Q: Can a resident bring their own bed/mattress from home and use in an LTC facility?

A: The Nursing Home Care Act does state that “A resident shall be permitted to retain and use or wear his personal property in his immediate living quarters, unless deemed medically inappropriate by a physician and so documented in the resident’s clinical record. (Section 2-103 of the Act).” However, there are some life safety considerations that must also be met. The Life Safety Code (LSC) requires that “Newly introduced mattresses 19.7.5.3 must meet the testing requirements of 10.3.2(2) 10.3.3 Testing requirements. Any new mattress within the last 12 month is required by State law to be built and tested to these standards. The bed itself must meet the medical need of the residents and staff ability to care for the patients.” Both of these LSC requirements will make bringing a resident’s own bed/mattress from home difficult, but not impossible.