POLICY

We provide specific nursing services, consistent with our disclosure statement/form, in order to maintain and/or enhance the health status of residents.

DEFINITIONS

Assisted Living and Residential Care facilities are required to have a Licensed Nurse on staff or on contract. A nurse in these communities typically does not provide hands-on personal nursing care.

PROCEDURES

1. The community provides nursing services on a limited basis, to include the following:
   a. Initial assessments of nursing needs, and updates/reviews of those assessments
   b. Initial, updates/reviews of the nursing component of the negotiated service agreement
   c. Providing, or coordinating care for acute (short in duration) illnesses that requires the assessment and/or care of a licensed nurse.
      i. If the illness becomes chronic, the resident/representative may seek an outside health care agency to provide care, with the coordination of the community nursing staff.
      ii. If the illness becomes unstable or unpredictable in nature, the resident may be transferred to an alternate location where more intense services can be provided.
   d. Licensed nurses will review and respond to ROER's and/or incident reports referring to resident incidents when there is a possibility of the need for nursing intervention (including but not limited to wounds, health-based emergencies, and significant change in a resident’s health condition). The licensed nurse will be consulted regarding any significant change in condition.
   e. A licensed nurse is available in person, by pager, or by telephone consistent with the communities’ disclosure statement regarding the provision and extent of available nursing services.
   f. A licensed nurse will delegate nursing tasks to unlicensed staff, as allowed, under State regulations and licensure.

2. Each resident’s needs for nursing services will be assessed prior to admission and upon a change in condition or upon request of the resident or resident representative. Revision to or the need for nursing services will be discussed with the resident and/or representative, and case manager if appropriate, at the time of or as soon as practicable following this assessment.
3. First Aid services may or may not be provided by licensed nurses. Unlicensed staff (i.e. caregivers) are trained and qualified to provide first aid to residents needing this service. This may include, but is not limited to:
   a. Cleaning of a skin tear, scratch, or other minor wound and application of antibiotic ointment and bandaid (and repeat of this practice in order to minimize risk of infection).
   b. Other tasks that are taught in a standard First Aid course and designed to treat immediate incidents and/or to prevent injury and/or infection.