

**Department of Inspections and Appeals  
Health Facilities Division  
Citation**

<b>Number</b> 6444		<b>Report date</b> February 8, 2017		
<b>Facility name</b> State Center Specialty Care		<b>Survey Dates</b> January 17, 19, 23, and 25 <sup>th</sup> , 2017		
<b>Facility address</b> 702 3 <sup>rd</sup> Street NW				
<b>City</b> State Center, Iowa 50247		HL		
Rule or Code Section	Nature of Violation	Class	Fine Amount	Correction Date
58.19(2)j	<p><b>481—58.19(135C) Required nursing services for residents. The resident shall receive and the facility shall provide, as appropriate, the following required nursing services under the 24-hour direction of qualified nurses with ancillary coverage as set forth in these rules:</b></p> <p><b>58.19(2) Medication and treatment.</b></p> <p><b>j. Provision of accurate assessment and timely intervention for all residents who have an onset of adverse symptoms which represent a change in mental, emotional, or physical condition. (I, II, III)[ARC 1398C, IAB 4/2/14, effective 5/7/14; ARC 2560C, IAB 6/8/16, effective 7/13/16]</b></p> <p><b>DESCRIPTION:</b></p> <p>Based on clinical record review, physician and staff interviews, the facility failed to provide ongoing assessment and interventions for 1 of 4 residents who needed respiratory intervention due to shortness of breath and difficulty breathing (Resident # 1). The facility reported a census of 33 residents.</p> <p>Findings include:</p> <p>A Minimum Data Set (MDS) dated 11/24/16 documented Resident #1 with diagnoses of non-Alzheimer's dementia, hypertension and primary osteoarthritis. The MDS indicated the resident needed extensive assistance of 1 staff to physically assist the resident with bed mobility, transfer and ambulation. A Staff Assessment for Mental Status documented a score of 2. A score of 2 indicated severe cognitive impairment.</p> <p>A speech therapy evaluation dated 1/5/13 revealed the resident had a medical diagnosis of traumatic subarachnoid hemorrhage with a secondary diagnosis of dysphagia. A PA's order dated 11/10/16 documented</p>	I	<b>\$3000.00</b> <span style="color: red;"><b>Held In Suspension</b></span>	Upon Receipt

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	<p>an order for the resident to receive a pureed/nectar diet with thickened liquids.</p> <p>A care plan with a problem onset dated 6/12/16 indicated impaired communication due to a diagnosis of dementia. Interventions directed staff to monitor for non-verbal behaviors such as facial expressions, body language and increased restlessness.</p> <p>A 60 day "Nursing Home Evaluation" dated 12/8/16 at 1:45 p.m. by the resident's primary PA documented no respiratory concerns. Auscultation revealed no wheezing, rales, crackles or rhonchi. Breath sounds are normal with good air movement.</p> <p>Interdisciplinary progress notes dated 11/28/16 documented the resident is aware of self when spoken to but did not speak often.</p> <p>Nurse's notes dated 12/12/16 at 4:00 p.m. documented the resident had vomited. Vital signs (VS) taken revealed a Temperature (T) of 96.7 degrees Fahrenheit (F), Respirations (R) at 16 breaths per minute (bpm), blood pressure (BP) 149/56 and oxygen(O2) levels in the blood ) at 93% on room air. Notes indicated the facility notified the resident's primary physician of the vomiting by fax at 6:08 p.m.</p> <p>A facility flow sheet dated 12/12/16 with Resident #1's first name and without a time revealed VS - T-98.4, P-76, R-18, BP-1/29/72 and O2-92%. On the back of the flow sheet a record of Resident #1's VS for 7:25 [p.m.] without date listed - VS - T-96.3, P-82, R-18, BP-109.77 and O2-94%.</p> <p>A Physician Assistant's (PA) telephone order dated 12/12/16 at 8:30 p.m. indicated the resident may be suctioned as needed and to send to the resident to a</p>			

