

OASIS Alert

Tool: Use this SBAR to Resolve Medication Issues

Gather your thoughts with this handy form before contacting the physician.

Ready to give the SBAR approach a try? This form from **Mary Narayan, MSN, RN, HHCNS-BC, COS-C**, with Narayan Associates in Vienna, Va. will help you to address medication issues and prevent unwanted hospitalizations.

Communication with Physician about Medication Issues/Discrepancies during Reconciliation/Review

Situation:

- Dr. (name), this is (your name, discipline) from (name of your home health agency).
- I am calling about (patient's name), whose medication reconciliation indicates: (Examples include:)

serious medication discrepancies.

patient has symptoms indicating possible medication adverse effect.

current medications are not adequately controlling patient's (pain, BP, infection, etc.)

patient not taking medication due to cost of medication.

Background:

- Patient's age _____
- Reason admitted to home care _____ Date admitted _____
- Diagnoses related to medication discrepancies/issues: _____

Assessment: (Only report abnormal/pertinent data)

- During the admission medication reconciliation, I found the following discrepancies:

- Patient's symptoms include:

Dizziness, lightheadedness Visual changes Ringing in ears

Insomnia Lethargy Difficulty breathing

Nausea/anorexia Constipation Diarrhea

Itching Difficulty urinating Urinary frequency

Other pertinent symptoms _____

- Physical assessment:

Vital signs: Pulse _____ RR _____ BP _____ Orthostatic BP _____

O2 sat _____ Blood glucose: _____ Edema/swelling _____

Neuro: Altered mental status Balance problem Tremors

Skin: Rash Hives Excessive bruising

GI: Dry mouth Vomiting Tarry stools

Other pertinent data: _____

• Analysis:

Ineffective drug therapy Adverse effect Side effect

Reconciliation discrepancies Drug interaction Duplicate therapy

Non-adherence due to: Cost Confusion

Complexity of meds Other _____

Recommendation: Examples include:

- Since these medication discrepancies could jeopardize the patient's safety, could you return the Medication Profile I have faxed to you, with your clarifications and revisions, by 10 am tomorrow?
- Should the dose of the (medication name) be decreased or discontinued?
- I recommend we ask the pharmacist to review the patient's medication list for recommendations on how the medication regime can be simplified.

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