

Long-Term Care Survey Alert

Quality Improvement: Calling The Doctor--Guidance for Nurses

Medical director provides suggested format for getting info in a row.

Nurses who prepare before calling the physician about a resident will be more likely to give the physician needed information to make a better decision, noted **Bruce Robinson, MD**, in a presentation at the **American Medical Directors Association** 2007 annual meeting. He suggested this reporting format for nurses.

Preparation: Review the chart including:

1. Recent medical notes
2. Recent nursing notes
3. Advance directive information

Script for evaluation and reporting:

Age: _____ Gender: _____ Terminal/CMO/DNR? _____

Usual chronic conditions: _____

Presenting problem: _____

(Onset, duration, frequency, severity)

Related medical history: _____

Major medications (med changes, warfarin): _____

ROS- circle positives: Changes in alertness? Personal function? Bowel/bladder function?

Physical assessment: BP ___ P ___ T ___ R ___ PulseOx ___ Looks acutely ill? _____

Mouth _____ Chest _____

Abdomen _____ Skin (edema?) _____

Pain? Agitation? Alertness?

Other findings _____

Recent labs: _____

Report of family contact: _____

Physician response: _____