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	<p>local hospital emergency room. Please note Staff B reported the PA's order she had written dated 12/12/16 at 8:30 p.m. indicated the resident may be suctioned as needed and to send to the resident to a local hospital emergency room had been written in error. She had combined both orders (given at different times on 12/12/16).</p> <p>Nurse's notes dated 12/12/16 (without a time listed) documented by Staff B, a licensed practical nurse (LPN); the resident had vomited this evening (time not specified). Lung sounds were coarse and congested. VS taken revealed T-98.4 F, P-76, R-18, BP-129/72 and O2-92% room air. Notes indicated family present. The facility called the on-call PA due to the resident attempting to cough congestion without success. An order to suction had been given. The resident's family requested the resident be sent to a local hospital emergency room for evaluation and treatment. Staff placed a call to emergency medical services; an ambulance arrived at 9:00 p.m. and transported the resident.</p> <p>(During an interview dated 1/25/17 at 1:10 p.m. Staff B reported the nurse's notes written on 12/12/16 without a time listed had been written after the events the evening of 12/12/16.) She reported the nurse's notes did not contain accurate documentation of the events the evening of 12/12/16.)</p> <p>Nurse's notes dated 12/13/16 at 1:00 a.m. documented facility staff called the hospital and told resident had been admitted to the intensive care unit with pneumonia and sepsis.</p> <p>Prehospital care report dated 12/12/16, section " Scene Management" from emergency medical services (EMS) documented being dispatched at 8:52 p.m., arriving at the facility at 9:13 p.m., departing the facility at 9:28 p.m.</p>			

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	<p>and arriving at the hospital at 9:56 p.m.</p> <p>Upon arrival the Emergency Medical Service (EMS) staff completed an assessment which included the following: resident was assisted to stand and pivot to the cart. The resident's SpO2 (measurement of oxygen in the blood) read 86% on room air, however the resident's lips did not appear dusky or cyanotic. The resident had a heavy coat of nail polish [on his/her fingers.] The physical examination identified the resident's skin looked normal in color, warm and dry. The resident's chest equally rise and fell; and his/her respirations slightly rapid and labored. The upper airway noted gurgling and his/her lungs course throughout with crackles noted. In route to the hospital EMS staff administered a nebulizer treatment resulting in the resident breathing better and the audible gurgling had been greatly reduced.</p> <p>Hospital records dated 12/12/16 at 10:11 p.m. revealed the resident arrived at the hospital with SpO2 at 92% without a fever. At 11:16 p.m. the resident had wheezing, crackles and gurgling in all lung fields and tachypneic (abnormal rapid breathing) and in severe respiratory distress. An assessment revealed the resident had severe sepsis due to aspiration pneumonitis - at risk for aspiration pneumonia, acute renal failure due to dehydration with an elevated BNP (brain natriuretic peptide) greater than 5000 - likely due to hypoxia and acute respiratory failure and appears dehydrated. Laboratory results revealed a white blood count of 19.8 with normal reference range of 4.9-10.0/ul., P-112 and R- 28.</p> <p>The Hospital X-ray impression of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease [COPD/ constricted airway] with bibasilar atelectasis [complete or partial collapse of a lung] or pneumonia and pleural effusion (a buildup of</p>			

