

**Ministerial Regulation**  
**On Characteristics of Sanatoriums and Sanatorium Services**  
**B.E 2558 (2015)**

---

By virtue of Section 6 Paragraph One and Section 14 Paragraph Two of the Sanatorium Act B.E. 2541 (1998), the Minister of Health hereby issues this regulation as follows:

Clause 1 The ministerial regulation on characteristics of sanatoriums and sanatorium services B.E. 2545 (2002)

Clause 2 In this ministerial regulation,  
“Non-overnight sanatorium” means the medical clinic type of sanatoriums according to this ministerial regulation.

“Overnight sanatorium” means the hospital type of sanatoriums according to this ministerial regulation.

“Medical clinic” means the type of clinics that provides the practice of the art of healing by medical practitioners.

“Dental clinic” means the type of clinics that provides the art of healing in dental practice of by practitioners of dentistry.

“Nursing and midwifery clinic” means the type of clinics that provides the practice of nursing and midwifery by First Class practitioners of nursing and midwifery.

“Physical therapy Clinic” means the type of clinics that provides the practice of physical therapy by practitioners of physical therapy.

“Medical technology clinic” means the type of clinics that provides the practice of medical technology by practitioners of medical technology.

“Thai traditional medicine clinic” means the type of clinics that provides the practice of Thai traditional medicine or applied Thai traditional medicine by practitioners of Thai traditional medicine or applied Thai traditional medicine, as the case may be.

“The practice of the art of healing clinic” means the type of clinics that provides the practice of the art of healing according to the laws on the art of healing by practitioners in a specific art of healing.

“Specialized clinic” means the type of clinics that provides specialized practice of medicine or dentistry or nursing and midwifery by practitioners of medicine or dentistry or nursing and midwifery. These practitioners must have a certificate or a license from the Medical Council of Thailand or the Dental Council or the Nursing and Midwifery Council, as the case may be.

“Polyclinic” means the type of clinics that provides the practice of two or more of the art of healing in medicine, dentistry, nursing, midwifery, physical therapy, Thai traditional medicine, and applied Thai traditional medicine by practitioners in the art of healing in any of the service provided. The practitioners must be the persons proclaimed by the licenser based on the advice of the sanatorium committee.

“General hospital” means the hospitals that provide medical practice at least in the fields of medicine, surgery, pediatrics and gynecology, nursing, midwifery, pharmacy, physical therapy, medical technology, and radiology technology. They may also provide practice in other professions or other fields in the art of healing by medical practitioners.

“Dental hospital” means the hospitals that provide the practice of dentistry by dentist practitioners.

“Nursing and midwifery hospital” means the hospitals that provide the practice in nursing and midwifery by First Class practitioners in nursing and midwifery.

“Physical therapy hospital” means the hospitals that provide the practice in physical therapy by practitioners of physical therapy.

“Thai traditional medicine hospital” means the hospitals that provide the practice of Thai traditional medicine in the fields of Thai medicine, Thai pharmacy, Thai midwifery, and Thai massage as well as the practice of applied Thai traditional medicine by practitioners of Thai traditional medicine or applied Thai traditional medicine.

“Specialized hospital” means the hospitals that provide specialized medical practice by medical practitioners who must have a certificate or a license from the Medical Council of Thailand. Examples of this type of hospitals are: the ear, nose, and throat hospital, the heart hospital or the cancer hospital, etc.

“Hospital for special patient groups” means the hospitals that provide the medical practice for special patient groups by medical practitioners. Examples of this type of hospitals are: the chronic patient hospital, psychiatric hospital, geriatric hospital, maternal and child hospital, and drug rehabilitation hospital, etc.

## SECTION 1

### General characteristics and types of services provided by non-overnight sanatoriums

---

Clause 3 Clinics must have the following general characteristics:

- (1) Located in convenient and safe areas with no health risk
- (2) Strong and safe buildings in good conditions that do not pose any danger during use
- (3) Clean and neat interior and exterior areas with orderly zoning and patient facilities.
- (4) Ease of traffic movement and patient relocation
- (5) Discrete and private examination or treatment rooms
- (6) At least one sanitary rest room
- (7) Sufficient lighting and ventilation, no foul odor
- (8) Suitable waste/sewage collection and disposal systems
- (9) Existence of appropriate infection control system
- (10) If X-ray services are available, the services must meet the required standards and have a license from a legally responsible unit or designated units

