

BASIC INFORMATION

1. Is the facility Medicare certified?
 Yes No
2. Is the facility Medicaid certified?
 Yes No
3. Does the Nursing Home have the level of skill care needed (e.g. skilled, custodial) and is a bed available?
 Yes No
4. Is there a waiting period for admission?
 Yes No
5. Does the Nursing Home have special services units such as Alzheimer's or Hospice units?
 Yes No
6. Is the Nursing Home located close enough for family and friends to visit?
 Yes No

NURSING HOME INFORMATION

1. Does the facility have a reputation as a good Nursing Home?
 Yes No
2. Is the Nursing Home and the current administration licensed?
 Yes No
3. Does the Nursing Home conduct background checks on all staff?
 Yes No
4. Does the Nursing Home have abuse prevention training?
 Yes No
5. Do all staff wear name tags?
 Yes No

6. Is there a full-time Registered Nurse (RN) in the Nursing Home at all times other than the Administrator or Director of Nursing?
 Yes No
7. Does the guide on your tour know the residents by name and do the residents know him/her by name?
 Yes No
8. Is there a licensed doctor on staff and is he/she there daily or reachable at all times?
 Yes No
9. Has the Nursing Home management team been together for at least one year?
 Yes No
10. Does the staff knock on the door before entering a resident's room and refer to the resident by name?
 Yes No

QUALITY OF LIFE

1. Can residents make choices about their daily routine such as when to go to bed or get up, when to bathe or eat?
 Yes No
2. Is the Nursing Home free from overwhelming unpleasant odors?
 Yes No
3. Is smoking allowed and is it restricted to certain areas of the Nursing Home?
 Yes No
4. Does the Nursing Home meet your cultural, religious, or language needs?

- Yes No
5. Does the Nursing Home have good lighting?
 Yes No
6. Do the residents' rooms have personal articles and furniture?
 Yes No
7. Are noise levels in the dining room and other common areas at a comfortable level?
 Yes No
8. Do the residents have a choice of food items at each meal?
 Yes No
9. Are nutritious snacks available upon request?
 Yes No
10. Does the staff help residents eat and drink at mealtimes?
 Yes No
11. Are there a variety of activities that the residents like?
 Yes No
12. Are residents who are unable to leave their rooms included in activities?
 Yes No
13. Does the Nursing Home have outside volunteer groups?
 Yes No
14. Are there areas for the residents to use to go outside?
 Yes No
15. Are the public areas nice and available for family gatherings?
 Yes No
16. Does the resident have access to a personal television and telephone?
 Yes No

17. Does each resident have a secured storage space, such as a locked drawer, in their room?
 Yes No
18. Are there policies and procedures to protect residents' possessions?
 Yes No

QUALITY OF CARE

1. Can a resident continue to see their personal physician?
 Yes No
2. Are the residents clean, appropriately dressed and well groomed?
 Yes No
3. Does the Nursing Home staff respond quickly to requests for help?
 Yes No
4. Are their handrails in the hallways and grab bars in the bathrooms?
 Yes No
5. Does the Nursing Home have an emergency evacuation plan and hold regular fire drills?
 Yes No
6. Do residents get preventive care such as yearly flu shots?
 Yes No
7. Is there a "chain of command" for complaints and if so will you be notified how to reach each person at each level?
 Yes No
8. Is information concerning the NYS Ombudsman Program prominently displayed and available for use by residents and their families?
 Yes No

9. Is there an active family council where families can discuss their concerns and recommendations for change?
 Yes No
10. Is staff in uniforms that differentiate between house-keeping staff, aides, LPNs and RNs?
 Yes No

Facility Name: _____

 Address: _____

 Contact Name: _____
 Phone: _____

Rensselaer County
 Unified Family Services
 Department for the Aging
 1600 7th Avenue
 Troy, NY 12180
 (518) 270-2730

Kathleen M. Jimino
County Executive

Joseph W. Cybulski
Commissioner

NURSING HOME CHECKLIST



➤ **Use this handy checklist when visiting a Nursing Home. Ask these suggested questions and mark your answers where indicated. You will then have a permanent record of your visit and a list of information you will need to help you and your family make informed decisions concerning Nursing Home placement.**

This information is provided by:
Kathleen M. Jimino
 Rensselaer County Executive