

# Tag.... You're It!!

## CMS K-Tags

Scope and Severity is a system of rating the seriousness of deficiencies. A “deficiency” is a regulatory requirement that a survey finds not being met. Scope and Severity is a national system used by all state survey agencies and the Health Care Financing Administration when conducting nesting home Medicare and Medicaid certification surveys.

For each deficiency, the surveyor determines the level of harm to the resident or resident(s) involved and the scope of the problems within the nursing home. The surveyor then assigns an alphabetical scope and severity value, A through L, to the deficiency. “A” is the least serious and “L” is the most serious rating. The scope and severity matrix is an integral part of how nursing home scores are calculated in the scoring system.

### What is Substandard Quality of Care?

Substandard Quality of Care is a technical regulatory term which means that one or more requirements under the federal regulations 42CFR 483.13 (resident behavior and facility practices), 42CFR 483.15 (quality of life), or 42CFR 483.25 (quality of care) were not met, to a degree constituting immediate jeopardy to resident health or safety, and a scope of pattern or widespread actual harm, or a widespread potential for more than minimal harm. A finding of substandard quality of care indicates that the nursing home was found to have had a significant deficiency (or deficiencies), which the home must address and correct quickly to protect the health and safety of residents. The Division specifies a maximum time frame for correction of the deficiencies.

*ServarusRM services includes on-site risk assessments, a HUD compliant web-based incident tracking tool (ERMA) & mock surveys.*

SEVERITY	SCOPE		
	ISOLATED	PATTERN	WIDESPREAD
Immediate Jeopardy to resident health or safety	J	K	L
Actual harm that is not Immediate Jeopardy	G	H	I
No actual harm with potential for more than minimal harm that is not Immediate jeopardy	D	E	F
No actual harm with potential for minimal harm	A	B	C

\* Substandard quality of care rating occurs when one or more deficiencies has a Scope & Severity level of **F, H, I, J, K or L** in one of the F-tag categories identified in **RED**.



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## GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

K100 General Requirements - Other  
K111 Building Rehabilitation  
K112 Sprinkler Requirements for Major Rehab  
K131 Multiple Occupancies - Sections of Health Care Facilities  
K132 Multiple Occupancies - Contiguous Non-Health Care Occupancies  
K133 Multiple Occupancies - Construction Type  
K161 Building Construction Type and Height  
K162 Roofing Systems Involving Combustibles  
K163 Interior Nonbearing Wall Construction

## MEANS OF EGRESS REQUIREMENTS

K200 Means of Egress Requirements - Other  
K211 Means of Egress - General  
K221 Patient Sleeping Room Doors  
K222 Egress Doors  
K223 Doors with Self-Closing Devices  
K224 Horizontal-Sliding Doors  
K225 Stairways and Smokeproof Enclosures  
K226 Horizontal Exits  
K227 Ramps and Other Exits  
K231 Means of Egress Capacity  
K232 Aisle, Corridor or Ramp Width  
K233 Clear Width of Exit and Exit Access Doors  
K241 Number of Exits - Story and Compartment  
K251 Dead-End Corridors and Common Path of Travel  
K252 Number of Exits - Corridors  
K253 Number of Exits - Patient Sleeping and Non-Sleeping Room  
K254 Corridor Access  
K255 Suite Separation, Hazardous Content and Subdivision  
K256 Sleeping Suites  
K257 Non-Sleeping Suites  
K261 Travel Distance to Exits  
K271 Discharge from Exits  
K281 Illumination of Means of Egress  
K291 Emergency Lighting  
K292 Life Support Means of Egress  
K293 Exit Signage

