

2011 Long Term Care National Patient Safety Goals

The purpose of the National Patient Safety Goals is to improve patient safety. The goals focus on problems in health care safety and how to solve them.

Identify residents correctly

NPSG.01.01.01 Use at least two ways to identify residents. For example, use the resident's name *and* date of birth. This is done to make sure that each resident gets the correct medicine and treatment.

Use medicines safely

NPSG.03.05.01 Take extra care with residents who take medicines to thin their blood.

Prevent infection

NPSG.07.01.01 Use the hand cleaning guidelines from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention or the World Health Organization. Set goals for improving hand cleaning. Use the goals to improve hand cleaning.

NPSG.07.04.01 Use proven guidelines to prevent infection of the blood from central lines.

Check resident medicines

NPSG.08.01.01 Find out what medicines each resident is taking. Make sure that it is OK for the resident to take any new medicines with their current medicines.

NPSG.08.02.01 Give a list of the resident's medicines to their next caregiver. Give the list to the resident's regular doctor before the resident goes home.

NPSG.08.03.01 Give a list of the resident's medicines to the resident and their family before they go home. Explain the list.

NPSG.08.04.01 Some residents may get medicine in small amounts or for a short time. Make sure that it is OK for those residents to take those medicines with their current medicines.

Prevent residents from falling

NPSG.09.02.01 Find out which residents are most likely to fall. For example, is the resident taking any medicines that might make them weak, dizzy or sleepy? Take action to prevent falls for these residents.

Prevent bed sores

NPSG.14.01.01 Find out which residents are most likely to have bed sores. Take action to prevent bed sores in these patients. From time to time, re-check residents for bed sores.