Clause 4 Services provided by clinics must have the following characteristics:

- (1) Safe, convenient, and appropriate for service-givers and service-receivers for each practice.
- (2) Comply with the professional standards as determined and notified by the professionals council or the professionals committee, as the case may be.
- (3) The service areas must be open and connected with other areas, and must not be located in the same area as a drug store under the drug law on s. It must not be located in the same area where other profession is practiced.
- (4) The service areas shall not be located in the same area as the sanatorium operated by a ministry, bureau, department, the Bangkok Metropolitan Administration, the city of Pattaya as well as the provincial, municipal, Tambon and other local administrative organizations, including the Thai Red Cross Society, which provide similar services.
- (5) In the case that the medical services are provided in the same building as other business operation, there must be clear demarcation of the activities. The other operation must have no impact on the medical practice and must provide ease of patient relocation.
- (6) In case that the polyclinic or combined clinic type of services are provided in the same building, there must be clear demarcation of the activities. Each area must have the space and characteristics that comply with the standards of each service.

## SECTION 2

### General characteristics and types of services provided by overnight sanatoriums

---

Clause 5 Hospitals must have the following general characteristics according to their size and number of bed:

(1) Large-sized hospitals must have ninety-one beds and over.

(2) Medium-sized hospitals must have thirty-one beds and over but must not exceed ninety beds.

(3) Small-sized hospitals must have no more than thirty beds.

Clause 6 Hospitals must have the following general characteristics:

(1) Located in convenient and safe areas with no health risk.

(2) The building structure must not be connected to another building or structure.

(3) Service buildings over three-storey high must have at least one or more hospital bed elevator; more elevator may be added to match the number of hospital beds. Ramps may be provided for convenience and speed of patient transport.

(4) Shared traffic routes in patient service areas used for patient bed transport must not be less than two meter wide. If the floors are uneven, a ramp with less than fifteen degree elevation must be provided.

(5) Suitable service areas and equipment for the elderly and the disabled must be provided for each group. At least ramps, rails, and toilets for the disabled must be provided.

(6) Suitable and adequate hospital areas can be set aside to provide facilities, such as food shop or convenient shop, for patient, staff and service users. However, they must not be provided in the in-patient department. They must be well defined and limited only to the out-patient department areas.

Clause 7 Services provided by hospitals must have the following characteristics:

(1) Safe, convenient and appropriate for service-givers and service-receivers for each type and field of practice.

(2) Comply with the professional standards as determined and notified by the professionals council or the professionals committee, as the case may be.

(3) Have a permit to operate as a sanatorium building according to the building control laws.

(4) Comply with the sanitation requirements of the public health laws.

(5) Their characteristics comply with the urban planning laws.

(6) Availability of the environment impact assessment report that has been approved by the environmental quality promotion and maintenance laws.

Clause 8 General hospitals must comprise the following services and service support systems:

- (1) Medical record department
- (2) Out-patient department
- (3) In-patient department
- (4) Emergency department
- (5) Pharmacy department
- (6) Physical therapy department
- (7) Medical technology department
- (8) Radiology department
- (9) Surgery department
- (10) Obstetrics department
- (11) Emergency patient transport system
- (12) Infection control system
- (13) Wastewater treatment system
- (14) Emergency electrical system
- (15) Emergency water system
- (16) Other service units or supporting service systems specified in the license

application.

The service units in (6), (7), (8), (9) or (10) may not be available in small-sized general hospitals, but essential services must be provided.

Clause 9 Dental hospitals must comprise the following services and service support systems:

- (1) Medical record department
- (2) Out-patient department
- (3) In-patient department
- (4) Pharmacy department
- (5) Radiology department
- (6) Surgery department
- (7) Emergency patient transport system
- (8) Infection control system
- (9) Wastewater treatment system
- (10) Emergency electrical system
- (11) Emergency water system
- (12) Other service units or supporting service systems specified in the license

application.

The service units in (5) or (6) may not be available in small-sized dental hospitals, but essential services must be provided.

Clause 10 Nursing and midwifery hospitals must comprise the following services and service support systems:

- (1) Medical record department

- (2) Out-patient department
- (3) In-patient department
- (4) Obstetrics department
- (5) Emergency patient transport system
- (6) Infection control system
- (7) Wastewater treatment system
- (8) Emergency electrical system
- (9) Emergency water system
- (10) Other service units or supporting service systems specified in the license

application.

