

Nursing Homes

(Skilled Nursing Facilities)

Questions to Ask When Selecting a Nursing Home

What is a nursing home?

A facility to live where care is available for people of all ages who need 24-hour nursing care and supervision outside of a hospital for a long term basis. Although all nursing homes must provide certain basic services, some provide specialized care such as memory care.

Exploring Options:

It is suggested that you contact several nursing homes to explore and compare options available. You can request a tour of the facility and to meet with admissions staff.

Admission

A medical assessment is required before you are admitted to a nursing home. This assessment is completed by a registered nurse who has been certified to conduct the assessment of your functioning and appropriateness for a nursing home. The assessment is valid for 30 days if you are hospitalized and 90 days if you are in any other setting such as living at home.

Paying For Nursing Home Care

For those with the means to privately pay, meeting with an elder law attorney is highly recommended in order to get advice on estate planning, Medicaid, Medicare and long term care insurance.

Most homes require full financial disclosure during the admissions process. Many nursing home residents who enter as private pay residents eventually use up their funds and then qualify for Medicaid. Once you are eligible for Medicaid, you have the right to have Medicaid pay for your care (if the home accepts Medicaid). When this happens, the nursing home should assist in completing the necessary forms.

Nursing homes charge a basic daily rate for the services they provide and these vary from home to home. Some homes have all-inclusive rates; others have a rate for room and board and add additional charges for physician's services, laboratory tests, physical therapy, prescription drugs, etc. When speaking with admissions staff, ask about the fee structure.

Facilities: Inside & Outside

- Are there wheelchair ramps?
- Are there unpleasant odors in the building?
- Are there outdoor areas where residents can sit or walk?

- Is there an activity or exercise room?
- Are the rooms well-ventilated and kept at a comfortable temperature? Are there individual thermostats in the rooms?
- Is the facility air-conditioned?
- Can residents bring their own furniture? Is there ample storage?
- Can residents have a private phone? A pet?
- Do rooms have windows?
- Are there adjoining bathrooms? Are they private?
- Is a married couple allowed to share a room?
- If the room isn't private, is there a screen or curtain for privacy?

Safety Measures

- Are fire exits clearly posted? Are there smoke alarms and extinguishers?
- Are there grab bars in the bathroom and handrails in hallways and stairs?
- Are there emergency call buttons and intercoms in the rooms?
- Is there a written statement of patient rights? Is the number to file complaints available?

Staff, Services and Administrative Issues

- What kind of medical supervision is provided? Physical or speech therapy?
- Beauty or other personal services?
- How do staff and residents interact? Are there language barriers?
- Are there social activities? Are residents mostly in their rooms or interacting?
- Is the food appetizing? Is assistance with eating available?
- What is the history of price increases for this facility?
- Is down payment refundable if the resident moves or dies?
- What role, if any, do family members have in paying unmet obligations?

Nursing Homes

Skilled Nursing Facilities - Onondaga County

Nursing Homes, now commonly called Skilled Nursing Facilities or SNFs, provide skilled nursing services and chronic custodial care. They are licensed, and regulated, by the New York State Department of Health.

Bishop Rehabilitation and Nursing Center 315-474-1561

918 James Street Syracuse, NY 13203

Accommodations: Facility provides short term and long term care and has a pulmonary/respiratory unit. 440 beds; private and semi-private rooms; 370 long term care (of which 70 are on a specified Dementia Unit); 70 rehabilitation beds; provisions for couples to live together.

Sources of Payment: Private pay, Medicaid, Medicare and private insurance.

Central Park Rehabilitation and Nursing Center 315-475-1641

116 Martin Luther King E., Syracuse, NY 13205

Accommodations: Private and semi-private rooms - 160 total beds; 125 long term care beds; 35 rehabilitation beds; private and shared baths; each floor has a dining room; they accept tracheotomy care, bariatric patients, handle wound care and IV therapy and they offer provisions for couples to live together. They also have an Adult Day Program.

