§ 485.725 Condition of participation: Infection control.

The organization that provides outpatient physical therapy services establishes an infection-control committee of representative professional staff with responsibility for overall infection control. All necessary housekeeping and maintenance services are provided to maintain a sanitary and comfortable environment and to help prevent the development and transmission of infection.

(a) Standard: Infection-control committee. The infection-control committee establishes policies and procedures for investigating, controlling, and preventing infections in the organization and monitors staff performance to ensure that the policies and procedures are executed.

(b) All personnel follow written procedures for effective aseptic techniques. The procedures are reviewed annually and revised if necessary to improve them.

(c) Standard: Housekeeping. (1) The organization employs sufficient housekeeping personnel and provides all necessary equipment to maintain a safe, clean, and orderly interior. A full-time employee is designated as the one responsible for the housekeeping services and for supervision and training of housekeeping personnel.

(2) An organization that has a contract with an outside resource for housekeeping services may be found to be in compliance with this standard provided the organization or outside resource or both meet the requirements of the standard.

(d) Standard: Linen. The organization has available at all times a quantity of linen essential for proper care and comfort of patients. Linens are handled, stored, processed, and transported in such a manner as to prevent the spread of infection.

(e) Standard: Pest control. The organization’s premises are maintained free from insects and rodents through operation of a pest-control program.

§ 485.727 Condition of participation: Disaster preparedness.

The organization has a written plan, periodically rehearsed, with procedures to be followed in the event of an internal or external disaster and for the care of casualties (patients and personnel) arising from a disaster.

(a) Standard: Disaster plan. The organization has a written plan in operation, with procedures to be followed in the event of fire, explosion, or other disaster. The plan is developed and maintained with the assistance of qualified fire, safety, and other appropriate experts, and includes:

(1) Transfer of casualties and records;
(2) The location and use of alarm systems and signals;
(3) Methods of containing fire;
(4) Notification of appropriate persons; and
(5) Evacuation routes and procedures.

(b) Standard: Staff training and drills. All employees are trained, as part of their employment orientation, in all aspects of preparedness for any disaster. The disaster program includes orientation and ongoing training and drills for all personnel in all procedures so that each employee promptly and correctly carries out his assigned role in case of a disaster.

§ 485.729 Condition of participation: Program evaluation.

The organization has procedures that provide for a systematic evaluation of its total program to ensure appropriate utilization of services and to determine whether the organization’s policies are followed in providing services to patients through employees or under arrangements with others.

(a) Standard: Clinical-record review. A sample of active and closed clinical records is reviewed quarterly by the appropriate health professionals to ensure that established policies are followed in providing services.

(b) Standard: Annual statistical evaluation. An evaluation is conducted annually of statistical data such as number of different patients treated, number of patient visits, condition on admission...