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	<p>fluid between the tissues that line the lungs and chest).</p> <p>The diagnostic imaging dated 12/12/16 at 10:18 p.m., revealed one view completed for x-ray with the following findings:</p> <p>a). There is an elevation of the medial aspect of the right hemidiaphragm (likely a hiatal hernia or other hernia).</p> <p>b). There is hyperexpansion of the lungs which could be seen with COPD. [Hyperexpanded lungs, is a condition in which the lungs have overinflated, causing them to grow beyond their usual size. This condition can cause respiratory problems, especially when exhaling. A person with hyperexpanded lungs cannot fully exhale, which leaves air trapped inside the lungs.]</p> <p>c). There are moderate bilateral pleural effusions and bibasilar atelectasis which is all worst on the left than right.</p> <p>d). Pneumonia was not excluded.</p> <p>e). There was no pneumothorax (presence of air or gas in the cavity between the lungs and chest wall causing collapse of lungs.</p> <p>Hospital records dated 12/13/16 at 1:30 a.m. revealed the resident passed away. The resident had been placed on BiPAP for respirator support and became bradycardic and unresponsive. The cause of death listed as severe sepsis, acute respiratory failure and aspiration and aspiration pneumonitis.</p> <p>During an interview dated 1/25/17 at 7:50 p.m. the emergency physician reported the resident presented multiple issues at the time h/she arrived at the emergency room. It was unlikely that suctioning the resident would have benefited the resident prior to arrival. EMS had administered a nebulizer treatment during transport to the hospital and this procedure increased her blood oxygen saturation levels.</p>			

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	<p>In a written statement; as part of the facility's investigation dated 12/15/16, Staff A, reported a certified nursing assistant (CNA) reported the resident had vomited. She went to the resident's room and noted the vomit had been red/white in color and smelled like spaghetti. She completed a set of vital signs which were normal. She faxed the primary physician and told the on-coming nurse, Staff B, a licensed practical nurse (LPN) of the resident ' s vomit episode and the fax she had sent to the primary physician. She told Staff B she had not called the family about the resident vomiting earlier that day.</p> <p>During an interview dated 1/9/17 at 1:05 p.m., Staff D, a paid nutritional assistant reported the resident had a pureed prepared meal for lunch at 12:00 p.m. and finished at 12:40 p.m. The resident had no difficulty with eating.</p> <p>During an interview dated 1/19/17 at 11:00 a.m. Staff A reported Staff C CNA reported the resident had vomited. She confirmed she had faxed the primary physician at 6:08 p.m. of the vomiting episode at 4:15 p.m. Staff A reported she hadn't expected the physician to respond to her fax until the next day. She reported the resident didn't look distressed.</p> <p>In a written statement: as part of the facility's investigation dated 12/18/16, Staff C reported the resident had vomited on 12/12/16 at 4:15 p.m. She gave the resident water and the resident drank without any problem. She cleaned the resident and assisted the resident to bed. Sometime between 6:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. she and Staff F CNA went to the resident's room and noted the resident pale white, having gray discoloration in h/her lips and eyelids and had a gurgle sound when breathing. The resident's eyes were rolling back and the resident was ice cold to the touch. She</p>			

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	<p>reported to Staff B of the resident's status. Staff B replied, stating she had been in the resident's room 3 times and the resident was fine. Staff C asked Staff B if she had asked for an order to suction the resident. Staff B reportedly replied that she had been working on it. Staff C asked if family had been notified and Staff B said she had notified the family.</p> <p>During an interview dated 1/23/16 at 2:11 p.m. Staff C reported she went on her lunch break from 6:15 p.m. to 6:45 p.m. At 7:00 p.m. she went into the resident's room and saw the resident trying to push out - coughing out something from h/her throat but the resident couldn't. Staff C reported the family arrived sometime after 8:00 p.m.</p> <p>In a written statement: as part of the facility's investigation dated 12/15/16, Staff E CNA and Staff F CNA reported at 6:30 p.m. both went into the resident's room and found the resident had vomited. The resident had been lying on h/her side with vomit coming out of h/her mouth. The resident had a "bad color" and made a gurgling noise. Staff E left and reported to Staff B the resident had vomited and had difficulty breathing. Staff E asked if the resident could be moved to a recliner in case the resident threw up again. Staff B reportedly said that was fine and she would be down to look at the resident. Staff E reported once they placed the resident into a recliner the resident's color improved and smiled at one of the CNA's. Both Staff E and Staff F left the resident's room as Staff B entered the resident's room and started to take vital signs. Staff E reported she returned later, after helping other residents and noted the resident cold, clammy and had difficulty breathing. She left and reported her findings to Staff B who told her she had been in the resident's room 3 times and the resident was fine. Staff F reported she returned to the resident's room after she assisted other residents. She</p>			

