

Privacy



F583 Privacy and Confidentiality

The resident has a right to personal privacy and confidentiality of his or her personal and medical records. Personal privacy includes accommodations, medical treatment, written and telephone communications, personal care, visits, and meetings of family and resident groups, but this does not require the facility to provide a private room for each resident.

How to engage the residents at a Resident Council Meeting:

- ⇒ Privacy is a personal preference. Do you feel you have the privacy you need to be successful and comfortable? How does it feel when you don't have the privacy you need?
- ⇒ Ask any of the following questions and take notice of any privacy concerns:
 - Do you feel you have privacy
 - With visitors?
 - With all communication? (phone, mail, internet)
 - When the staff is providing care?
 - With your medical information?
 - Do staff knock on your door before they enter your room?
- ⇒ What can you do to make sure you have the privacy you want and need?
 - Review your care plan and make changes.
 - Talk to staff or the ombudsman for help.

Privacy Explained

Each resident has the right to privacy and confidentiality for all aspects of care and services. A nursing home resident has the right to personal privacy of not only his or her own physical body, but of his or her personal space, including accommodations and personal care.

Examples of Privacy

- **Privacy to me is feeling like I have control over my space and my body. I want people to ask permission before they touch my belongings or my body.**
- **I like to keep my personal life private and do not want anyone to know about my medical history. I will choose who I discuss my health concerns with.**