

Homelike



F584 Safe Environment

A safe, clean, comfortable, and homelike environment, allowing the resident to use his or her personal belongings to the extent possible.

How to engage the residents at a Resident Council Meeting:

- ⇒ What does home mean to you?
- ⇒ What would make the nursing home feel more like “home” to you?
- ⇒ Some practices that can be eliminated to decrease the institutional character of the environment include, but are not limited to, the following:
 - Overhead paging (including frequent announcements) and piped-in music throughout the building.
 - Meal service using trays (some residents may wish to eat certain meals on trays).
 - Institutional signs labeling work rooms/closets in areas visible to residents and the public.
 - Medication or treatment carts (some innovative facilities store medications in locked areas in resident rooms or in secured carts that appear like furniture).
 - Furniture that does not reflect a home-like environment or is uncomfortable; the absence of window treatments or drapes; the lack of textures or the absence of bedspreads or personal items in rooms or on walls.
 - Large, centrally located nursing/care team stations, including those with barriers (such as Plexiglas) that prevent the staff from interacting with residents.

Homelike Explained

A personalized, homelike environment recognizes the individuality and autonomy of the resident, provides an opportunity for self-expression, and encourages links with the past and family members. The intent of the word “homelike” in this regulation is that the nursing home should provide an environment as close to that of the environment of a private home as possible.

What home means to me example.

Home is safety. It is a place where you feel safe and comfortable. Where you are free to make choices and no one judges you. Home is being surrounded by the things that are important to you and having control over your own life. It is a place where you feel respected, encouraged and happy. Home is comfort and security.