

24 January 2007

Mr Sean & Mrs Theresa Quinn
Proprietors,
Sacred Heart Nursing Home
Crosspatrick
Co. Kilkenny

Inspection Report

Re: Inspection of Sacred Heart Nursing Home, Crosspatrick, Co. Kilkenny, under the Health (Nursing Homes) Act, 1990 and the Nursing Homes (Care and Welfare) Regulations, 1993.

Dear Mr. & Mrs Quinn

The Health Service Executive Nursing Homes Inspection Team inspected the Sacred Heart Nursing Home, Crosspatrick, Co. Kilkenny from 10.45 hrs to 15.30 hrs on 9th January 2007 for the purpose of re-registration. This inspection was unannounced.

There were 20 residents on this date. The Nursing Home is currently fully registered for 23 residents.

Issues identified in previous Inspection Report date 22nd November 2006 have been partially addressed.

Outstanding issues remain under:

Article: 19.1 (e)	Medical files have been improved but not yet replaced
Article: 14 (a)	Outstanding issues detailed in the integrated inspection report below.

The following issues require your attention and action.

Article 14 (a) *Ensure that the Nursing Home and its curtilage is maintained in a proper state of repair and in a clean and hygienic condition.*

Article 14 (b) *Make adequate arrangements for the prevention or spread of infection.*

Breaches:

In room 18 one of the vacant beds is rusty and the cot side attached is stained and dirty.
In room 17 the cot side on the vacant bed is stained and dirty. Another bed in this room has a stained duvet cover.
In room 16 one bed had a dirty pillow case and the bed was rusty and stained.
In room 15 beds are old with some chipped paint and rust.
In room 6 there is a dirty bedspread.
In rooms 1 and 2 the curtain screening a bed was dirty and stained.
In room 14 the nebulizer was dusty.

Required Action:

Dirty bedclothes and curtains must be laundered each time they become soiled. Infection control procedures in the nursing home must include detailed instructions to care staff on the care of beds and equipment when a vacancy occurs. Cleaning routines have been documented for use in some areas of the nursing home. However these routines should cover all areas and equipment. The programme should:

- List all areas, equipment, fixtures and fittings to be cleaned and washed
- The frequency of cleaning
- Procedure for cleaning including equipment to be used and cleaning agents.

Please refer to Guidelines for Infection Control in Nursing Homes/Residential Homes: HSE-SE 2005, page 23, Routine Environmental Cleaning, page 23/24, Procedure for Routine Surface Cleaning and also page 91 and 92 for Procedure for Cleaning of Small Volume Medication nebulisers.

It is critical that rooms/furniture/fixtures and equipment are deep cleaned/sanitised once they are vacated. Suitable cleaning equipment shall be provided. It is recommended that suitable commercial equipment is used i.e. mops, buckets and cleaning trolley.

Timescale: Immediately

Article: 14 (b) *“make adequate arrangements for the prevention of infection, infestation, toxic conditions, or spread of infection and infestation at the nursing home”*

Breach: There is no wash hand basin provided in the laundry room.
Clean laundry is currently being stored in the laundry room.

Required Action: A separate wash hand basin shall be provided in the laundry room.
All clean laundry shall be stored in the new laundry room in the new wing of the nursing home.

Timescale: On completion of the extension.

Article 11 (g) *Bed and bedding appropriate to the dependency of each patient and suitable and sufficient furniture and other necessary fittings and equipment.*

Breach: In room 16 the chest of drawers and locker are worn and have chipped paint.
In room 1 and 2 the bed tables are worn and chipped. The leatherette on the armchair is frayed and torn in room 1 and 2 and also on armchairs in the smaller sitting room.

Required Action: All worn and chipped furniture must be replaced. The floor covering must be repaired and the rooms must be redecorated as required.
An extra wardrobe shall be provided in room 16.
Shelving for the storage of personal toiletries shall be provided at the hand basin in each room.

Timescale: All furniture shall be upgraded in line with the equipping of the new extension.

Article: 5 (a) *Suitable and sufficient care to maintain the persons welfare and wellbeing, having regard to the nature and extent of the persons dependency.*

Breach: Nursing observations of blood pressure, pulse and weight are not recorded on a regular basis in the nursing notes. Some nursing policies and procedures are handwritten.