Sources of Payment: Private pay, Medicaid, Medicare and private insurance.

The Cottages at Garden Grove 315-699-1619

5460 Meltzer Court, Cicero, NY 13039

Accommodations: 153 total beds; 117 long term care and 36 rehabilitation beds; all rooms are private set up in cottage style homes. 13 beds in a long term care house and 12 in the rehabilitation houses; private baths with showers in each room.

Sources of Payment: Private pay, Medicaid, Medicare and private insurance.

Elderwood at Liverpool 315-457-9946

4800 Bear Road Liverpool, NY 13088

Accommodations: 160 total beds - 120 long term care beds with private and semi-private rooms; 40 rehabilitation beds; dining room on each floor; provisions for couples to live together.

Sources of Payment: Private pay, Medicaid, Medicare and private insurance.

Iroquois Nursing Home, Inc. 315-469-1300

4600 Southwood Heights Drive, Jamesville, NY 13078

Accommodations: 160 total beds - 32 private rooms; 64 semi-private rooms; 40 beds for patients who need respiratory care; 40 beds for residents with dementia; 80 beds for patients with general skilled nursing needs; shared baths; common dining room on each unit; provisions for couples to live together.

Sources of Payment: Private pay, Medicaid, Medicare and private insurance.

Loretto Health and Rehabilitation Center 315-413-3200

Cunningham – Primarily Long Term Care; Fahey – Primarily Rehabilitation

700 E. Brighton Avenue Syracuse, NY 13205

Accommodations: 583 beds of which 93 are rehabilitation beds, 34 are in the dementia unit, 30 on the palliative care floor. Couples are accommodated; private and semi-private rooms.

Sources of Payment: Private pay, Medicaid, Medicare, and private insurance.

Menorah Park 315-446-9111

4101 E. Genesee Street Syracuse, NY 13214

Accommodations: 132 total beds; all are long term care; facility offers rehabilitation, 44 beds on the Dementia Unit; private and semi-private rooms; provision for couples to live together.

Sources of Payment: Private pay, Medicaid, Medicare and private insurance.

Onondaga Center for Nursing and Rehabilitation 315-656-7277

217 East Avenue, Minoa, NY 13116

Accommodations: 80 total beds; 58 long term care and 22 rehabilitation beds of which 8 are private rooms; 29 semi-private rooms; small kitchenette on each unit; common dining room on each unit; provisions for couples to live together.

Sources of Payment: Private pay, Medicaid, Medicare and private insurance.

St. Camillus 315-488-2951

813 Fay Road Syracuse, NY 13219

Accommodations: Private and semi-private rooms - 284 total beds; 224 long term care beds; 20 beds in the brain injury unit; 40 beds in the rehabilitation unit and there are provisions for couples to live together. They also have an Adult Day Program.

Sources of Payment: Private pay, Medicaid, Medicare and private insurance.

Sunnyside Care Center 315-656-7218

7000 Collamer Road, E. Syracuse, NY 13057

Accommodations: Private and semi-private rooms; total number of beds 80, offers long term care and rehabilitation; accommodates wound care and G-Tube/Peg Tube Feeding.

Sources of Payment: Private pay, Medicaid, Medicare, and private insurance.

Syracuse Home at McHarrie Place Health and Rehabilitation 315-638-2521

7740 Meigs Road Baldwinsville, NY 13027

Accommodations: 120 total beds – 88 long term care, 30 rehabilitation and 2 respite; private rooms and semi-private rooms; shared baths, 2 dining facilities; provisions for couples to live together.

Sources of Payment: Private pay, Medicaid, Medicare and private insurance.

Van Duyn Center for Rehabilitation and Nursing 315-449-6000

5075 West Seneca Turnpike Syracuse, NY 13215

Accommodations: 513 total beds – Long term care and rehabilitation. The 7th floor is a state of the art short-term rehabilitation floor; private and semi-private rooms, dining on each floor; provisions for couples to live together.

Sources of Payment: Private pay, Medicaid, Medicare and private insurance.