

Resident Placement of Video Cameras in Senior Living Communities



Many states have considered allowing residents and family members to place video cameras, affectionately called “granny cams,” in resident rooms.

If your state is currently contemplating legislation in this area, or if you are considering allowing families to place cameras at your senior living community, we have developed a checklist of important factors to consider when discussing this area with your elected officials or when developing your internal policies.

AREA	ISSUE	DESIRED OUTCOME
Equipment	Who purchases?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Resident’s family members are responsible for all purchases. Cameras record video only - no audio
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community has a list of approved vendors for installation of equipment from which families choose. Concern: Life Safety and Fire Prevention. Installation may require drilling holes. Installers must be insured and aware of and comply with the fire/life safety requirements of the building.
Physical Plant	Installation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Family members procure and pay for their own ISP and internet service. Concern: Using community Wi-Fi may impair staff ability to use network as well as access to Electronic Health Records (if applicable).
	Wi-Fi	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Family members responsible for all areas, including troubleshooting camera placement, internet outages, power cords, saving/deleting footage, etc. Community staff do not touch cameras or equipment
	Ongoing Maintenance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> At move out, family members are responsible for removing equipment and returning physical plant to an acceptable state by patching holes, etc.
	Removal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If the resident has capacity, they are the ultimate decision makers as to having/wanting a camera in their room. Concern: Family members may want cameras, but residents do not - especially during times of personal care.
Privacy	Resident Privacy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If the camera will record audio or video of the roommate, they must consent to camera placement.
	Roommate Privacy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The camera owner must post a notice of recording in the room or resident door. Family members may only place cameras in resident room. Placement of cameras in other areas of the community, like common areas, is prohibited.
	General Privacy	