8.20. Infection Control.
8.20.a. A nursing home shall establish and maintain an infection control program designed to provide a safe, sanitary, and comfortable environment and to help prevent the development and transmission of disease and infection.
8.20.b. Infection control program. A nursing home shall establish and implement an infection control program under which it:
8.20.b.1. Investigates, controls, and prevents infections in the nursing home;
8.20.b.2. Determines what procedures, such as isolation, should be applied to a resident and isolates only to the extent that is required to protect the resident and others; and
8.20.b.3. Maintains a record of incidents, investigations, and corrective actions related to infections.
8.20.b.3.A. The records shall provide for analysis of causal factors and identification of preventative actions to be implemented.
8.20.c. Preventing spread of infection.
8.20.c.1. Policies and Procedures. A nursing home shall establish and implement policies and procedures consistent with current accepted standards of practice regarding the administration of pneumococcal vaccine, influenza vaccine, and screening for tuberculosis.
8.20.c.2. Isolation. When the nursing home staff determines by means of the infection control program that a resident needs isolation to prevent the spread of infection, the nursing home shall isolate the resident or make arrangements to have the resident transferred to a nursing home which can better meet the needs of the resident if the nursing home is unable to provide the required degree of isolation.
8.20.c.3. Employee restrictions. A nursing home shall prohibit employees with a communicable disease or infected skin lesions from direct contact with residents or their food, if direct contact will transmit the disease.
8.20.c.4. Hand-washing. A nursing home shall require staff to wash their hands after each direct resident contact and after engaging in any activity for which hand washing is indicated by accepted standards of professional practice.
8.20.d. Linens. Personnel shall handle, store, process, and transport linens in order to prevent the spread of infection.