

19-1401.

(a) In this subtitle, the following words have the meanings indicated.

(e) "Nursing home" means a facility (other than a facility offering domiciliary or personal care as defined in Subtitle 3 of this title) which offers nonacute inpatient care to patients suffering from a disease, chronic illness, condition, disability of advanced age, or terminal disease requiring maximal nursing care without continuous hospital services and who require medical services and nursing services rendered by or under the supervision of a licensed nurse together with convalescent, restorative, or rehabilitative services.

19-1410.1.

~~(A) IN THIS SECTION, "SAFE PATIENT LIFTING" MEANS THE USE OF MECHANICAL LIFTING DEVICES BY NURSING HOME EMPLOYEES, INSTEAD OF MANUAL LIFTING, TO LIFT, TRANSFER, AND REPOSITION PATIENTS.~~

~~(B)~~ (A) ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 1, 2008, EACH NURSING HOME SHALL ESTABLISH A SAFE PATIENT LIFTING WORKGROUP WITH EQUAL MEMBERSHIP FROM MANAGEMENT AND EMPLOYEES.

~~(C)~~ (B) (1) ON OR BEFORE JULY 1, 2009, THE SAFE PATIENT LIFTING WORKGROUP SHALL DEVELOP A SAFE PATIENT LIFTING POLICY FOR THE NURSING HOME.

(2) THE GOAL OF THE POLICY SHALL BE TO REDUCE EMPLOYEE INJURIES ASSOCIATED WITH PATIENT LIFTING.

~~(D)~~ (C) WHILE DEVELOPING A SAFE PATIENT LIFTING POLICY, THE WORKGROUP SHALL CONSIDER, BASED ON THE PATIENT POPULATION OF THAT NURSING HOME, THE APPROPRIATENESS AND EFFECTIVENESS OF:

(1) DEVELOPING OR ENHANCING PATIENT HANDLING HAZARD ASSESSMENT PROCESSES;

(2) ENHANCED USE OF MECHANICAL LIFTING DEVICES;

(3) DEVELOPING SPECIALIZED LIFT TEAMS;

(4) TRAINING PROGRAMS FOR SAFE PATIENT LIFTING REQUIRED FOR ALL PATIENT CARE PERSONNEL AT THE NURSING HOME;