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	<p>reported the resident continued making gurgling sounds and cold/clammy to the touch. Staff F stated she left the room saw Staff B and yelled" are we going to do something". Staff F reported she couldn't hear what Staff B had said. As she walked back up the hall Staff F heard Staff B tell two other CNA's she had been to the resident's room 3 times.</p> <p>During an interview dated 1/23/17 at 3:20 p.m. Staff E reported she went to the Administrator and voiced her concern of the resident's health status.</p> <p>In a written statement; as part of the facility's investigation dated 12/12/16 at 7:00 p.m., the Administrator reported on Staff E came to her office reporting the resident was passing away, as the resident had difficulty breathing, had been cold and clammy to touch. The Administrator asked Staff E if the nurse (Staff B) knew about the resident's status. Staff E reported Staff B had been aware. At 7:05 p.m. the Administrator went to the resident's room and saw Staff B standing in the resident's doorway. Staff B asked her if the aides had come to her, accusing her of not doing her job. Staff B reassured her she had everything under control and family had been notified and were on their way to the facility.</p> <p>During an interview dated 1/19/17 at 9:30 a.m., the Administrator reported the evening of 12/12/16 a 7:25 p.m. Staff B asked her where the facility stored the suction machine. Both she and Staff B looked throughout the facility but could not find the device. The Administrator reported the family wanted the resident to go the hospital.</p> <p>During an interview dated 1/25/17 at 3:30 p.m., the Administrator reported she directed Staff B to call the director of nursing (DON) the evening of 12/12/16, but</p>			

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	<p>Staff B called another nurse. The Administrator reported she called the DON. In a typed written statement dated 1/23/17, the DON documented she had checked her phone log and she received the first call at 8:43 p.m. and the second call at 8:56 p.m.</p> <p>In a written statement; as part of the facility's investigation dated 12/15/16, Staff B reported a CNA (not identified), came to her at 6:30 p.m., reporting the resident had vomited again and could staff get the resident up out of bed. Staff B reported this was the only time a CNA approached her the entire night. Staff B reported she went down to the resident's room with the CNA's and assessed the resident. Staff B reported the vomit was yellow/white in color and looked like phlegm. She completed VS, which were normal. She reported the resident seemed to have congestion and sounded like the resident just needed to cough it up. The resident showed no signs of distress and noted the resident sitting up in a recliner and smiling. Staff B reported she called the on-call PA to update him on the resident's condition but he did not answer so left a message to call back.</p> <p>Staff B reported family arrived and she completed a second set of VS at 7:25 p.m. and noted no abnormal findings. Family requested the resident be suctioned. She called and spoke to the on-call PA, gave an update on the resident's status and asked for and was given an order to suction the resident. She asked the Administrator if she knew where the suction machine had been stored and both she and the Administrator looked for but couldn't find the device. She told family she could not find the suction machine and family requested the resident be sent to a local hospital emergency room for evaluation and treatment. Staff B reported the resident had been sent out per family request.</p> <p>Staff B stated she had not called family. Staff A had told</p>			

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	<p>her during report she had called the family and they were on their way in. Staff B reported suctioning the resident was an appropriate intervention and if she had suctioned the resident the congestion would have been resolved.</p> <p>During an interview dated 1/19/17 at 1:10 p.m. Staff B stated she arrived at 6:00 p.m., received report from Staff A the resident had thrown up at lunch and the resident's physician had been notified by fax. At 6:30 p.m. a CNA reported the resident vomited again. At 6:35 p.m. she completed VS which were normal, listened to the resident's lungs which were clear. She placed a call to the on-call PA, no one answered so she left a message the resident had vomited again and the color of the vomit. While waiting for the PA to call back she started her medication pass. At 7:30 p.m. the resident's family members arrived. She told the family the resident had vomited and h/her VS were normal and the lungs were clear with no signs of distress. She completed another set of VS, left and administered medications to residents.</p> <p>During her medication administration, a family member asked if the resident could be suctioned to remove something in h/her throat. Staff B reported she listened to the resident's lungs and noted the lungs were clear in the bases and congestion in the upper throat. She told family she would call the on-call PA again and see what could be done. She called the on-call PA and reported the resident's lungs were clear but asked for an order to suction the resident as needed (prn). She notified the resident's family member she received an order to suction. She looked in the medication and supply room, asked the Administrator if she knew where the machine had been stored but neither one could find the device. Staff B told family the suction machine could not be found and the resident's family requested the resident be taken to a local hospital emergency room. She</p>			