Required Action: The blood pressure, pulse and weight of each patient must be recorded at least on a monthly basis or when required in the patients nursing notes.
Nursing policies and procedures must be compiled properly in detail and must be typed up. All staff must be trained to implement these policies and procedures in their daily work.

Timescale: Immediately.

Article: 5 (b) *A high standard of nursing care*

Article: 19 (a) *A summary of the assessment of the persons level of dependence on admission and review*

Breach: A formal assessment and review of each patient is not taking place often enough.

Required Action: A formal assessment and review of each patients care plan must be carried out and documented at regular intervals.

Timescale: Immediately.

Article: 8 (a) *Personal possessions. A record kept of valuables signed by the person or a person acting on his or her behalf.*

Required Action: A record should be maintained of the personal belongings of a patient on admission and updated as the need arises.

Article: 19.1 (h) *A record of any occasion on which physical or chemical restraint is used, the nature of the restraint and its duration.*

Required Action: The record of assessment and consent for restraint to be used should be expanded and reviewed at least yearly and noted on each patient's nursing records.

Timescale: Immediately

Article: 19.1 (i) *A record of any substantial complaint made*

Required Action: The complaints policy should be reviewed, expanded, typed up and displayed in a prominent place. The description of a complaint should be recorded separately from compliments and comments and should include the appropriate action taken.

Timescale: Immediately

Article: 12 (b) *Ensure that handrails are provided in circulation areas*

Breach: Handrails are absent on one side of the corridor in the extension.

Required Action: Handrails to be put up on both sides of the corridor.

Timescale: 6 months.

Article: 12 (e) *“Ensure that safe flooring is provided”*

Breach: The floor covering in room 12 is worn and frayed.

Required Action: The floor covering shall be replaced.

Timescale: 3 months.

Article: 12 (a) *“Take precautions against the risk of accidents to any dependent person in the nursing home and in the grounds of the nursing home”*

Breach: The television unit in room 12 was placed on a small table unit adjacent to a wardrobe
The cold tap at the wash hand basin in room 4 was very stiff to turn.

Required Action: Suitable wall brackets shall be provided for television units.
The cold tap in room 4 shall be repaired to ensure a supply of cold water is available at all times.

Timescale: Immediately

Article: 12 (a) *“Take precautions against the risk of accidents to any dependent person in the nursing home and in the grounds of the nursing home”*

Breach: The bed in room 2 is located beside a radiator which is unguarded.

Required Action: The bed shall be relocated away from the radiator or alternatively the radiator shall be covered/guarded.

Timescale: Immediately.

Article 19.1 *In every nursing home the following particulars shall be kept in a safe place in respect of each dependent person*

Article: 19.1 (e) *a medical record with details of investigations made, diagnosis and treatment given and a record of all drugs and medications prescribed signed and dated by a medical practitioner.*

Breach: One file was notably thin in spite of the resident’s long stay in the nursing home.

Required Action: Results of blood tests and investigations and referral letters, copies of correspondence arising thereof must be obtained and filed in the resident’s medical file.

Recommendations Where the above is not forthcoming active follow up in the form of a written request should take place.

Article 29: *Medical Preparations. The Proprietor or the Person in Charge of the nursing home shall:-*

(a) *Make adequate arrangements for the recording, safekeeping, administering and disposal of drugs and medicines.*

Breaches: A number of antibiotics were held in “stock” in the controlled drug safe and as such represent unlabelled medication.

Required Action: All medications should be retained for seven days following a discharge in the event of a coroner’s notification. Thereafter they must be returned to the appropriate pharmacy.

Recommendations: Review drug policy to ensure the above is being complied with following each discharge.
The enclosed best practice guidelines on provision of pharmacy services to residential homes should be examined. Item 2.1.7. is particularly relevant in the above context.

Note- the above information i.e. Article, Breach, Required Action and Timescale, to be included separately in respect of each breach noted at inspection

The Chairperson of the Inspection Teams to be notified in writing on or before the above dates the steps taken by the nursing home to carry out the actions as required under the regulations.

Signed:

Inspection Team Member Inspection Team Member Inspection Team Member

Copy to: Ms. Mary Morris, Person in Charge