

Nursing Facility Checklist

When searching for a nursing facility for yourself or a loved one it is best to be prepared as much as possible. This checklist has been designed so you can determine what factors are the most important to you when you need care.

Facility Information	Facility #1	Facility #2
Nursing facility is Medicare Certified.	☐ Yes ☐ No	☐ Yes ☐ No
Nursing facility accepts Medicaid payment.	☐ Yes ☐ No	☐ Yes ☐ No
Nursing facility has level of care that is needed (e.g. skilled, intermediate) and a bed is available.	□ Yes □ No	□ Yes □ No
Special services are available if needed (e.g. rehabilitation, memory care etc) and a bed is available.	□ Yes □ No	□ Yes □ No
It is located so family and friends can visit.	☐ Yes ☐ No	☐ Yes ☐ No
Common Living Spaces	Facility #1	Facility #2
The nursing facility is free of unpleasant odors.	☐ Yes ☐ No	☐ Yes ☐ No
The facility appears clean and well-kept (inside and outside).	☐ Yes ☐ No	☐ Yes ☐ No
Temperature is comfortable for residents.	☐ Yes ☐ No	☐ Yes ☐ No
Noise levels in the dining room and other areas are comfortable.	☐ Yes ☐ No	☐ Yes ☐ No
There is natural light and light level is comfortable.	☐ Yes ☐ No	☐ Yes ☐ No
Smoking is allowed in designated outside areas (ask to see smoking policy if this is important to the resident).	□ Yes □ No	□ Yes □ No
Furniture is sturdy, clean, comfortable and attractive.	☐ Yes ☐ No	☐ Yes ☐ No
There are quiet areas where residents can visit with family and friends.	□ Yes □ No	□ Yes □ No
There are outdoor areas for residents to use and staff help residents go outside if needed.	□ Yes □ No	□ Yes □ No
The common areas, resident rooms and doorways are wide enough to accommodate my loved one.	□ Yes □ No	□ Yes □ No
The shower, tub and other equipment in common bathing rooms can accommodate my loved one.	□ Yes □ No	□ Yes □ No
The most current inspection report is available for viewing and has no current deficiencies.	□ Yes □ No	□ Yes □ No



Nursing Facility Staff	Facility #1	Facility #2
Interactions between staff and residents appear warm, polite and respectful.	□ Yes □ No	□ Yes □ No
Staff knock on the door before entering a resident's room and address them by name.	□ Yes □ No	□ Yes □ No
There is a full-time registered nurse (RN) in the nursing home at all times other than the Director of Nurses.	□ Yes □ No	□ Yes □ No
Certified nursing assistants (CNA's) who are the staff that provide direct care seem to work with a reasonable number of residents.	□ Yes □ No	□ Yes □ No
The same team of licensed nurses and CNA's work with the same residents at least 4 to 5 days a week which ensures consistent care.	□ Yes □ No	□ Yes □ No
CNA's participate in care planning meetings for the residents they work with.	□ Yes □ No	□ Yes □ No
There is a prompt response to answering call lights.	☐ Yes ☐ No	☐ Yes ☐ No
The management team has worked together for at least one year.	☐ Yes ☐ No	☐ Yes ☐ No
Therapy staff (e.g. physical, occupational, and/or speech therapists) are available most days of the week to work with residents on their rehabilitative needs.	□ Yes □ No	□ Yes □ No
There is a full time social worker on staff.	☐ Yes ☐ No	☐ Yes ☐ No
Help is available to obtain needed services when the time comes for a resident to be discharged to home or another setting.	□ Yes □ No	□ Yes □ No
Resident Rooms	Facility #1	Facility #2
Residents are encouraged to bring in personal belongings and/or furniture in their rooms.	☐ Yes ☐ No	□ Yes □ No
There is storage space (closet or drawers) in each room.	☐ Yes ☐ No	☐ Yes ☐ No
There is a window in each resident room.	☐ Yes ☐ No	☐ Yes ☐ No
There is access to a personal telephone and television and internet.	☐ Yes ☐ No	☐ Yes ☐ No
Residents have a choice of roommates.	☐ Yes ☐ No	☐ Yes ☐ No
Water pitchers and call lights are placed so the residents can reach them.	□ Yes □ No	□ Yes □ No
There is a policy and procedure to protect resident's possessions.	☐ Yes ☐ No	☐ Yes ☐ No

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Menus and Food	Facility #1	Facility #2
Alternatives are offered if a resident does not like what is mentioned on the menu" (ask for a menu to see if your favorite foods are served)	□ Yes □ No	□ Yes □ No
The facility can accommodate dietary preferences if the resident should need or want a special diet (renal diet, vegetarian, gluten free or have food allergies)	□ Yes □ No	□ Yes □ No
Nutritious snacks are available during residents' waking hours.	☐ Yes ☐ No	☐ Yes ☐ No
There is a flexible meal schedule that accommodates the times that residents wish to eat.	□ Yes □ No	□ Yes □ No
Staff help residents eat and drink at mealtimes if needed.	☐ Yes ☐ No	☐ Yes ☐ No
Activities	Facility #1	Facility #2
Activities are available on evenings and weekends	☐ Yes ☐ No	☐ Yes ☐ No
Residents have the opportunity to take part in a variety of activities (ask to look at a calendar)	☐ Yes ☐ No	□ Yes □ No
The activities listed on the calendar are of interest to me or the person I am inquiring for.	□ Yes □ No	□ Yes □ No
Residents have the opportunity to provide input into the activity calendar	□ Yes □ No	□ Yes □ No
There is a full-time activity director.	☐ Yes ☐ No	☐ Yes ☐ No
Other things to consider	Facility #1	Facility #2
Residents can go to bed and get up when they want.	☐ Yes ☐ No	☐ Yes ☐ No
The resident can still see their own doctor even though one may be on staff at the nursing facility.	□ Yes □ No	□ Yes □ No
Care plan meetings are held when it is convenient for the resident and their loved ones to attend.	□ Yes □ No	□ Yes □ No
Safety measures are in place such as exits are clearly marked, smoke detectors, fire sprinklers, evacuation plans and fire drills are held regularly.	□ Yes □ No	□ Yes □ No





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SDS 9296 (01/2016)