Department of Veterans Affairs State Veterans Home Survey Report

This survey report and the information contained herein, resulted from the State Veterans Home (SVH) Survey as a Summary Statement of Deficiencies. (Each Deficiency Must be Preceded by Full Regulatory or applicable Life Safety Code Identifying Information.) Title 38 Code of Federal Regulations Part 51 is applied for SVHs applicable by level of care.

General Information:

Facility Name: Virginia Veterans Care Center

Location: 4550 Shenandoah Ave. Roanoke, VA 24017

Onsite / Virtual: Virtual

Dates of Survey: 3/13/2023 - 3/16/2023

NH / DOM / ADHC: NH

Survey Class: Annual

Total Available Beds: 196

Census on First Day of Survey: 146

VA Regulation Deficiency	Findings
	Initial Comments: A VA Annual Survey was conducted from March 13, 2023 through March 16, 2023 at the Virginia Veterans Care Center. The survey revealed the facility was not in compliance with Title 38 CFR Part 51 Federal Requirements for State Veterans Homes.
§ 51.200 (a) Life safety from fire. (a) Life safety from fire. The facility must meet the applicable provisions of NFPA 101, Life Safety Code and NFPA 99, Health Care Facilities Code. Level of Harm – No Actual Harm, with potential for more than minimal harm **Residents Affected** – Many	**Smoke Barriers and Sprinklers** 1. Based on observation and interview, the facility failed to properly install and maintain equipment protected by the kitchen hood extinguishing system. The deficient practice affected one (1) of 21 smoke compartments, staff, and no residents. The facility had a capacity for 196 beds with a census of 146 on the day of the survey. The findings include: Observation during the building inspection tour, on 3/15/23, at 2:36 p.m., revealed the two moveable cooking surfaces located on the cooking line under the hood in the [LOCATION] were not provided with an approved method that would ensure that the appliances were returned to an approved design location after they had been moved for maintenance and cleaning, as required by sections 12.1.2.3 and 12.1.2.3.1 of NFPA 96, Standard for Ventilation Control and Fire Protection of Commercial Cooking Operations.

	An interview, on 3/15/23, at 2:36 p.m., with Maintenance Staff A revealed the facility was not aware of the requirement for an approved method that would ensure that the appliances were returned to an approved design location after they had been moved for maintenance and cleaning. The census of 146 was verified by Administrative Staff A on 3/10/23, at 8:30 a.m. The finding was acknowledged by Administrative Staff A and verified by other facility staff during the exit interview on 3/16/23, at 12:30 p.m. **Actual NFPA Standard: NFPA 101, Life Safety Code (2012)** **19.3.2.5** Cooking Facilities. **19.3.2.5.1** Cooking facilities shall be protected in accordance with 9.2.3, unless otherwise permitted by 19.3.2.5.2, 19.3.2.5.3, or 19.3.2.5.4. **19.3.2.5.2*** Where residential cooking equipment is used for food warming or limited cooking, the equipment shall not be required to be protected in accordance with 9.2.3, and the presence of the equipment shall not require the area to be protected as a hazardous area. **9.2.3** Commercial Cooking Equipment. Commercial cooking equipment shall be in accordance with NFPA 96, Standard for Ventilation Control and Fire Protection of Commercial Cooking Operations, unless such installations are approved existing installations, which shall be permitted to be continued in service. **Actual NFPA Standard: NFPA 96, Standard for Ventilation Control and Fire Protection of Commercial Cooking Operations (2011)** **12.1.2** Installation. **12.1.2.1** All listed appliances shall be installed in accordance with the terms of their listings and the manufacturer's instructions. **12.1.2.2*** Cooking appliances requiring protection shall not be moved, modified, or rearranged without prior re-evaluation of the fire-extinguishing system by the system installer or servicing agent, unless otherwise allowed by the design of the fire extinguishing system. **12.1.2.3** The fire-extinguishing system shall not require reevaluation where the cooking appliances are moved for the purposes of maintenance and cleaning, provided the appliances are returned to approved design location prior to cooking operations, and any disconnected fire-extinguishing system nozzles attached to the appliances are reconnected in accordance with the manufacturer's listed design manual. **12.1.2.3.1** An approved method shall be provided that will ensure that the appliance is returned to an approved design location.

