



# Nursing Facility Emergency Preparedness

## Mystic Park Nursing 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 Mystic Park Nursing and Rehabilitation Center (Mystic Park), 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.

#### Key Results

Mystic Park Nursing and Rehabilitation Center's (Mystic Park's) emergency preparedness plans and processes complied with 19 of 23 (82.6 percent) state and federal emergency preparedness requirements for nursing facilities reviewed as part of this inspection. Mystic Park had an updated emergency preparedness (a) plan and (b) training and testing program. Mystic Park also had updated procedures related to alternative power sources and subsistence needs for residents and staff. During a site visit to Mystic Park's facility, inspectors saw multiple emergency preparedness elements, including a generator used as an alternate energy source and supplies for resident and staff subsistence. However, Mystic Park did not consistently comply with four emergency preparedness requirements. Specifically, Mystic Park did not:

- Document initial employee training on emergency preparedness.
- Ensure its emergency preparedness plan identified how alternate energy sources should be used to maintain the power needs of key systems.
- Maintain a printed copy of its current emergency preparedness plan at each workstation assigned to a personnel supervisor who had responsibilities under the plan.
- Document the required contact information for the state licensing and certification agency in its communication plan.

## Summary of Review

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

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

## Recommendations

Mystic Park should ensure:

- All employees complete emergency preparedness plan training within 30 days of assuming applicable job duties and document each completion.
- Its emergency preparedness policies and procedures identify how alternate energy sources should be used to maintain required temperatures; emergency lighting; fire detection, extinguishing, and alarm systems; and sewage and waste disposal.
- A copy of its current emergency preparedness plan is present at the workstation of each personnel supervisor who has responsibilities under the plan.
- Its communication plan includes the required contact information for the state licensing and certification agency.

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