

Department of Health & Human Services
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

Printed: 07/06/2025
Form Approved OMB
No. 0938-0391

STATEMENT OF DEFICIENCIES AND PLAN OF CORRECTION	(X1) PROVIDER/SUPPLIER/CLIA IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 395812	(X2) MULTIPLE CONSTRUCTION A. Building B. Wing	(X3) DATE SURVEY COMPLETED 03/15/2023
NAME OF PROVIDER OR SUPPLIER Hilltop Heights Health & Rehab Center		STREET ADDRESS, CITY, STATE, ZIP CODE 100 Woodmont Road Johnstown, PA 15905	
For information on the nursing home's plan to correct this deficiency, please contact the nursing home or the state survey agency.			
(X4) ID PREFIX TAG	SUMMARY STATEMENT OF DEFICIENCIES (Each deficiency must be preceded by full regulatory or LSC identifying information)		
F 0835 Level of Harm - Minimal harm or potential for actual harm Residents Affected - Some	<p>Administer the facility in a manner that enables it to use its resources effectively and efficiently.</p> <p>19102</p> <p>Based on review of job descriptions and the deficiencies cited during the current survey, it was determined that the Nursing Home Administrator (NHA) and the Director of Nursing (DON) failed to assume responsibility for effective management of the facility to ensure the provision of a proper infection prevention and control program designed to provide a safe, sanitary and comfortable environment and to help prevent the development and transmission of communicable diseases and infections such as COVID-19.</p> <p>Findings include:</p> <p>The undated job description for the NHA indicated that the NHA was responsible for planning, organizing, directing, and controlling the activities of the facility and providing leadership, staff development, budgeting, and management of key services in accordance with policies and procedures, and current federal, state, and local standards, guidelines, and regulations that govern long term care facilities to ensure each resident received the necessary nursing, medical, and psycho-social services to attain and maintain the highest possible mental and physical functional status.</p> <p>The undated job description for the DON indicated that the DON was to manage all nursing functions, including planning, organizing, directing and controlling nursing services, and was to coordinate related services to ensure total quality care of geriatric residents and residents of various ages. The DON was to assume responsibility for the development of nursing service objectives, performance standards of nursing practice for each category of nursing personnel, and nursing policies and procedures, and assumed accountability for the development, organization, and implementation of approved policies and procedures.</p> <p>The deficiencies cited under the Code of Federal Regulatory Groups for Long-Term Care, 483.80 Infection Prevention and Control (F880), revealed that the NHA and DON failed to fulfill their essential job duties for ensuring the provision of an infection prevention and control program designed to provide a safe, sanitary and comfortable environment and to help prevent the development and transmission of communicable diseases and infections.</p> <p>Refer to F880.</p> <p>28 Pa. Code 201.14(a) Responsibility of licensee.</p> <p>(continued on next page)</p>		

Any deficiency statement ending with an asterisk (*) denotes a deficiency which the institution may be excused from correcting providing it is determined that other safeguards provide sufficient protection to the patients. (See instructions.) Except for nursing homes, the findings stated above are disclosable 90 days following the date of survey whether or not a plan of correction is provided. For nursing homes, the above findings and plans of correction are disclosable 14 days following the date these documents are made available to the facility. If deficiencies are cited, an approved plan of correction is requisite to continued program participation.

LABORATORY DIRECTOR'S OR PROVIDER/SUPPLIER
REPRESENTATIVE'S SIGNATURE

TITLE

(X6) DATE

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F 0835 Level of Harm - Minimal harm or potential for actual harm Residents Affected - Some	28 Pa. Code 201.18(b)(1)(e)(1) Management. 28 Pa. Code 211.12(d)(1)(5) Nursing services.		

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<p>F 0880</p> <p>Level of Harm - Immediate jeopardy to resident health or safety</p> <p>Residents Affected - Some</p>	<p>Provide and implement an infection prevention and control program.</p> <p>19102</p> <p>Based on review of established infection control guidelines, the facility's documents, and residents' clinical records, as well as observations and staff interviews, it was determined that the facility failed to maintain an infection prevention and control program designed to provide a safe environment and to help prevent the development and transmission of communicable infections, by failing to follow infection control guidelines from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and the Pennsylvania Department of Health (PA DOH) to reduce the spread of infections and prevent cross-contamination during the COVID-19 pandemic for 12 of 18 residents reviewed (Residents 1, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18). The facility's failure created a situation in which six of these residents (Residents 1, 8, 10, 16, 17, 18) were placed in Immediate Jeopardy related to a lack of proper infection control procedures for cohorting residents.</p> <p>Findings include:</p> <p>Pennsylvania Health Alert Network (PAHAN) - 663, Interim Infection Prevention and Control Recommendations for Health Care Settings During the COVID-19 Pandemic, dated October 24, 2022, revealed that the guidelines are based on recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and other health organizations and applies to all persons regardless of vaccination status. Infection prevention and control (IPC) practices when caring for a resident exposed to COVID-19 or with SARS-CoV-2 infection includes that quarantined residents and those with suspected infection should not be cohorted with residents with confirmed SARS-CoV-2 infection unless they are confirmed to have SARS-CoV-2 infection through testing. Guidelines for resident placement include placing a resident with suspected or confirmed SARS-CoV-2 infection in a single-person room. The door should be shut if safe to do so and the resident should have a dedicated bathroom. If cohorting, only residents with the same respiratory pathogen should be housed in the same room. Facilities should consider designating entire units within the facility, with dedicated HCP, to care for residents with SARS-CoV-2 infection when the number of residents with SARS-CoV-2 infection is high. In general, asymptomatic residents do not require empiric (suspected but not confirmed) use of Transmission Based Precautions while being evaluated for SARS-CoV-2 following close contact with someone with SARS-CoV-2 infection, but it should be considered if the resident is unable to wear source control as recommended for the 10 days following exposure, resident is moderately to severely immunocompromised, is residing on a unit with others who are moderately or severely immunocompromised, or the resident is residing on a unit experiencing ongoing SARS-CoV-2 infection that is not controlled with initial interventions.</p> <p>The facility's current COVID-19 policy did not address the cohorting of positive and negative residents.</p> <p>A COVID-19 test result for Resident 6, dated March 2, 2023, revealed that the resident was positive, and COVID-19 test results for Resident 1, dated March 4, 2023; March 6, 2023; March 9, 2023; and March 13, 2023, revealed that the resident was negative. Daily census information revealed that Residents 6 and 1 were roommates at the time that Resident 6 had a positive test result on March 2, 2023, and there was no documented evidence that either resident was moved following Resident 6's positive test result.</p> <p>(continued on next page)</p>		

