

Reducing the Risk of Hospital Transfers

Implement a Pre-Admission Risk-Factor Screening Tool for Hospital Transfers

- Include the Following in Risk-Factor Screening: Active High-Risk Diagnoses (e.g., CHF, COPD, Renal Failure, End-Stage Disease)
- Use of high-risk medications (e.g., anticoagulants, insulin, psychotropic medications)
- Polypharmacy (e.g., 15 or more medications)
- History or Falls or Hospitalizations in the Past Three Months

Source - AHRQ's Safety Program for Nursing Homes: On-Time Preventable Hospital and Emergency Department Visits

Develop a Clear Protocol for Change in Condition Assessment, Monitoring, and Interventions

- Document Resident Change in Condition Assessment and Monitoring Every Shift for a Minimum of 72 Hours
- Establish a Structured Process for Resident Change in Condition Communication During Shift Report
- Document Resident Response to Interventions. Adjust The Resident-Centered Plan of Care as Needed Based on Resident Condition and Response

Implement a Multi-Disciplinary Team Approach

- Review Change in Condition at Morning Meetings (Utilize a Structured Process to Facilitate Information Exchange)
- Review the Effectiveness of Interventions at Weekly At-Risk Meetings
- Establish a Formal Process for Case Review of Residents that are Seen in the Emergency Room or Readmitted to the Hospital Within A Designated Period of Time (e.g., within 30 days of discharge)

Click the links on page 2 to view sample resources.



Consultation

Vaaler Insurance, a Marsh & McLennan Agency LLC Company provides customized consultation including:

- Support for Developing a Plan/Program to Reduce Hospital Transfers
- Customized Education/Training
- Quality Review and Assessment

Sample Resources:

- ✓ [Create A Plan – Start with a Self-Assessment](#)
- ✓ [Screen for Hospital Transfer Risk](#)
- ✓ [Develop a Preventable Hospital Transfer and ED Visit Prevention Plan](#)
- ✓ [Change in Condition Self-Assessment](#)
- ✓ [Technique Quick-Check – Blood Pressure Evaluation](#)
- ✓ Utilize a Structured Communication Process
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 - Additional Resource for Communication
- ✓ [Conduct Root Cause Analysis and Develop Formal Education and Competencies](#)

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