Nursing Home Inspectorate Team
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14th August, 2007

Sr. Francesca Colgan
Nazareth House Nursing Home
Fahan
Buncrana
Co. Donegal

Inspection Report


Dear Sr. Colgan,

The Health Service Executive Nursing Home Inspection Team from a Medical, Nursing and Environmental Health perspective inspected Nazareth House Nursing Home, Fahan, Co. Donegal on 22nd March 2007 and 3rd May 2007.

The inspection commenced at 10.00 am and was completed by 5.30 p.m. This inspection was unannounced.

There were 47 residents on this date. The Nursing Home is currently registered for 48 residents.

Issues identified in the previous Inspection Report dated 17th August 2006 have been addressed satisfactorily.

Fire Safety
The fire safety requirements of the Nursing Home (Care and Welfare) Regulations 1993 were examined as part of this inspection. However, this cannot be interpreted as a full fire safety inspection of the premises. We would advise that you consult the Guidance documents “Fire Safety in Nursing Homes” published by the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government in July 1996 and that you familiarise yourself with your obligations as a Nursing Home Proprietor.
Food Safety
A food safety inspection was also carried out on this date under Regulation (EC) No. 852/2004 on the Hygiene of Foodstuffs and S.I. 369 of 2006 - European Communities (Hygiene of Foodstuffs) Regulations. A separate report on the food safety element of the inspection will be sent to you.

Current Inspection
The following issues require your attention and action.

Article: 19 (1) In every nursing home the following particulars shall be kept in a safe place in respect of each dependent person:—

(f) a record of drugs and medicines administered giving the date of the prescription, dosage, name of the drug or medicine, method of administration, signed and dated by a medical practitioner and the nurse administering the drugs and medicines;

Article: 29 (b) ensure that the treatment and medication prescribed by the medical practitioner of a dependent person is correctly administered and recorded.

Article: 30 (c) a person's right to refuse treatment shall be respected and documented and the matter brought to the attention of the person's medical practitioner and the person acting on his or her behalf.

Non-Compliance(s): The drug dosage system used in the Nazareth House compromises the dispensing nurses ability to record what has been dispensed. Also, it does not allow flexibility for residents to refuse medication.

Required Action: It is recommended that Nazareth House consider whether the dosage system is the most appropriate method of administering drugs to their residents.

Timescale: By the time of the next inspection.

Article: 12 The registered proprietor and the person in charge of the nursing home shall:—

(a) take precautions against the risk of accidents to any dependent person in the nursing home and in the grounds of the nursing home;

Non-Compliance(s): The overhead lights to the beds in Room No. B11 are of a fluted glass design. These are not suitable as there is a risk of residents in these beds banging their heads on these light fittings or that on any impact the glass may break.

Required Action: Replace these light fittings with suitable light fittings that do not cause a risk of injury.

Timescale: 1 month.
Article: 11.2  In every nursing home there shall be provided suitable and sufficient accommodation which meets the minimum standards as follows:—

(j) emergency call facilities are provided at each bed;

Non-Compliance(s):  The call bell over the bed in Room B13 was not operational at the time of inspection.
Required Action:  Repair/replace the bell as appropriate.
Timescale:  Immediate.

Article: 15  The registered proprietor and the person in charge of the nursing home shall ensure that:—

(a) there is a sufficient supply of piped hot and cold water and that wash-hand basins are provided in each bedroom;

Non-Compliance(s):  The water pressure to the taps in the D Wing of the Nursing Home was very poor.
Required Action:  The water pressure must be adequate in all showers and wash hand basins.  I understand some remedial work to the hot water system is being carried out to deal with ongoing problems with uneven water temperatures and water pressure.  This problem must be rectified.
Timescale:  1 month.

Non-Compliance(s):  The water temperature in the taps at the wash hand basins in D Wing were very low.  The recommended water temperature is 43 celsius.  The water temperatures in D Wing were varying between 23 and 38 celsius.
Required Action:  Provide an adequate hot water supply at all times.
Timescale:  1 month.

The Chairperson of the Nursing Home Inspection Team is to be notified in writing on or before the above dates indicating the steps taken by the Nursing Home to carry out the actions as required under the Regulations.

Signed:

Senior Medical Officer
Chairperson
Nursing Home
Inspection Team

Senior Environmental Health Officer
Assistant Director of Nursing Home Inspection Team

Signed counterpart sent to Sr. Anna Lenihan, Person-in-Charge of Nursing Home