



# Nursing Facility Emergency Preparedness

## Alamo Heights Health and Rehabilitation Center

### Results in Brief

#### Why OIG Conducted This Inspection

The Texas Health and Human Services (HHS) Office of Inspector General Audit and Inspections Division (OIG Inspections) conducted an inspection of Alamo Heights Health and Rehabilitation Center (Alamo Heights), a skilled nursing facility.

In 2020, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Office of Inspector General conducted a review of selected nursing facilities in Texas to evaluate compliance with life safety and emergency preparedness requirements. The report identified noncompliance with emergency preparedness requirements related to emergency preparedness plans, emergency supplies, emergency power, communication plans, and emergency preparedness plan training.

OIG Inspections initiated this inspection because of potential health and safety concerns caused by inadequate emergency preparedness programs at nursing facilities.

#### Summary of Review

The inspection objective was to determine whether Alamo Heights followed select state and federal requirements for emergency preparedness.

The inspection scope included Alamo Heights' (a) documentation of calendar year 2021 emergency preparedness training and testing and (b) emergency preparedness program in place as of May 2022.

#### Key Results

Alamo Heights Health and Rehabilitation Center's (Alamo Heights) emergency preparedness plans and processes complied with 22 of 23 (95.7 percent) state and federal emergency preparedness requirements for nursing facilities reviewed as part of this inspection. Alamo Heights had an updated emergency preparedness (a) plan, (b) communication plan, and (c) training and testing program. Alamo Heights also had updated procedures related to alternative power sources and subsistence needs for residents and staff. During a site visit to Alamo Heights' facility, inspectors saw multiple emergency preparedness elements, including a generator used as an alternate energy source and supplies for resident and staff subsistence.

However, Alamo Heights did not consistently comply with one emergency preparedness requirement. Specifically, Alamo Heights did not maintain a printed copy of its current emergency preparedness plan at each workstation assigned to a personnel supervisor who had responsibilities under the plan.

#### Recommendation

Alamo Heights should ensure a copy of its current emergency preparedness plan is present at the workstation of each personnel supervisor who has responsibilities under the plan.

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