## PROTECTION

K300 Protection - Other  
K311 Vertical Openings - Enclosure  
K321 Hazardous Areas - Enclosure  
K322 Laboratories  
K323 Anesthetizing Locations  
K324 Cooking Facilities  
K325 Alcohol Based Hand Rub Dispenser (ABHR)  
K331 Interior Wall and Ceiling Finish  
K332 Interior Floor Finish  
K341 Fire Alarm System - Installation  
K342 Fire Alarm System - Initiation  
K343 Fire Alarm - Notification  
K344 Fire Alarm - Control Functions  
K345 Fire Alarm System - Testing and Maintenance  
K346 Fire Alarm - Out of Service  
K347 Smoke Detection  
K351 Sprinkler System - Installation  
K352 Sprinkler System - Supervisory Signals  
K353 Sprinkler System - Maintenance and Testing  
K354 Sprinkler System - Out of Service  
K355 Portable Fire Extinguishers  
K361 Corridors - Areas Open to Corridor  
K362 Corridors - Construction of Walls  
K363 Corridor - Doors  
K364 Corridor - Openings  
K371 Subdivision of Building Spaces - Smoke Compartments  
K372 Subdivision of Building Spaces - Smoke Barrier Construction  
K373 Subdivision of Building Spaces - Accumulation Space

K374 Subdivision of Building Spaces - Smoke Barrier Doors  
K379 Smoke Barrier Door Glazing  
K381 Sleeping Room Outside Windows and Doors

## SPECIAL PROVISIONS

K400 Special Provisions - Other  
K421 High-Rise Buildings

## BUILDINGS SERVICES

K500 Buildings Services - Other  
K511 Utilities - Gas and Electric  
K521 HVAC  
K522 HVAC - Any Heating Device  
K523 HVAC - Suspended Unit Heaters  
K524 HVAC - Direct-Vent Gas Fireplaces  
K525 HVAC - Solid Fuel-Burning Fireplaces  
K531 Elevators  
K532 Escalators, Dumbwaiters and Moving Walks  
K541 Rubbish Chutes, Incinerators and Laundry Chutes

## OPERATING FEATURES

K700 Operating Features - Other  
K711 Evacuation and Relocation Plan  
K712 Fire Drills  
K741 Smoking Regulations  
K751 Draperies, Curtains and Loosely Hanging Fabrics  
K752 Upholstered Furniture and Mattresses  
K753 Combustible Decorations  
K754 Soiled Linen and Trash Containers  
K771 Engineer Smoke Control Systems  
K781 Portable Space Heaters  
K791 Construction, Repair and Improvement Operations

## HEALTHCARE FACILITIES CODE REQUIREMENTS

K900 Health Care Facilities Code - Other  
K901 Fundamentals - Building System Categories  
K902 Gas and Vacuum Piped System - Other  
K903 Gas and Vacuum Piped Systems - Categories  
K904 Gas and Vacuum Piped Systems - Warning Systems  
K905 Gas and Vacuum Piped Systems - Central Supply System Identification and Labeling  
K906 Gas and Vacuum Piped Systems - Central Supply System Operations  
K907 Gas and Vacuum Piped Systems - Maintenance Program  
K908 Gas and Vacuum Piped Systems - Inspection and Testing Operations  
K909 Gas and Vacuum Piped Systems - Information and Warning Signs  
K910 Gas and Vacuum Piped Systems - Modifications  
K911 Electrical Systems - Other  
K912 Electrical Systems - Receptacles  
K913 Electrical Systems - Wet Procedure Locations  
K914 Electrical Systems - Maintenance and Testing  
K915 Electrical Systems - Essential Electrical System Categories  
K916 Electrical Systems - Essential Electrical System Alarm Annunciator  
K917 Electrical Systems - Essential Electrical System Receptacles  
K918 Electrical Systems - Essential Electrical System Maintenance and Testing  
K919 Electrical Equipment - Other  
K920 Electrical Equipment - Power Cords and Extension Cords  
K921 Electrical Equipment - Testing and Maintenance Requirements  
K922 Gas Equipment - Other  
K923 Gas Equipment - Cylinder and Container Storage  
K924 Gas Equipment - Testing and Maintenance Requirements  
K925 Gas Equipment - Respiratory Therapy Sources of Ignition  
K926 Gas Equipment - Qualifications and Training of Personnel  
K927 Gas Equipment - Transfiling Cylinders  
K928 Gas Equipment - Labeling Equipment and Cylinders  
K929 Gas Equipment - Precautions from Handling Oxygen Cylinders and Manifolds  
K930 Gas Equipment - Liquid Oxygen Equipment  
K931 Hyperbaric Facilities  
K932 Features of Fire Protection - Other  
K933 Features of Fire Protection - Fire Loss Prevention in Operating Rooms

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