

Communication Tools	Use
Early Warning Tool “Stop and Watch” Pocket Card and Report	<p>Certified Nursing Assistants</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regular evaluation of and recognition of changes in residents under their care Reporting changes to licensed nurses May be produced as laminated cards or half sheets on colored paper
SBAR Communication Tool and Progress Note	<p>All nursing home licensed nursing staff</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evaluation and communication of acute changes to MD, NP, and/or PA Documentation of evaluation and communications May be printed as two-sided with progress note on back
Change in Condition File Cards	<p>All nursing home licensed nursing staff</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> At nurses station for quick reference Provide guidance on when to communicate acute changes in status to MD, NP, and/or PA May be laminated and placed in a file box at the nurses station or on the med cart, or cards may be spiral bound
Resident Transfer Form	<p>All nursing home licensed nursing staff and emergency room staff</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Standardized form completed at the time of acute care transfer May be printed as two-sided or single sided on 3M paper
Acute Care Transfer Envelope with Checklist	<p>All nursing home staff at time of transferring residents to acute care</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete the checklist on the front of the envelope Place copies of all documents in the envelope Send with the resident to the acute care facility Checklist may be printed on outside of a 11x14 or 15x20 envelope
Quality Improvement Tool For Review of Acute Care Transfers	<p>This Communication tool is used for facility-based quality improvement focused on reducing the number of avoidable acute care transfers.</p> <p>Nursing home staff involved in Quality Improvement or Performance Improvement Committees; medical director, medical staff in building</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Standardized form completed for every acute care transfer
Care Paths	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mental status change Fever Symptoms of Lower Respiratory Infection Symptoms of CHF Symptoms of UTI Dehydration 	<p>All nursing home licensed nursing staff, administrative nurses, medical director, primary care physicians, nurse practitioners, physician assistants</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Used as an educational tool and reference for guiding evaluation of specific symptoms that commonly cause acute care transfers Care paths may be enlarged and printed as posters for nursing station or med room, or printed and placed in a binder

Advance Care Planning Tools	
Identifying Residents to Consider for Palliative Care and Hospice – Pocket Card	All nursing home staff <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Educational tool for guidance on how to identify residents who may be appropriate for a palliative or comfort care plan, or hospice care
Advance Care Planning Communication Guide – File Cards	Social workers, licensed nurses, primary care providers (MDs, NPs, PAs) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Educational tool for guidance on how to communicate with residents and family members for those appropriate for a palliative or comfort care plan, or hospice care
Comfort Care Order Set – File Cards	Primary care providers (MDs, NPs, PAs), licensed nurses <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Guidance on examples of orders that may be appropriate for residents on palliative or comfort care plans
Educational Information	Directed at Residents and families <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Reprints on Advance Directives, Palliative Care, Artificial Nutrition