

Substandard Quality of Care: New Definition

The new definition of SQC currently in effect is found in the final rule at §488.301. It includes:

Substandard quality of care means one or more deficiencies which constitute either immediate jeopardy to resident health or safety; a pattern of or widespread actual harm that is not immediate jeopardy; or a widespread potential for more than minimal harm, but less than immediate jeopardy, with no actual harm, related to participation requirements under:

- §483.10 “Resident rights”, paragraphs
 - (a)(1) through (a)(2),
 - (b)(1) through (b)(2),
 - (e) (except for (e)(2), (e)(7), and (e)(8)),
 - (f)(1) through (f)(3), (f)(5) through (f)(8), and
 - (i) of this chapter;
- §483.12 of this chapter “Freedom from abuse, neglect, and exploitation”;
- §483.24 of this chapter “Quality of life”;
- §483.25 of this chapter “Quality of care”;
- §483.40 “Behavioral health services”, paragraphs (b) and (d) of this chapter;
- §483.45 “Pharmacy services”, paragraphs (d), (e), and (f) of this chapter;
- §483.70 “Administration”, paragraph (p) of this chapter, and
- §483.80 “Infection control”, paragraph (d) of this chapter.