The service units in (4) may not be available in small-sized nursing and midwifery hospitals, but essential services must be provided.

Clause 11 Physical therapy hospitals must comprise the following services and service support systems:

- (1) Medical record department
- (2) Out-patient department
- (3) In-patient department
- (4) Emergency patient transport system
- (5) Infection control system
- (6) Wastewater treatment system
- (7) Emergency electrical system
- (8) Emergency water system
- (9) Other service units or supporting service systems specified in the license

application.

Clause 12 Thai traditional medicine hospitals must comprise the following services and service support systems:

- (1) Medical record department
- (2) Out-patient department
- (3) In-patient department
- (4) Thai pharmacy department
- (5) Thai midwifery department
- (6) Emergency patient transport system
- (7) Infection control system
- (8) Wastewater treatment system
- (9) Emergency electrical system
- (10) Emergency water system
- (11) Other service units or supporting service systems specified in the license

application.

The service unit in (5) may not be available in small-sized Thai traditional medicine hospitals, but essential services must be provided.

Clause 13 Specialized hospitals must comprise the following services and service support systems:

- (1) Medical record department
- (2) Out-patient department
- (3) In-patient department
- (4) Emergency department
- (5) Pharmacy department
- (6) Medical technology department
- (7) Radiology department
- (8) Emergency patient transport system
- (9) Infection control system
- (10) Emergency electrical system
- (11) Emergency water system
- (12) Other service units or supporting service systems specified in the license

application.

The service units in (6) or (7) may not be available in small-sized specialized hospitals, but essential services must be provided.

Clause 14 Hospitals for special patient groups must comprise the following services and service support systems:

- (1) Medical record department
- (2) Out-patient department
- (3) In-patient department
- (4) Emergency department
- (5) Pharmacy department
- (6) Medical technology department
- (7) Radiology department
- (8) Emergency patient transport system
- (9) Infection control system
- (10) Emergency electrical system
- (11) Emergency water system
- (12) Other service units or supporting service systems specified in the license

application.

The service units in (6) or (7) may not be available in small-sized hospitals for special patient groups, but essential services must be provided.

#### Provisional clauses

---

Clause 15 Non-overnight sanatoriums and overnight sanatoriums under the ministerial regulation on Characteristics of Sanatoriums and Sanatorium Services B.E. 2545 (2002) shall be the non-overnight sanatoriums and overnight sanatoriums in this ministerial regulation, as the case may be, with the exception of:

- (1) Specialized medical clinics, which shall be considered the specialized clinics.
- (2) Specialized dental clinics, which shall be considered the specialized clinics.
- (3) Applied Thai traditional medicine clinics, which shall be considered the Thai traditional medicine clinics.
- (4) General medical sanatoriums, which shall be considered the small-sized general hospitals.
- (5) Specialized medical sanatoriums, which shall be considered the small-sized specialized hospitals.
- (6) General dental hospitals and specialized dental hospitals, which shall be considered the small-sized dental hospitals.
- (7) Midwifery sanatoriums, which shall be considered the small-sized nursing and midwifery hospitals.
- (8) Chronic patient sanatoriums, which shall be considered the small-sized hospitals for special patient groups.
- (9) Thai traditional medicine sanatoriums, which shall be considered the small-sized Thai traditional medicine hospitals.
- (๑๐) Applied Thai traditional medicine sanatoriums which shall be considered the small-sized Thai traditional medicine hospitals.

Clause 16 Non-overnight sanatoriums in Clause 15, which have been granted a license to operate a sanatorium business and a license to operate a sanatorium prior to the date that this ministerial regulation has come into force, must arrange to have the general characteristics and the service characteristics that comply with this ministerial regulation within one year of its effective date.

Clause 17 Overnight sanatoriums in Clause 15, which have been granted a license to operate a sanatorium business and a license to operate a sanatorium prior to the date that this ministerial regulation has come into force, must arrange to have the general characteristics and the service characteristics as well as the service units and service support system that comply with this ministerial regulation within two years of its effective date. The general characteristics in Clause 6 (2) shall apply with the exception of the small-sized hospitals in Clause 5 (3). However, to prevent small-sized hospitals from increasing hospital beds over the specified number in the license to operate a sanatorium business prior to the date that this ministerial comes into force.

Given on the 23<sup>th</sup> March B.E 2558 (2015)

Rajata Rajatanavin  
Minister of Public Health