

REALITIES OF LONG TERM LIVING

Teresian House Nursing Home strives to provide a homelike atmosphere to our residents. However, there are various realities of skilled nursing care that are necessary for review prior to admission to ensure that unrealistic expectations are not set. Please document your acknowledgement of each issue by initialing on the space provided.

Among the issues for review are:

FALLS / RESTRAINTS

Teresian House strives to be a restraint-free facility. Consistent with maintaining the dignity and promoting the highest quality of life for our residents, interventions other than restraints may be used. Teresian House offers a protective environment, but cannot provide 24-hour one-on-one constant supervision and care to prevent residents from falling.

Initials _____

PHARMACY / MEDICAL SUPPLIES

Teresian House maintains relationships with various vendors and providers of pharmaceuticals and medical supplies. The services rendered to Teresian House often go far beyond the act of providing pharmaceuticals and medical supplies and include consulting, auditing, consistency of quality, and training of staff. To maintain a consistency of care to all residents, it is necessary for Teresian House to require that all prescriptions and medical supplies be provided through Teresian House vendors.

Initials _____

FAMILY INVOLVEMENT WITH CARE

Teresian House prides itself on our homelike atmosphere. Family members are encouraged to play an active role in the care of their loved one, however, residents who are competent will make their own decisions. Teresian House physicians and nurses will consider family input; however their decisions regarding medical care will be based on their clinical experience. While family members will be part of the decision making process, they cannot direct care or medications. Included in this category is the changing or discontinuation of medications or the switch to generic medications as the facility sees fit.

Initials _____

TRANSFERS

Although Teresian House strives to follow a policy of "aging in place", we reserve the right to transfer a resident if it is determined a specific program would either be helpful or no longer beneficial to the resident.

Initials _____

END OF LIFE CARE

End of Life Care is available at Teresian House. Although we do not have a contract with Hospice, our End of Life program replicates aspects of Hospice Care, e.g. pain management, emotional support, pastoral care, and family input, etc. Our staff is trained in all areas and our goals are always based on Quality of Life and individual choices. If a resident or family wishes Hospice Care we will assist them in transfer to a facility that has a contract with them.

Initials _____

STAFFING

It is Teresian House's intention that all neighborhoods of our facility are staffed in a manner appropriate to the needs of its residents. Guidelines from various entities (the Center for Medicaid/Medicare Services, New York State Department of Health, American Association of Homes and Services for the Aged, etc.) are considered when determining appropriate staffing levels. Periodically, unavoidable circumstances will occur that may cause staffing to fall below these levels. During these times, Teresian House will implement alternatives to augment neighborhood staffing. It is our intention that all care givers will be Teresian House staff members. However, if circumstances dictate, Teresian House staff will be supplemented with alternative staff.

Initials _____

BEHAVIORAL CONCERNS

The safety and well being of Teresian House's residents and staff are paramount in determining all decision-making. In the event that the actions or activities of a resident are determined to be a threat to the safety/ well being of his/ herself, other residents, or staff, Teresian House will take appropriate action. This may include referral or transfer to appropriate alternative care facility and or clinically appropriate medication.

Initials _____

PHYSICIAN COVERAGE

New York State Department of Health long-term regulations are very strict regarding physician coverage. New residents are assigned a primary physician based on their neighborhood. Occasionally, residents wish to retain their primary physician in the community. If that physician is willing to abide by Teresian House rules and regulations, this may be arranged. The physician will be required to come to Teresian House to see the resident if the need arises. Teresian House's medical director will coordinate this with the outside physician. If he/ she is willing to abide by the necessary regulations, our medical director will credential the physician, thus allowing the physician to continue as the resident's primary physician. If the resident continues to see an outside primary physician without Teresian House approval and is also being seen by a Teresian House primary physician, it could be interpreted as Medicare fraud.

Initials _____

REMOVAL OF POSSESSIONS

The removal of a loved one's possessions upon death or discharge from the facility, is often a difficult and sensitive issue to address. However, in order to meet the needs of other individuals awaiting placement, belongings must be removed almost immediately. It may be necessary for Teresian House staff to pack your loved one's possessions and temporarily hold them for your pick up.

Initials _____

Name of Applicant

Signature of Applicant/ Power of Attorney/Health Care Agent

Date