BAMSI

Day and Residential Services

Body/Skin Check Procedure

Body/Skin checks should be implemented for individuals as appropriate in order to ensure their health and safety. Individuals for which body/skin checks are indicated include but are not limited to:

- Those who are incontinent
- Those who are diabetic
- Those who have a history of skin breakdown
- Those who have a history of bruising
- Those requiring wound care
- Those who have a history of self mutilating behavior

Procedure

Body/Skin check should be implemented weekly to those individuals who meet the above criteria. Staff should check body/skin when assisting with bathing/dressing. Should an individual not require assistance with bathing/dressing staff should explain to the individual that because of their risk for changes in their skin due to the above criteria it would be a health benefit to allow staff to review their skin (again when they are showering / changing).

1. Staff should note in the daily progress notes that Body/Skin Check completed, any altered skin which to include, but not limited to broken skin, rash, cut, bruising, ulcer, scabbing. If nothing noted indicate such (i.e. "Body/Skin Check completed without findings")
2. Staff should report any altered skin (as defined above) to the program nurse or for the houses without program nurses to their house manager.
3. Staff should also complete Body/Skin Check Flow Sheet along with documenting on a progress note, their findings indicating normal or changed. Completed Body/Skin Check Sheets and progress notes should be kept in a separate binder labeled Body/Skin Checks.
4. An Individual Body/Skin Check Protocol form will be completed by the Program Manager, Assistant Director, or Program Nurse and will be signed by the Program Nurse or Assigned Nurse and Manager. A copy will be sent to the Assistant Director. For houses without Program nurses, the house manager should fax a copy of the Body/Skin Check Flow Sheet & Individual Body/Skin Protocol to the nurse assigned to the house along with a follow up telephone call to report findings as for the assigned nurse to review or assign a nurse to review.
5. A nurse will then approve for implementation the initiation of the Individual Body/Skin Check Protocol. Upon nurse approval, all program staff will have in house training from the nurse and a signed training roster will be sent to the Battles St administrative office.
6. Remember the Body/Skin Check Flow Sheet, Progress Note, Individual Body/Skin Check Protocol will be kept in the Body /Skin binder.

Once trained, the staff will begin performing the body/skin checks per the schedule outlined in the individual protocol and they will document these checks on the Body/Skin Checks Flow sheet. Only the areas detailed in the Individual Body/Skin Check Protocol form will be checked by staff. Staff performing the checks will sign at the bottom of the form and the nurse will sign he/she has reviewed it.