

## **Health and Fire Safety Inspection Reports:**

Deficiency report information is obtained from inspections completed by the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, Office of Health Care Quality (OHCQ). OHCQ visits each nursing home to observe that all regulations are followed. Inspections are done to ensure that the nursing home residents receive quality care and services in a safe and comfortable environment based on rules established by Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). Surveys are also done as a result of complaints reported by nursing home residents, family members, or staff.

A deficiency is issued when one or more rules are not followed. Inspections occur at least once during a 15-month period, or any time in between as a result of a complaint received by the state. The inspections measure whether the nursing home meets “minimum” standards. If a nursing home has no deficiencies, it means that it met the minimum standards at the time of the inspection.

Inspections don't identify nursing homes that give outstanding care.

Health and Fire Safety survey inspections are reported to CMS and a summary of deficiencies for each facility is included on the Consumer Guide website. Each nursing home is also required by law to have the latest survey results on hand for public inspection. You can ask the nursing home administrator for the results of the most recent inspection.