

more than one resident resides in either conjoined bedroom, this would no longer be compliant with CMS regulations.

In the case where the Secretary has declared a public health emergency *and the President declares a national emergency, the Secretary is authorized at section 1135 of the Act* to waive or *modify* certain *specified* requirements under Titles XVIII, XIX, XXI, and XI under certain conditions. The *waiver* of specific requirements under section 1135 for affected facilities requesting a waiver would depend on many factors, including, *for example*, the extent of damage to the facility. New construction or reconstruction of facilities affected by a public health emergency should be discussed with the appropriate CMS *Location*.

PROCEDURES: §483.90(f)

If a facility meets any of the criteria above and does not have each resident rooms equipped with or located near toilet and bathing facilities, then noncompliance exists.

F919

(Rev. 211; Issued: 02-03-23; Effective: 10-21-22; Implementation: 10-24-22)

§483.90(g) Resident Call System

The facility must be adequately equipped to allow residents to call for staff assistance through a communication system which relays the call directly to a staff member or to a centralized staff work area from–

**§483.90(g)(1) Each resident’s bedside; and
§483.90(g)(2) Toilet and bathing facilities.**

INTENT: §483.90(g)(1) and (g)(2)

The intent of this requirement is that residents, when in their rooms and toilet and bathing areas, have a means of directly contacting caregivers. In the case of an existing centralized nursing station, this communication may be through audible or visual signals and may include “wireless systems.” In those cases, in which a facility has moved to decentralized nurse/care team work areas, the intent may be met through other electronic systems that provide direct communication from the resident to the caregivers.

GUIDANCE: §483.90(g)(1) and (g)(2)

This requirement is met only if all portions of the system are functioning (e.g., system is not turned off at the nurses’ station, the volume too low to be heard, the light above a room or rooms is not working, no staff at nurses’ station), and calls are being answered. For wireless systems, compliance is met only if staff who answer resident calls have functioning devices in their possession and are answering resident calls.