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<p>F 0880</p> <p>Level of Harm - Immediate jeopardy to resident health or safety</p> <p>Residents Affected - Some</p>	<p>A COVID-19 test result for Resident 7, dated February 23, 2023, revealed that the resident was positive. A COVID-19 test for Resident 7's roommate, Resident 8, on February 23, 2023, revealed that Resident 8 was negative on that day and was not moved from the room. However, a COVID-19 test result for Resident 8, dated February 24, 2023, revealed that the resident was now positive. There was no documented evidence that either resident was moved following Resident 7's positive test result.</p> <p>A COVID-19 test result for Resident 9, dated February 25, 2023, revealed that the resident was positive. A COVID-19 test result for Resident 9's roommate, Resident 10, on February 24 and 26, 2023, revealed that he was negative and that he was not moved from the room. A COVID-19 test result for Resident 10, dated March 3, 2023, revealed that the resident was positive. Daily census information revealed that Residents 9 and 10 were roommates at the time that Resident 9 had a positive test result on February 25, 2023, and there was no documented evidence that either resident was moved following Resident 9's positive test result.</p> <p>A COVID-19 test result for Resident 13, dated February 24, 2023, revealed that the resident was positive, and a COVID-19 test result for Resident 16, dated February 24, 2023, revealed that the resident was negative. Daily census information revealed that Residents 13 and 16 were roommates at the time that Resident 13 had a positive test result on February 24, 2023, and there was no documented evidence that either resident was moved following Resident 13's positive test result.</p> <p>A COVID-19 test result for Resident 14, dated February 26, 2023, revealed that the resident was positive, and a COVID-19 test result for Resident 17, dated February 26, 2023, revealed that the resident was negative. Daily census information revealed that Residents 14 and 17 were roommates at the time that Resident 14 had a positive test result on February 26, 2023, and there was no documented evidence that either resident was moved following Resident 14's positive test result.</p> <p>A COVID-19 test result for Resident 15, dated March 4, 2023, revealed that the resident was positive, and a COVID-19 test result for Resident 18, dated March 6, 2023, revealed that the resident was negative. Daily census information revealed that Residents 15 and 18 were roommates at the time that Resident 15 had a positive test result on March 4, 2023, and there was no documented evidence that either resident was moved following Resident 15's positive test result.</p> <p>Interview with the Infection Control Nurse on March 14, 2023, at 6:17 p.m. revealed that because the residents that tested negative for COVID-19 had already been exposed to their COVID-19 positive roommates, they required isolation, and it was safe to leave both the positive and the negative residents in the isolation room together with a curtain separating them. It was also revealed that the South wing was empty and beds were available.</p> <p>On March 14, 2022, at 9:05 p.m. the Nursing Home Administrator was informed that the health and safety of residents were in Immediate Jeopardy due to cohorting COVID-19 positive and negative residents in the same room, and for failing to follow established infection control guidelines.</p> <p>The facility submitted and implemented an immediate action plan that included ensuring that each resident's most recent COVID-19 test result was reviewed. Residents who tested positive were not cohorted with residents that tested negative for COVID-19, even if they were considered exposed. The facility developed an infection control education plan for all current staff. The education included not cohorting positive and negative residents in the same rooms.</p> <p>(continued on next page)</p>		

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F 0880 Level of Harm - Immediate jeopardy to resident health or safety Residents Affected - Some	The Immediate Jeopardy was lifted on March 15, 2023, at 5:56 p.m. when it was confirmed that the facility had no COVID-19 positive residents cohorting with residents not testing positive for COVID-19 and educated the majority of staff. 28 Pa. Code 201.14(a) Responsibility of licensee. 28 Pa. Code 201.18(b)(1)(3)(d)(e)(1) Management. 28 Pa. Code 211.10(d) Resident care policies. 28 Pa. Code 211.12(d)(1)(5) Nursing services.		