

2004 Assisted Living National Patient Safety Goals

1) Improve the accuracy of resident identification.

- a) Use at least two resident identifiers (neither to be the resident's room number) whenever taking blood samples or administering medications or blood products.

2) Improve the effectiveness of communication among caregivers.

- a) Implement a process for taking verbal or telephone orders or critical test results that require a verification "read-back" of the complete order or test result by the person receiving the order or test result.
- b) Standardize the abbreviations, acronyms and symbols used throughout the organization, including a list of abbreviations, acronyms and symbols not to use.

3) Not Applicable

4) Not Applicable

5) Improve the safety of using infusion pumps.

- a) Ensure free-flow protection on all general-use and PCA (resident controlled analgesia) intravenous infusion pumps used in the organization.

6) Improve the effectiveness of clinical alarm systems.

- a) Implement regular preventive maintenance and testing of alarm systems.
- b) Assure that alarms are activated with appropriate settings and are sufficiently audible with respect to distances and competing noise within the unit.

7) Reduce the risk of health care-acquired infections.

- a) Comply with current CDC hand hygiene guidelines.
- b) Manage as sentinel events all identified cases of unanticipated death or major permanent loss of function associated with a health care-acquired infection.