

**4645.1600 PSYCHIATRIC NURSING UNIT.**

Where a psychiatric nursing unit is provided, the principles of psychiatric security and safety shall be followed throughout. Layout and design shall be such that the patient will be under close observation and will not be afforded opportunity for hiding, escape, or suicide. Care shall be taken to avoid sharp projections, exposed pipes, fixtures, or heating elements to prevent injury by accident. Minimum room areas shall be 100 square feet in single rooms, 80 square feet per bed in rooms having two or more beds, and 25 square feet per patient in dayrooms. Each nursing unit shall contain a doctors' office, examination room, nurses' station, dayroom, pantry, dining room, utility room, bedpan facilities, toilet rooms for each sex, shower and bathroom, continuous tub room for disturbed patients, patients' personal laundry for women's wards only, patients' locker room, storage closet for therapy equipment, stretcher closet, linen closet, supply closet, and a janitors' closet.

**Statutory Authority:** *MS s 144.55; 144.56*

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