

Short Term Health Monitoring/Change of Condition

New Admits: Monitor 72 hours with every 2-hour checks, and vitals on Day and Evening shifts only.

Ex:

7/24/2002 7:35 A.M. Mrs. Smith arrived to the facility via daughters care. She was assisted into facility via her personal wheelchair (or walker, or no assist). Her personal belongings were taken to room. She remains with her family and appears to be adjusting appropriately to new setting. R.N. and Administrator notified. Vitals, B/P 118/82, Pulse 78, R 14, Temp 98.5. (No need to take weight or height, R.N. will gather that data during initial assessment)

****It's important to familiarize yourself with each new resident. The two-page health assessment is available for you to review, in the chart under Health Services.**

Please do not forget to chart at least once each shift on the new resident. This must be a priority for each Med Passer and cannot be left for the following shift.

Short-Term Acute Health Conditions:

Residents occasionally need assistance in monitoring of short-term conditions;

- ❖ Falls with Injury Chart 72 hours, Falls without Injury Chart 24 hours
- ❖ Skin Tears/Wounds, Chart till resolved
- ❖ Antibiotics, Chart till medication regimen is completed
- ❖ Hospice, Chart till resident expires
- ❖ Psychotropic medication changes, Chart 72 hours
- ❖ As needed for changes in mental status, shortness of breath, Increased Urinary frequency and pain, Bowel changes, Appetite changes, Weight loss and/or gain, increased confusion etc.

If any of these conditions occur, please notify me immediately, and I will assist you in determining the plan of action for the resident and the length of alert charting if not specified above.

Also note, the Administrator and/or Nurse are the only ones who can discontinue Short Term charting, so if you recognize a resident's condition has resolved sooner than the time of the alert, please contact the Administrator or Nurse and let her know to determine how to proceed.

Ex:

7/24/2002 8:30 P.M. Mr. Smith reported she fell in her bathroom. Vitals; B/P 178/90, R 20, P 80, Temp 99.9; pressure applied to stop the bleeding on his right elbow. No other injuries observed. Mr. Smith up talking, with no complaint of pain or discomfort. R.N. (or Administrator) contacted, she instructed to continue to monitor the next 72 hours and check every 2 hours for the next 24. Will notify if anything changes for Mr. Smith.