



Bed Safety Volunteer Procedure

Sign in on the computer in the Reception area at Cooper or the Volunteer office at Harrison.

Pick up the clip board and at least one check list for each unit you plan to visit.

The role of the volunteer is to visit all patients who have been designated as a moderate or high "Fall Risk." Any patients who have a fall score of 6-18 (noted on whiteboard) should be visited by a volunteer.

The volunteer will:

- ✓ Check for a yellow bracelet on the patient's arm – if unable to see it because patient's arms are covered put ? on form.
- ✓ Check if personal items are within reach
- ✓ Check if call button is within reach.
 - Check to be sure call button has a clip on it and that it is clipped to the bed linen or wherever it is comfortable for the patient.
 - If the clip is missing record this under "equipment issues" on the bottom of the Checklist so that the staff can make arrangements to have the call button clip replaced.

If the patient is in the bed:

The bed alarm unit is a green box, it will be attached to the side rail and the cord will be attached to the nurses call button on the wall. **Bed alarm is applied to patients that are impulsive or forget to call for help.**

- ✓ Bed alarm is "on".
- ✓ Bed alarm pad is plugged into device. Call system adapter (circle plug) is plugged in to the wall
- ✓ Bed's power cord is plugged into the appropriate wall outlet.

If the patient is sitting in a chair:

- ✓ Evidence of a safety device (activated chair alarm)
- ✓ Make sure it is the correct pad (chair vs. bed)

All patients will be:

- ✓ asked to demonstrate how to use their call button.
- ✓ reminded to use their call button to call for assistance and to not get up alone.
- ✓ asked if there is anything else that they need at this time.

In an attempt to improve patient safety, the volunteer will:

- ✓ Wash hands prior to entering and leaving each room.
- ✓ Not enter isolation rooms.

- ✓ Move personal items within reach if appropriate
- ✓ Turn on the bed alarm if it is off and the patient is in the bed (should be on)
- ✓ Plug in bed cords and cables if they are not plugged in properly
- ✓ Reposition the call button within the patient's reach and clip it to the sheet
- ✓ Help the patient request staff assistance for all other needs by pressing the call button.
- ✓ Write the name of the nurse and NCA next to patients who have deficiencies. (obtain from white board at desk)
 - If during your rounds the staff give you any explanations as to why the protocol isn't being followed, please write that on the sheet next to your rounding information or at the bottom of the sheet(example: pt refuses to have bed alarm on)
- ✓ The volunteer will ask for the patient's nurse immediately upon completing the rounds. This will allow for real time follow up of issues identified. Leave a copy of your rounding sheet for the unit manager. Feel free to point out anything you did to increase safety (example- put on a bed alarm; put a call button within reach, replaced call button clip etc)
- ✓ Please look for patients who would enjoy social visits from a volunteer (chatty or needy pts) and make a note of this on the bottom of the sheet.