SBAR Template for Physician/NP Communication

SITUATION, BACKGROUND, ASSESSMENT, RECOMMENDATION/REQUEST

When calling the primary or on-call provider, consider the following changes in condition. Communicate those that are present and not present to facilitate accurate and effective clinical decision making.

Resident name:  
DOB:  
Unit/room:  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S</th>
<th>Situation</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reason for the call (e.g., change in condition); include date of onset, frequency, and duration:</td>
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<tr>
<th>B</th>
<th>Background</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Primary diagnosis or reason resident is in facility:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Recent lab or diagnostic test results:</td>
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<td>Pertinent history (e.g., precipitating, aggravating, alleviating factors):</td>
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<td>Medication allergies and reactions:</td>
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<td>Has reason for call occurred before? Describe:</td>
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<td>Advance directives / POLST:</td>
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<tr>
<th>A</th>
<th>Assessment</th>
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<tr>
<td>What do you think is going on (e.g., dehydration, medication problem)?</td>
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<td>I’m not sure what is going on. Describe:</td>
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<th>R</th>
<th>Recommendation/Request:</th>
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<tr>
<td>□ Visit? Specify:</td>
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<td>□ Medication change? Specify:</td>
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<td>□ New order? Specify:</td>
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<tr>
<td>□ Just providing information.</td>
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Instructions or questions from physician/NP:
## Criteria

Indicate which of the following criteria are applicable.

### Mental Status:
- New/worsening confusion
- New onset of delirium
- New/worsening behavioral symptoms
- Altered level of consciousness
- Other, describe:

### Functional Status:
- Needs more assistance with ADLs
- Decreased mobility
- Fall, gait disturbance
- Weakness or hemiparesis
- Slurred speech
- Trouble swallowing
- Other, describe:

### Eye/Ear:
- Vision loss (partial/complete)
- Pus from one or both eyes
- New/increasing conjunctival swelling
- New/increasing conjunctival pain
- Itching of one or both eyes
- Redness of one or both eyes
- Bleeding from the ear canal
- Discharge from the ear canal, describe:
  - Acute hearing loss
  - Wax impaction
  - Ringing, or other noise in the ears
  - Pain of external or internal ear(s)
- Other, describe:

### Nose/Mouth/Throat:
- Nasal discharge, describe color and consistency:
- Nasal congestion
- Nosebleed
- Sneezing
- Toothache
- Inflamed oral mucosa with raised white patches
- Sore throat, hoarseness, or difficulty swallowing
- Swollen or tender glands in the neck
- Other, describe:

### Cardiac/Respiratory System:
- Chest pain/tightness, describe:
- Abnormal heart sounds
- Edema (different from baseline)
- Dizziness or lightheadedness
- Shortness of breath
- Labored breathing
- Abnormal lung sounds
- Cough (productive/non-productive)
- Coughing up blood (hemoptyisis)
- Purulent sputum production
- Other, describe:

### GI/Abdomen:
- Nausea
- Vomiting (# of episodes/24 hours ___)
- Diarrhea (# of episodes/24 hours ___)
- New/worsening stool incontinence
- Rectal bleeding or blood in stool
- Decreased appetite
- Abdominal pain / tenderness
- Distended abdomen
- Decreased bowel sounds
- Constipation
- Other, describe:

### Urine/Genitourinary Tract:
- Painful urination (dysuria)
- New/worsening urination frequency
- New/worsening urination urgency
- New/worsening incontinence
- Flank pain (costovertebral angle (CVA) tenderness)
- Suprapubic pain
- Hesitancy or decreased urine output
- Blood in urine (gross hematuria)
- Cloudy or concentrated urine
- Foul-smelling urine
- Pain, tenderness, or swelling of the testes, epididymis, or prostate
- Redness, edema, or excoriation of female external genitalia
- Discharge from the penis or vagina
- Other, describe:

### Skin/Soft Tissue:
- New/increasing purulent drainage at a wound, skin, or soft-tissue site
- New/increasing redness at site
- New/increasing tenderness/pain at site
- New/increasing warmth at site
- New/increasing swelling at site
- New/increasing serous drainage at site
- Rash, describe:
- Lesion, describe:
- Itching, describe area and intensity:
- Other, describe:

### Other Issues:
- Fever or hypothermia (different from baseline)
- Shaking chills (rigors)
- Headache
- Fainting (syncopal episode)
- Sleep disturbance, describe:
- Seizure or convulsions
- Sprain or strain
- Dislocation or fracture
- Other, describe: