent positive pressure breathing equipment, the entire resident breathing circuit, including nebulizers and humidifiers, shall be changed at least every seven (7) days.

[5-2-89; 7.9.2.69 NMAC – Rn, 7 NMAC 9.2.69, 8-31-00]

7.9.2.70 HOUSEKEEPING SERVICES:

A. **REQUIREMENT:** Facilities shall develop and implement written policies that ensure a safe and sanitary environment for personnel and residents at all times.

B. **CLEANING:**

(1) General: The facility shall be kept clean and free from offensive odors, accumulations of dirt, rubbish, dust, and safety hazards.

(2) Floors: Floors and carpeting shall be kept clean. Polishes on floors shall provide a non-slip finish. Carpeting or any other material covering the floors that is worn, damaged, contaminated or badly soiled shall be replaced, repaired or cleaned.

(3) Other surfaces: Ceiling and walls shall be kept clean and in good repair at all times. The interior and exterior of the buildings shall be painted or stained as needed to protect the surfaces. Loose, cracked, or peeling wallpaper or paint shall be replaced or repaired.

(4) Furnishings: All furniture and other furnishings shall be kept clean and in good repair at all times.

(5) Combustibles in storage areas: Attics, cellars and other storage areas shall be kept safe and free from dangerous accumulations of combustible materials. Combustibles such as cleaning rags and compounds shall be kept in closed metal containers.

(6) Grounds: The grounds shall be kept free from refuse, litter, and wastewater. Areas around buildings, sidewalks, gardens, and patios shall be kept clear of dense undergrowth.

C. POISONS: All poisonous compounds shall be clearly labeled as poisonous and, when not in use, shall be stored in a locked area separate from food, kitchenware, and medications.

D. GARBAGE:

(1) Storage containers: All garbage and rubbish shall be stored in leak-proof, non-absorbent containers with close-fitting covers, and in areas separate from those used for the preparation and storage of food. Containers shall be cleaned regularly. Paperboard containers shall not be used.

(2) Disposal: Garbage and rubbish shall be disposed of promptly in a safe and sanitary manner.

E. LINEN AND TOWELS: Linens shall be handled, stored, processed, and transported in such a manner as to prevent the spread of infection. Soiled linen shall not be sorted, rinsed, or stored in bathrooms, residents' rooms, kitchens, food storage areas, nursing units, common hallways.

F. PEST CONTROL:

(1) Requirement: The facility shall be maintained reasonably free from insects and rodents, with harborage and entrances of insects and rodents eliminated.

(2) Provision of service: Pest control shall be provided when required for the control of insects and rodents.

(3) Screening of windows and doors: All windows and doors used for ventilation purposes shall be provided with wire screening of not less than number sixteen (16) mesh or its equivalent, and shall be properly installed and maintained to prevent entry of insects. Hinged screen days when in use.

(4) With other inhalation equipment such as intermittent positive pressure breathing equipment, the entire resident breathing circuit, including nebulizers and humidifiers, shall be changed at least every seven (7) days.

[7-1-60, 7-1-64, 5-2-89; 7.9.2.70 NMAC – Rn, 7 NMAC 9.2.70, 8-31-00]

7.9.2.71 PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT:

A. GENERAL: The buildings of the nursing facility shall be constructed and maintained so that they are functional for diagnosis and treatment and for the delivery services appropriate to the needs of the community and with due for protecting the health and safety of the patients. The provisions of this section apply to all new, remodeled and existing construction unless otherwise noted. Existing waivers at the time these regulations are enacted would continue to be accepted unless it is determined that the facility is unable to protect the health and safety of the resident.

B. DEFINITIONS: The definitions in the applicable life safety code required under these regulations apply to this subchapter. In addition, in this subchapter:

(1) Existing construction: means a building which is in place or is being constructed with plans approved by the department prior to the effective date of this chapter.

(2) Life safety code: means the National Fire Protection Association's standard 101.

(3) 1981 Code: means facilities with construction plans first approved by the Department on or after November 26, 1982, shall be free from dangerous accumulations of combustible materials. Combustibles such as cleaning rags and compounds shall be kept in closed metal containers.

(4) Fire safety evaluation system: means a proposed or existing facility not meeting all requirements of the applicable life safety code shall be considered in compliance if it achieves a passing score on the Fire Safety Evaluation System (FSES), developed by the United State Department of Commerce, National Bureau of Standards, to establish safety equivalencies under the Life Safety Code.

(5) New construction: means construction for the first time of any building or addition to an existing building, the plans for which are approved after the effective date of this chapter.

(6) Remodeling: means to make over or rebuild any portion of a building or structure and thereby