Re: Inspection of Thorpes Nursing Home under the Health (Nursing Homes) Act, 1990 and the Nursing Homes (Care and Welfare) Regulations, 1993

Dear Sir/Madam

The Health Service Executive Nursing Homes Inspection and Registration Team visited Thorpes Nursing Home on 24/08/06.

There were twenty six residents on this date. The Nursing Home is currently registered for twenty six residents.

The following issues require your attention and action.

1. **Article 18.1 (b)** “The name address and telephone number, if any, of the person’s relatives or other person nominated to act on the person’s behalf as a person to be notified in the event of change in person’s health or circumstances be recorded on each resident”.
   - **Breach:** It was noted at inspection that in the Residents register the recording of details of the next of kin were not all completed adequately.
   - **Required Action:** The register shall be maintained as per Article 18.1

2. **Article 19.1 (e) (f):** “The following shall be kept in respect of each dependent person: (e) a medical record with details of investigations made, diagnosis and treatment given, and a record of all drugs and medicines prescribed, signed and dated by a medical practitioner; (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 drug and medicines;”
   - **Breach:** It was noted at inspection that while the majority of the prescribed drugs were signed and dated by a medical practitioner, two drug kardex sheets and a few individual drugs on another sheet were not signed.
   - **Required Action:** All drug prescription sheets shall be signed and dated by a medical practitioner.
3. **Article: 28.1 (b) “All Fire Alarm tests carried out together with results of any such tests and action taken to remedy the defects shall be recorded in the fire book.”**

   **Breach:** There was no documented evidence of fire alarm tests being carried out at the Nursing Home.

   **Required Action:** All fire alarm tests shall be recorded as per article 28.1

4. It was noted at inspection that a small number of policies had been put in place; a suggested list of policies and procedures is enclosed.

5. It was noted on inspection that doors and skirting boards in some areas are still in need of re-painting.

6. As discussed during the inspection The Nursing Home Inspection and Registration Team considers that one bath is sufficient and agree that the second bath may be removed to allow easier access to the shower in this bathroom.

7. It was noted that lockers in some bedrooms, particularly rooms 4 and 10, were in a dilapidated condition. Damaged and dilapidated lockers shall be replaced on a phased basis.

9. A urinal had been placed in the waste paper basket in room 21. This practice is unacceptable and shall not be allowed to continue.

10. The Team noted that a dedicated cleaning room has now been provided. As discussed however, carpet is not a suitable floor covering for this room.

   Ventilation in this area should be sufficient to provide three air changes per hour.

   We wish to acknowledge receipt of:
   
   a. Copy menu for week of inspection
   b. List of residents indicating maximum, high and medium and whether they are receiving subvention.
   c. Copy roster for week of inspection. The Team finds it difficult to distinguish carers from kitchen staff with your current roster format and have enclosed a suggested alternative. We require a more comprehensive account of Nursing Home staffing levels for week of 21/08/06
   d. A copy of your liability Insurance.

   We wish to thank you for facilitating the inspection and look forward to your co-operation in the future

   Yours sincerely

   ________________________________________________  ________________________________________________
   Assistant Director of                              Principal Environmental Health Officer
   Public Health Nursing