

Regulation Changes: How these changes will impact residents



On April 11, 2023 some changes were made to the rules that long-term care homes have to follow. The changes relate to:

- The way residents safely receive medications.
- Ensuring that residents live comfortably in their home.
- Qualification requirements for some staff positions.



Medication Management and Drug Administration

- When you are admitted, or re-admitted to your home, having the reason why you are taking medications and any drug allergies or interactions you may have must be written in your care plan where known.
- You must be offered the COVID-19 vaccine, just like the flu shot, and you may receive it from a regulated health professional, like a pharmacist or a nurse.
- A qualified personal support worker may administer your medications as long as they are trained and certain rules are followed, like nursing supervision.



Resident Experience

- Homes are responsible for having working air conditioning in every resident bedroom and designated cooling areas between May 15 and September 15. Failing to do so means they may have to pay a penalty.
- If you fall, a post-fall assessment must *always* be completed.
- Making sure you are assessed by a Registered Dietitian if you have a skin condition that requires or may respond to nutritional supports.
- Making it clear that when you are in a private or semi-private room temporarily, you can only be asked to sign an agreement to pay a preferred rate if you decline an offer of a basic room.



Staffing Qualifications

- More flexibility for homes to hire and retain qualified candidates as staff to, for example, provide food services.