



CMS Proposes Rule on Updated Safety Requirements for Health Care Facilities

CMS has proposed a rule to adopt updated fire and safety requirements for hospitals, long-term care facilities, critical access hospitals, ambulatory surgical centers, ICF-IIDs, hospice inpatient care facilities, PACE and religious non-medical health care institutions. If enacted, the new provisions will affect requirements for building rehabilitation, allow alcohol-based hand rub dispensers, require sprinkler systems in certain buildings and areas, and specify outside window/door requirements for sleeping rooms. The new rule will also increase sleeping suite size, mandate specific capabilities for fire alarm systems, allow door locking for some special needs patients, and make other specific changes designed to maximize patient and staff safety and align with current international building codes.

Interested persons may submit comments to CMS regarding the proposed rule until June 16, 2014. The rule can be accessed here:

[http://ofr.gov/\(S\(jb4awh55xqwqwxwdhmgndcu\)\)/OFRUpload/OFRData/2014-08602_PI.pdf](http://ofr.gov/(S(jb4awh55xqwqwxwdhmgndcu))/OFRUpload/OFRData/2014-08602_PI.pdf)