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Nursing Home Checklist

Name of Nursing Home: _____

Date of Visit: _____

	Yes	No	Comments
Basic Information			
The nursing home is Medicare-certified			
The nursing home is Medicaid-certified			
The nursing home has the level of care you need (e.g. skilled, custodial) and a bed is available			
The nursing home has special services, if needed, in a separate unit (e.g. dementia, ventilator, rehabilitation) and a bed is available			
The nursing home is located close enough for friends and family to visit			

Nursing Home Checklist

	Yes	No	Comments
Resident Appearance			
Residents are clean, appropriately dressed for the season or time of day and well groomed	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

	Yes	No	Comments
Nursing Home Living Spaces			
The nursing home is free from overwhelming, unpleasant odors	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
The nursing home appears clean and well-kept	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
The temperature in the nursing home is comfortable for residents	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
The nursing home has good lighting	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Noise levels in the dining room and other common areas are comfortable	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Smoking isn't allowed or may be restricted to certain areas of the nursing home	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Furnishings are sturdy, yet comfortable, and attractive	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Nursing Home Checklist

	Yes	No	Comments
Staff			
The relationship between the staff and the residents appears to be warm, polite and respectful			
All staff wear name tags			
Staff knock on the door before entering a resident's room and refer to residents by name			
The nursing home offers a training and continuing education program for all staff			
The nursing home does background checks on all staff			
The guide on your tour knows the residents by name and is recognized by them			
There are licensed nursing staff 24 hours a day, including a Registered Nurse (RN) present at least 8 hours per day, 7 days a week			
The same team of nurses and Certified Nursing Assistants (CNAs) work with the same resident 4 to 5 days per week			
CNAs work with a reasonable number of residents			
CNAs are involved in care planning meetings			
There is a full-time social worker on staff			
There is a licensed doctor on staff who is there daily and can be reached at all times			
The nursing home's management team (including the Director of Nursing and the Administrator) has worked together for at least 1 year			

Nursing Home Checklist

	Yes	No	Comments
Residents' Rooms			
Residents may have personal belongings and/or furniture in their rooms			
Each resident has storage space (closet and drawers) in his or her room			
Each resident has a window in his or her bedroom			
Residents have access to a personal telephone and television			
Residents have a choice of roommates			
Water pitchers can be reached by residents			
There are policies and procedures to protect residents' possessions			

	Yes	No	Comments
Hallways, Stairs, Lounges and Bathrooms			
Exits are clearly marked			
There are quiet areas where residents can visit with friends and family			
The nursing home has smoke detectors and sprinklers			
All common areas, resident rooms and doorways are designed for wheelchair use			
There are handrails in the hallways and grab bars in the bathrooms			

Nursing Home Checklist

	Yes	No	Comments
Menus and Food			
Residents have a choice of food items at each meal (ask if your favorite foods are served)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Nutritious snacks are available upon request	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Staff help residents eat and drink at mealtimes if help is needed	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

	Yes	No	Comments
Activities			
Residents, including those who are unable to leave their rooms, may choose to take part in a variety of activities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
The nursing home has outdoor areas for resident use and staff help residents go outside	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
The nursing home has an active volunteer program	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Nursing Home Checklist

	Yes	No	Comments
Safety and Care			
The nursing home has an emergency evacuation plan and holds regular fire drills (bed-bound residents included)			
Residents get preventive care, like a yearly flu shot, to help keep them healthy			
Residents may still see their personal doctors			
The nursing home has an arrangement with a nearby hospital for emergencies			
Care plan meetings are held with residents and family members at times that are convenient whenever possible			
The nursing home has corrected all deficiencies (failure to meet one or more Federal or state requirements) on its last state inspection report			

This checklist courtesy of www.medicare.gov

For more information, please go to
www.medicare.gov/NHCompare/home.asp