Electrical Systems

2 Based on records review, observations, and interview, the facility failed to maintain documentation of inspections on the Patient-Care Related Electrical Equipment (PCREE). The deficient practice affected 21 of 21 smoke compartments, staff, and all residents. The facility had a capacity for 196 beds with a census of 146 on the first day of the survey.

The findings include:

Record review, on 3/15/23, at 9:45 a.m., revealed only visual and operational testing was being conducted of the resident electric beds, but there was no electrical testing with documentation of testing of the electric, resident beds that were in use throughout the facility, as required by section 10.5.6.2 of NFPA 99, Health Care Facilities Code.

An interview, on 3/15/23, at 9:50 a.m., with Maintenance Staff B revealed the facility had been performing visual and operational bed inspections but was not conducting electrical testing of any of the residents' electrical beds. There was no electrical safety testing documentation for any of the electric, resident beds in the facility.

Observation during the building inspection, on 3/15/23, from 12:30 p.m., to 3:30 p.m., revealed resident beds throughout the facility that were not provided with any markings that indicated electrical safety testing had been performed on any of them, as required by section 10.3 of NFPA 99, Health Care Facilities Code.

The census of 146 was verified by Administrative Staff A on 3/13/23, at 10:30 a.m. The finding was acknowledged by Administrative Staff A and verified by Maintenance Staff C during the exit interview on 3/16/23, at 12:30 p.m.

Actual NFPA Standard: NFPA 99, Health Care Facilities Code (2012)
3.3.137 Patient-Care-Related Electrical Equipment. Electrical equipment appliance that is intended to be used for diagnostic, therapeutic, or monitoring purposes in a patient care vicinity.
10.3 Testing Requirements — Fixed and Portable.
10.3.1* Physical Integrity. The physical integrity of the power cord assembly composed of the power cord, attachment plug, and cord-strain relief shall be confirmed by visual inspection.
10.3.2* Resistance.
10.3.2.1 For appliances that are used in the patient care vicinity, the resistance between the appliance chassis, or any exposed

	conductive surface of the appliance, and the ground pin of the attachment plug shall be less than 0.50 ohm under the following conditions: (1) The cord shall be flexed at its connection to the attachment plug or connector. (2) The cord shall be flexed at its connection to the strain relief on the chassis. **10.3.2.2** The requirement of 10.3.2.1 shall not apply to accessible metal parts that achieve separation from main parts by double insulation or metallic screening or that are unlikely to become energized (e.g., escutcheons or nameplates, small screws). **10.3.3*** Leakage Current Tests. **10.3.3.1** General. **10.3.3.1.1** The requirements in 10.3.3.2 through 10.3.3.4 shall apply to all tests. **10.3.3.1.2** Tests shall be performed with the power switch ON and OFF. **10.3.3.2** Resistance Test. The resistance tests of 10.3.3.3 shall be conducted before undertaking any leakage current measurements. **10.3.3.3*** Techniques of Measurement. The test shall not be made on the load side of an isolated power system or separable isolation transformer. **10.3.3.4*** Leakage Current Limits. The leakage current limits in 10.3.4 and 10.3.5 shall be followed. **10.3.4** Leakage Current — Fixed Equipment. **10.3.4.1** Permanently wired appliances in the patient care vicinity shall be tested prior to installation while the equipment is temporarily insulated from ground. **10.3.4.2** The leakage current flowing through the ground conductor of the power supply connection to ground of permanently wired appliances installed in general or critical care areas shall not exceed 10.0 mA (ac or dc) with all grounds lifted. **10.3.5** Touch Current — Portable Equipment. **10.3.5.1*** Touch Current Limits. The touch current for cord connected equipment shall not exceed 100 µA with the ground wire intact (if a ground wire is provided) with normal polarity and shall not exceed 500 µA with the ground wire disconnected **10.3.5.2** If multiple devices are connected together and one power cord supplies power, the leakage current shall be measured as an assembly. **10.3.5.3** When multiple devices are connected together and more than one power cord supplies power, the devices shall be separated into groups according to their power supply cord, and the leakage current shall be measured independently for each group as an assembly. **10.3.5.4** Touch Leakage Test Procedure. Measurements shall be made using the circuit, as illustrated in Figure 10.3.5.4, with the appliance ground broken in two modes of appliance operation as follows:

