

# Department of Health (DOH)

## Roles & Responsibilities in Assisted Living Facilities

Mary Beth Vickers, R.N., M.S.N.

Acting Division Director

Children's Medical Services

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# DOH Inspection Activities

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- Onsite Sewage Treatment Systems and Disposal (Septic System)
- Limited Use Public Water Systems-Systems that serve up to 24 people.
- Regulation of Pools if more than 7 residents
- Group Care-Safety, Health and Sanitation of the Physical Site
- Food Hygiene
- Biomedical Waste (does not apply to all ALFs)

# Inspection Activities-New ALF OSTDS

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If ALF has a Septic System, permitting requirements for the system may include 3 inspections:

Site evaluation, Construction inspection and Final Cover Inspection.

*These initial inspections are performed during the construction phase.*

If ALF has 11 or more residents, an annual commercial septic operating permit is required. This includes an annual operating permit inspection to assess the conditions of the system.

# Inspection Activities-New ALF Wells and Pools

**If ALF has a Well, the inspection must include:**

- ✓ Well Installation and Equipment Inspection  
Well Equipment-inspection completed annually each year thereafter
- ✓ Water Sampling for coliform bacteria initially and quarterly thereafter

*Initial inspections are performed during the construction phase*

**If the ALF has a Pool** – The local county or city building department has construction inspection responsibilities

- ✓ After the pool construction is approved, the DOH will perform inspections twice annually thereafter

# Inspection Activities-New ALF Food Hygiene and Physical Site

Pre-Opening Inspection is completed, and once inspection results are satisfactory, the ALF will be inspected based on a routine schedule as follows:

- ✓ Inspection frequency varies depending on the size of the facility and date ALF opened
- ✓ 10 or fewer residents: Annually
- ✓ If the ALF opened prior to 1/20/08, and has 11-24 residents- Annually
- ✓ If ALF opened on or after 1/20/08 and has 11 or more residents or opened prior to 1/20/08 and has 25 or more residents-annual inspection of physical site and quarterly for food hygiene

# Inspection Activities-New ALF Biomedical Waste

If the ALF generates biomedical waste through skilled nursing services or employee medical services, an inspection is completed after the application for permit is received-once inspection results are satisfactory, the ALF will be inspected based on a routine schedule as follows:

- ✓ If the ALF generates less than 25 pounds of waste monthly-  
inspected once every three years
- ✓ If the ALF generates 25 pounds or more of waste monthly-  
inspected annually

*Counties may choose to share in this component of the inspection process*

Note: Biomedical waste does not regulate waste generated from residents doing self-injections.

# Enforcement-Current Practice

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Enforcement activities may include the following:

- Re-inspection including compliance related education to staff
- Fines
- Revocation of appropriate program permit (food hygiene, well, biomedical waste)

# Multiple Regulators

- Currently DOH is operating under an Interagency Agreement with AHCA (2002) to ensure there is no duplication of ALF inspection activities.
- DOH provided training for AHCA staff in August, 2011 to provide field staff with a better understanding of the DOH Regulatory role in an effort to:
  - ✓ Reduce duplication of inspection activities between AHCA and DOH
  - ✓ Increase appropriate referrals from AHCA to the DOH Inspection staff



# Questions

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