N 835  
1200-8-6-.08 (5) Building Standards

(5) No new nursing home shall be constructed, nor shall major alterations be made to an existing nursing home without prior written approval of the department, and unless in accordance with plans and specifications approved in advance by the department. Before any new nursing home is licensed or before any alteration or expansion of a licensed nursing home can be approved, the applicant must furnish two (2) complete sets of plans and specifications to the department, together with fees and other information as required. Plans and specifications for new construction and major renovations, other than minor alterations not affecting fire and life safety or functional issues, shall be prepared by or under the direction of a licensed architect and/or licensed engineer and submitted to the Tennessee Department of Health Engineering Department prior to the renovations of the facility.

This Rule is not met as evidenced by: Based on observation and interview, it was determined the facility failed to submit plans and specifications to the Tennessee Department of Health Engineering Department prior to renovations of the facility.

The findings included:

Observations during the initial tour on 11/13/12 beginning at 3:30 PM, revealed the following:

a. A side porch had been converted to physical therapy office, individual treatment room, and storage room.

b. The physical therapy copy room had been converted to a training bathroom.

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c. A wall separating the dietary corridor from the physical therapy department had been extended approximately 2 feet vertically to the ceiling.

During an interview in the physical therapy department on 11/13/12 at 3:40 PM, the maintenance director revealed the facility had added 4 sprinkler heads to the physical therapy department, 2 sprinkler heads to the dietary corridor, and 3 sprinkler heads to the new physical therapy office area.

during an interview in the administrator's office on 11/13/12 at 3:50 PM, the administrator revealed she was unaware of the requirement for submission of plans for alterations to the facility.

These findings were verified by the maintenance supervisor and acknowledged by the administrator during the exit conference on 11/13/12.