Inspection Report

Re: Inspection of Ashlawn Nursing Home Limerick Road Nenagh Co. Tipperary under the Health (Nursing Homes) Act, 1990 and the Nursing Homes (Care and Welfare) Regulations, 1993

Dear Ms. Carey

The Health Service Executive Nursing Homes Inspection Team inspected Ashlawn Nursing Home Limerick Road Nenagh Co. Tipperary from 10.30am to 12.45pm on 16/01/07. This inspection was unannounced.

There were twenty five residents on this date. The Nursing Home is currently fully registered for twenty nine residents.

Issues identified in previous Inspection Report of 20/07/06 which have not been satisfactorily addressed include Article 19.1 (e) (f).

The following issues require your attention and action.

**Article: 14 (a) (b) and (d)**

“The registered proprietor and the person in charge of the nursing home shall:
(a) Ensure that the nursing home and its curtilage are maintained in a proper state of repair and in a clean and hygienic condition
(b) Make adequate arrangements for the prevention of infection, infestation, toxic conditions, or spread of infection and infestation at the nursing home
(d) Ensure that a separate well ventilated room is provided for sluicing and for the storage of dirty linen”.

**Breach:**

(a) In the en-suite of rooms 14 and 15 there was no toilet seat attached to the toilet.
(b) Two old commodes which were in an unhygienic condition were stored in the room beside the sluice room. (The Team was informed that these were not in use).
In many of the en-suites, clean incontinence wear was being stored on top of the toilet cisterns. This is unacceptable as it may be a source of cross infection.
(d) Within the sluice room a dirty bath mat was left sitting in the sink. Two soiled raised toilet seats were placed on the shelf under the large sink.
Required Action:
- All toilet bowls should have toilet seats attached.
- Tops of toilet cisterns shall be kept clear of clean incontinence wear and toiletries.
- The two old commodes, which were being stored in the room beside the sluice room, shall be disposed of immediately.
- Dirty items brought into the sluice room should be immediately cleaned and immersed in sterilising fluid.
- Only items associate with sluicing activities shall be retained in the sluice room.

Timescale: Immediately

Article: 29 (a) “The registered proprietor and the person in charge of the nursing home shall: make adequate arrangements for the recording, safe-keeping, administering and disposal of drugs and medicines”.

Breach: During the inspection it was noted that the procedure for returning/disposal of unused MDA drugs was not recorded.

Required Action: All procedures for the disposal of drugs shall be documented and recorded as per above article and An Board Altranais guidelines.

Timescale: Immediately

Article: 19.1(e) (f) (h)
“In every nursing home the following particulars shall be kept in a safe place 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 drugs and medicines
(h) a record of any occasion on which physical or chemical restraint is used, the nature of the restraint and its duration”.

Breach:
(e) and (f) It was noted at inspection that a number of drug kardex sheets were not signed and dated by the general practitioner.
(h) Adequate records of physical restraint were not available at inspection.

Required Action:
- All drug prescription sheets shall be signed and dated by a medical practitioner.
- Records of restraints shall be retained in accordance with the above regulations.

Timescale: Immediately

Recommendations:
1. Due to the shortage of shower rooms the second bathroom could be converted to a shower room

Signed: ___________________ ___________________ ___________________
Chairperson  Inspection Team Member  Inspection Team Member

Cc Ms. Alene Curtin Person-in-Charge