

ADMISSION ELOPEMENT RISK ASSESSMENT

Policy and Procedure

Policy:

It is the responsibility of the interdisciplinary team to provide an environment that meets each resident's individual needs. The following guidelines will be followed for residents upon admission.

Procedure:

1. Upon admission, residents will be assessed for elopement risk using the **Wander Elopement Risk Assessment form**. The assessment should include information provided by the resident, family or resident representative including:
 - a. diagnoses,
 - b. medications that may affect cognition or safety awareness,
 - c. behaviors,
 - d. wandering activity,
 - e. mobility with or without assistive devices, and
 - f. acceptance of admission to the facility.
 - g. History of elopement
2. The **Wander Elopement Risk Assessment Form** will be completed as soon as practicable after admission. The algorithm will be used to support risk assessment decisions.
3. Residents identified at risk will be added to the elopement risk system, at the receptionist area and other locations identified by the facility.
4. A resident photo will be obtained and added to the resident record. The photo will be placed in an easily retrievable/printable location. At a minimum, photographs will be maintained in the resident's medical record and on the Medication Administration Record.
5. Photographs will be updated as required to reflect changes in resident appearance as needed post admission.
6. Residents identified as high risk for elopement will have preventive interventions initiated on the resident care plan. Interventions will reflect resident related behaviors and needs as well as specific facility layout and environmental circumstances that should be considered.
7. Direct care staff will be informed of the resident's risk and the appropriate interventions to address the risk of elopement.
8. Residents actively exhibiting exit seeking behaviors will be placed on 15-minute checks or other measures based on interdisciplinary review until appropriate placement on a secure wing or more appropriate facility is located.
9. Residents who are at risk of elopement but not actively exhibiting exit seeking behaviors may be appropriate for the **Wander Management Program**.

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This policy and procedure is not intended to replace the informed judgment of individual physicians, nurses or other clinicians nor is it intended as a statement of prevailing community standards or minimum standards of practice. It is a suggested method and technique for achieving optimal health care, not a minimum standard below which residents necessarily would be placed at risk.