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	<p>called the on-call PA and obtained an order to send the resident to the hospital.</p> <p>During a phone interview dated 1/19/17 at 3:39 p.m. the resident's family member reported h/she and another family member had been shopping in a nearby town and stopped at the facility at 8:05 p.m. When they arrived he resident appeared to have difficulty breathing. Family voiced concerns to the nurse and asked if the resident could be suctioned. The nurse reported she would have to get an order from the physician. The nurse returned 20 minutes later and told family an order had been given to suction the resident and then the nurse left. The nurse returned 30 minutes later and told family the suction machine couldn't be located. Family requested the resident be sent to a local hospital emergency room. An ambulance arrived at 9:00 p.m. and transported the resident to the hospital.</p> <p>During a second interview dated 1/25/17 at 1:10 p.m. Staff B reported she had called to on-call PA at 8:00 p.m. when family arrived at the facility. Family requested the resident be suctioned. She reported the PA had never called her back from her first phone call. She called the PA and reported the suction machine could not be located and asked to transfer the resident to a local hospital emergency room for evaluation and treatment.</p> <p>During an interview dated 1/19/17 at 10:40 a.m., the director of nursing (DON) stated LPN's and RN's are within their scope of practice to use a suction machine and she expected staff to know where the device is located and to use the device when a provider has ordered its use.</p> <p>During an interview dated 1/19/17 at 1:35 p.m., the resident's primary physician confirmed he had received</p>			

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	<p>a fax from the facility regarding the resident's vomiting episode, but the fax had been sent after work hours and he didn't see the fax until the following morning. He stated the resident didn't have a history of vomiting and he had not been notified of any change of condition prior to 12/12/16. He stated if the resident needed to be suctioned then the resident needed to be sent to a hospital for evaluation and treatment.</p> <p>During an interview dated 1/19/17 at 2:00 p.m., and 1/25/17 at 3:30 p.m. the on-call PA reported he received a call at 8:37 p.m. from a nurse asking for an order to suction, as the resident had difficulty breathing and the resident had previously benefited from suctioning in the past. He received another call at 8:47 p.m. from a nurse who reported the suctioning had not improved the resident's respiratory status. The nurse asked for and received an order to send the resident by ambulance to a local hospital emergency room for evaluation and treatment. He reported he didn't receive a phone message from the facility earlier in the evening.</p> <p><b>FACILITY RESPONSE:</b></p>			

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<b>Number</b> 6444		<b>Report date</b> February 8, 2017		
<b>Facility name</b> State Center Specialty Care		<b>Survey Dates</b> January 17, 19, 23, and 25 <sup>th</sup> , 2017		
<b>Facility address</b> 702 3 <sup>rd</sup> Street NW				
<b>City</b> State Center, Iowa 50247		HL		
Rule or Code Section	Nature of Violation	Class	Fine Amount	Correction Date

If, within thirty (30) days of the receipt of the citation, you: (1) do not request a formal hearing or; (2) withdraw your request for formal hearing; and (3) pay the penalty, the assessed penalty will be reduced by thirty-five percent (35%) pursuant to Iowa Code section 135C.43A (2015).

\_\_\_\_\_  
Administrator

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**Department of Inspections and Appeals  
Health Facilities Division  
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