

How many nursing home beds are there in San Francisco?

2013-2014

The total number of SNF beds is 2829.

SNF shift to Short Term Rehabilitation:

There are presently 22 nursing homes in San Francisco. Of that number 8 are DP (Distinct Part) or hospital connected skilled nursing, where the length of stay is short and where persons receive post- acute or rehabilitative care. This includes Laguna Honda and the Jewish Home, both of which have DP SNF Certification. The total beds in this sub-set of nursing homes are 1478. The majority of these beds are at Laguna Honda and the Jewish Home which also have this distinct part designation, with a similarly higher reimbursement rate. (Both are in transition from long term care to short term stay focus on rehabilitation)

We will come back to these two when discussing long term care beds. There are presently 15 “ free standing “ long term care nursing homes in San Francisco, as of 2013. The total beds are 1351, with 166 for only private pay residents, the rest 1185 Freestanding SNF beds for Medi-Cal reimbursed long term care.

The numbers get confusing however, because both the Jewish Home and Laguna Honda, although designated as distinct parts, have another **1040** Medi-Cal reimbursed long term care beds. That brings up the total Medi-Cal Certified beds in San Francisco to 2225.

Total Medi-Cal SNF beds

This brings the total up to 2225 long term care beds, mostly reimbursed by Medi-Cal (“Medi-Cal “beds)(Free Standing SNF + DP SNF total)

However, it gets even more complicated those long term care nursing homes are shifting to short term rehabilitation for reasons of cost. This takes long term care beds “off line”, as it were.

These results in a reduction of 40 % of that total bed number or about 920 M-Cal Certified beds re-assigned to additional Rehab utilization. While these beds remain certified for M-Cal as well as Medicare, the pressure is on each resident, to be discharged from the facility, often unsafely.

The adjusted total is 1305 available Medi-Cal Beds. Here I am distinguishing M-Cal Certified beds, from beds actually left for long term care based on utilization patterns.

“Where did the beds go”

Over the last 20 years San Francisco has lost over 900 long term care Medi-Cal Beds. In February 2014 Mission Bay nursing home in the Potrero District will close, with a lost of 50 available Medi-Cal beds to the community. Presently all remaining residents, all mono-lingual Cantonese speakers are being transferred to nursing homes in the East Bay, where most staff do not speak Cantonese. So the trend into the future in San Francisco, is the increased loss of Medi-Cal nursing homes beds. This is part of the expensive real estate market in SF.

There is no solution except to prevent persons in board and care homes from being neglected and to work with the city to craft an effective and safe network of long term services and supports to allow persons in hospitals to return home with enhanced wrap- around community based long term care services and supports.
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