

Jonathan Rosenfeld's Nursing Homes Abuse Blog

Nursing Home Spotlight: Fairview Nursing Plaza, Rockford, IL



Posted at 5:55 AM on May 10, 2010 by Jonathan Rosenfeld

On October 28, 2009, the Illinois Department of Public Health ([IDPH](#)) fined [Fairview Nursing Plaza](#) (a large, 213 bed “skilled and intermediate care facility” located in Rockford, IL) \$10,000 for fourth quarter nursing home violations. These violations included Nursing Home Care Act violations involving improper and inaccurate documentation of diabetes treatment and monitoring, and failure to immediately arrange for ambulance transport for a diabetic resident suffering from diabetic ketoacidosis.

Also in October 2009, IDPH fined Fairview \$10,000 for violating the Nursing Home Care Act (for a Type “A” Violation relating to the area of nursing). A [survey](#) conducted on September 28, 2009 revealed that documentation for insulin dependent diabetics was not always complete and accurate. This finding was confirmed by the facility’s own Director of Nursing. The facility failed to properly and accurately document blood glucose levels and scheduled doses of insulin for insulin dependent diabetics residing in the facility.

[Diabetes](#) (Type 1) can be a difficult disease to manage. It requires careful screening of blood sugar levels, proper nutrition, and insulin shots. There are many diabetes related complications, and the best way to reduce the risk of complications is to keep blood sugar level close to normal most of the time. Fairview’s failure to properly document blood sugar levels and treatments put all of its diabetic residents at increased risk of diabetes complications.

The nursing home failed to immediately arrange ambulance transport services for one diabetic resident with sustained elevated blood glucose levels, resulting in him suffering

Jonathan Rosenfeld represents victims of nursing home abuse and neglect throughout the country. For more information please visit Nursing Homes Abuse Blog (www.nursinghomesabuseblog.com), Bed Sore FAQ (www.bedsorefaq.com) or call Jonathan directly at (888) 424-5757.

from [diabetic ketoacidosis](#) (too little insulin in your body). The nurse reported that she checked the resident's blood glucose levels hourly between 7:45 - 11:30 AM.

Despite "HI blood glucose results" (> 525 mg/dl), the nurse did not notify a doctor sooner because she thought he was ok, even though the resident was showing signs of confusion, limp limbs, and being unstable sitting in a chair. ([see "Diabetic Ketoacidosis is an Under-Appreciated Danger Facing Many Nursing Home Patients"](#)) The nursing home's failures directly endangered the life of this resident, and also call into question whether the nursing staff was properly monitoring other diabetic residents.

Diabetic ketoacidosis is a very serious complication of diabetes. Because sugar can no longer enter cells to provide energy, your blood sugar rises, and your body breaks down fat for energy. This produces [ketones](#), which are toxic, and if left untreated, it can be fatal. Symptoms include: excessive thirst, frequent urination, nausea and vomiting, abdominal pain, loss of appetite, *weakness* or *fatigue*, shortness of breath, fruity-scented breath, and *confusion*.

Fairview has a history of higher than average Health Deficiencies. The Medicare [Nursing Home Compare](#) gave Fairview Nursing Plaza an overall rating of one out of five stars, which is much below average rating. Health Inspections rating was one star (20 Health Deficiencies between 12/1/08 – 2/28/10). Nursing Home Staffing rating was also only one star. Quality Measures rating was four stars. Between 12/1/07 and 11/30/08, the facility received 19 Health Deficiencies.

The recent health violations at Fairview call into question whether the facility's residents, especially its diabetic residents, are receiving proper care and treatment. Diabetes is only one common condition affecting older nursing home residents. Many common diseases and conditions require close supervision and monitoring to prevent dangerous complications and ensure proper medical care.

SIR Management Inc.

Fairview Plaza Nursing Center is a facility operated under the control of [S.I.R. Management, Inc.](#) S.I.R. Management is a health care consulting company located in Lincolnwood, Illinois, which consults to several Nursing Facilities (Nursing Homes) in the Chicagoland area, including:

- Columbus Park Nursing and Rehabilitation Center
- Elmwood Care
- Maplewood Care
- Neighbors Rehabilitation Center

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- Regency
- Albany Care
- Greenwood Care
- Decatur Manor
- Rock Island Nursing & Rehabilitation
- Wilson Care
- Bryn Mawr Care

Sources:

[Fairview Plaza Nursing Center](#)

[Medicare: Nursing Home Compare – Fairview Nursing Home](#)

[Illinois Department of Public Health: Fairview Nursing Home](#)

[IDPH: Fairview Nursing Home – 4th Quarter Violations](#)

[Mayo Clinic: Diabetic Ketoacidosis](#)

[Nursing Home Abuse Blog: Diabetic Ketoacidosis is an Under-Appreciated Danger Facing Many Nursing Home Patients](#)

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