	(1) Power plug connected normally with the appliance on (2) Power plug connected normally with the appliance off (if equipped with an on/off switch) **10.3.5.4.1** If the appliance has fixed redundant grounding (e.g., permanently fastened to the grounding system), the touch leakage current test shall be conducted with the redundant grounding intact. **10.3.5.4.2** Test shall be made with Switch A in Figure 10.3.5.4 closed. **10.3.6*** Lead Leakage Current Tests and Limits — Portable Equipment. **10.3.6.1** The leakage current between all patient leads connected together and ground shall be measured with the power plug connected normally and the device on. **10.3.6.2** An acceptable test configuration shall be as illustrated in Figure 10.3.5.4. **10.3.6.3** The leakage current shall not exceed 100 µA for ground wire closed and 500 µA ac for ground wire open. **10.5.2.1** Testing Intervals. **10.5.2.1.1** The facility shall establish policies and protocols for the type of test and intervals of testing for patient care–related electrical equipment. **10.5.2.1.2** All patient care–related electrical equipment used in patient care rooms shall be tested in accordance with 10.3.5.4 or 10.3.6 before being put into service for the first time and after any repair or modification that might have compromised electrical safety. **10.5.2.5*** System Demonstration. Any system consisting of several electric appliances shall be demonstrated to comply with this code as a complete system. **10.5.3** Servicing and Maintenance of Equipment. **10.5.3.1** The manufacturer of the appliance shall furnish documents containing at least a technical description, instructions for use, and a means of contacting the manufacturer. **10.5.3.1.1** The documents specified in 10.5.3.1 shall include the following, where applicable: (1) Illustrations that show the location of controls (2) Explanation of the function of each control (3) Illustrations of proper connection to the patient or other equipment, or both (4) Step-by-step procedures for testing and proper use of the appliance (5) Safety considerations in use and servicing of the appliance (6) Precautions to be taken if the appliance is used on a patient simultaneously with other electric appliances (7) Schematics, wiring diagrams, mechanical layouts, parts lists, and other pertinent data for the appliance (8) Instructions for cleaning, disinfection, or sterilization (9) Utility supply requirements (electrical, gas, ventilation, heating, cooling, and so forth)

	(10) Explanation of figures, symbols, and abbreviations on the appliance (11) Technical performance specifications (12) Instructions for unpacking, inspection, installation, adjustment, and alignment (13) Preventive and corrective maintenance and repair procedures **10.5.3.1.2** Service manuals, instructions, and procedures provided by the manufacturer shall be considered in the development of a program for maintenance of equipment. **10.5.6 Record Keeping — Patient Care Appliances.** **10.5.6.1 Instruction Manuals.** **10.5.6.1.1** A permanent file of instruction and maintenance manuals shall be maintained and be accessible. **10.5.6.1.2** The file of manuals shall be in the custody of the engineering group responsible for the maintenance of the appliance. **10.5.6.1.3** Duplicate instruction and maintenance manuals shall be available to the user. **10.5.6.1.4** Any safety labels and condensed operating instructions on an appliance shall be maintained in legible condition. **10.5.6.2* Documentation.** **10.5.6.2.1** A record shall be maintained of the tests required by this chapter and associated repairs or modifications. **10.5.6.2.2** At a minimum, the record shall contain all of the following: (1) Date (2) Unique identification of the equipment tested (3) Indication of which items have met or have failed to meet the performance requirements of 10.5.6.2 **10.5.6.3 Test Logs.** A log of test results and repairs shall be maintained and kept for a period of time in accordance with a health care facility's record retention policy. **10.5.8 Qualification and Training of Personnel.** **10.5.8.1*** Personnel concerned for the application or maintenance of electric appliances shall be trained on the risks associated with their use. **10.5.8.1.1** The health care facilities shall provide programs of continuing education for its personnel. **10.5.8.1.2** Continuing education programs shall include periodic review of manufacturers' safety guidelines and usage requirements for electrosurgical units and similar appliances. **10.5.8.2** Personnel involved in the use of energy-delivering devices including, but not limited to, electrosurgical, surgical laser, and fiberoptic devices shall receive periodic training in fire suppression. 10.5.8.3 Equipment shall be serviced by qualified personnel only.