

CARE OF THE VISUALLY IMPAIRED PATIENT

OBJECTIVES:

1. To provide protection from injury.
2. To promote independence.

PROCESS STANDARDS:

1. The patient will be oriented to surroundings (furniture, bathroom, etc.). Provide a safe environment by removing excess furniture or equipment from patient's surroundings. Implement Fall Precautions.
2. Accommodations will be made for guide assistance animals if needed.
3. The call light will be kept within the patient's reach. Staff will respond to call light quickly.
4. Objects in the room will not be moved without informing the patient.
5. Staff will identify themselves and state their purpose when entering the room, and let patient know when they are leaving.
6. The patient will be allowed to feed and bathe self after being oriented to the location of needed supplies. Encourage arrangement of frequently used items in easily accessible areas.
7. The patient will be instructed in home and follow-up care.
8. Provide continuity by assigning same staff members to care for the patient, if possible.

OUTCOME STANDARDS:

1. The patient will be mobile in his/her surroundings, unless contraindicated. Encourage good footwear.
2. The patient will be free from injury.
3. The patient will have maintained independence.
4. The patient will communicate understanding of home and follow-up care.

HAVE I DOCUMENTED:

- * Patient orientation
 - Time
 - Place
 - Personnel
 - Surroundings
- * Safe environment
- * Patient independence
 - Self care
 - Mobility in hospital environment

Standard 28

Revised: 2003, 2006, 2009
Reviewed: 1991, 1994, 1997, 2000

STANDARD: CARE OF THE VISUALLY IMPAIRED PATIENT

HAVE I DOCUMENTED continued:

- * Patient Education
 - Safety factors
 - Community resources

At The Time of Discharge:

- * Ability to assume activities of daily living
- * Patient/family has understanding of home and follow-up care

Reference:

1. Doenges, M, Moorhouse, M.F., and Murr, A. (2008). Accessed 5/13/09: [AR, LA, OK Libraries - LSU - Shreveport -- Nurse's Pocket Guide: Diagnoses, Prioritized Interventions, and Rationales - 11th Ed. \(2008\)](#) . *Disturbed Sensory Perception*. Canada: F.A. Davis Company.
2. Hospital Policy 5.14.0 Patient Communication Needs
http://www.sh.lsuhsu.edu/policies/policy_manuals_via_ms_word/hospital_policy/h_5.14.0.pdf
3. Hospital Policy 5.42.0 Fall Prevention Program
http://www.sh.lsuhsu.edu/policies/policy_manuals_via_ms_word/hospital_policy/h_5.42.0.pdf
4. Standard 38, Patient At Risk for Falls
http://www.sh.lsuhsu.edu/policies/policy_manuals_via_ms_word/Nursing/Std_of_Care/Standard%2038.pdf