

# NURSING NOTES GUIDELINES

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# Submission

- Please submit SN notes and route sheets on a **weekly basis every Monday**
- Send them either by fax (909) 697-2179 , e-mail ([angelushomehealth@hotmail.com](mailto:angelushomehealth@hotmail.com)), mail or drop-off.
- If sending by fax, please mail or drop off originals in the office. If sending by e-mail, you will need to e-sign or sign the print outs when you come to the office for your paychecks.

# SN Note Template



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## SKILLED NURSING VISIT NOTE

| ASSESSMENT OF SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS:                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                                                         | IF THE FOLLOWING SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS ARE PRESENT                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                                 |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>VITAL SIGNS</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                                                         | <b>ENDOCRINE</b> <input type="checkbox"/> No problem                                                                                                   | <b>GENITOURINARY</b> <input type="checkbox"/> No problem                                                                                        |
| Temp: <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> R <input type="checkbox"/> Reg <input type="checkbox"/> Irreg                                                                                                                                                                         | WT: <input type="checkbox"/> Regular <input type="checkbox"/> Irregular | <input type="checkbox"/> Thyroid abnormality                                                                                                           | Urine <input type="checkbox"/> Clear <input type="checkbox"/> Cloudy <input type="checkbox"/> Bloody                                            |
| HR: <input type="checkbox"/> Regular <input type="checkbox"/> Irregular                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | RR: <input type="checkbox"/> Regular <input type="checkbox"/> Irregular | <input type="checkbox"/> Hypoglycemia <input type="checkbox"/> Hyperglycemia                                                                           | Amount <input type="checkbox"/> Scant <input type="checkbox"/> Moderate                                                                         |
| BP: Lying <input type="checkbox"/> Sitting <input type="checkbox"/> Standing <input type="checkbox"/>                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                         | Blood Sugar <input type="checkbox"/> refused <input type="checkbox"/> fasting <input type="checkbox"/> random                                          | Odor <input type="checkbox"/> None <input type="checkbox"/> Foul-smelling                                                                       |
| R: <input type="checkbox"/>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |                                                                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Drowsy <input type="checkbox"/> extreme thirst <input type="checkbox"/> Hunger                                                | <input type="checkbox"/> R <input type="checkbox"/> L <input type="checkbox"/> Upper <input type="checkbox"/> Mid <input type="checkbox"/> Base |
| L: <input type="checkbox"/>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |                                                                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Change in vision <input type="checkbox"/> Lethargic                                                                           | <input type="checkbox"/> SOB <input type="checkbox"/> At rest <input type="checkbox"/> On exertion                                              |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Asymptomatic                                                                                                                  | <input type="checkbox"/> B <sup>+</sup> Sound <input type="checkbox"/> Clear <input type="checkbox"/> Diminished                                |
| <b>PAIN</b> <input type="checkbox"/> None at this time                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                                                                         | <b>NEUROLOGICAL</b> <input type="checkbox"/> No problem                                                                                                | <input type="checkbox"/> R <input type="checkbox"/> L <input type="checkbox"/> Upper <input type="checkbox"/> Mid <input type="checkbox"/> Base |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Less often than daily                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Alert <input type="checkbox"/> Forgetful <input type="checkbox"/> Confused                                                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Wheeze <input type="checkbox"/> Rales/Crackles                                                                         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Daily but not constantly                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                                                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Oriented to: <input type="checkbox"/> T <input type="checkbox"/> P <sub>e</sub> <input type="checkbox"/> P <sub>I</sub>       | <input type="checkbox"/> R <input type="checkbox"/> L <input type="checkbox"/> Upper <input type="checkbox"/> Mid <input type="checkbox"/> Base |
| <input type="checkbox"/> All the time                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Disoriented to: <input type="checkbox"/> T <input type="checkbox"/> P <sub>e</sub> <input type="checkbox"/> P <sub>I</sub>    | <input type="checkbox"/> Cough <input type="checkbox"/> Dry <input type="checkbox"/> Productive                                                 |
| Relieved by: <input type="checkbox"/> Rest <input type="checkbox"/> Medication                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Unresponsive                                                                                                                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Phlegm <input type="checkbox"/> Clear/watery <input type="checkbox"/> Yellow/Green                                     |
| Pain Severity Level (Scale of 1/10)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Paralysis <input type="checkbox"/> RUE <input type="checkbox"/> RLE <input type="checkbox"/> LUE <input type="checkbox"/> LLE | <input type="checkbox"/> Rust/Bloody <input type="checkbox"/> Thin <input type="checkbox"/> Thick                                               |
| Before Intervention                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Weakness <input type="checkbox"/> RUE <input type="checkbox"/> RLE <input type="checkbox"/> LUE <input type="checkbox"/> LLE  | <input type="checkbox"/> Scant <input type="checkbox"/> Copious <input type="checkbox"/> Moderate                                               |
| After Intervention                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                                                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Tremors <input type="checkbox"/> Headache <input type="checkbox"/> Dizziness                                                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Oxygen use                                                                                                             |
| Location                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Aphasia <input type="checkbox"/> Express <input type="checkbox"/> Receptive                                                   | <b>CARDIOVASCULAR</b> <input type="checkbox"/> No problem                                                                                       |
| Character                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                                                                         | Pupil <input type="checkbox"/> Equal <input type="checkbox"/> Reactive                                                                                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Chest Pain <input type="checkbox"/> At rest <input type="checkbox"/> On exertion                                       |
| <b>VISION</b> <input type="checkbox"/> No problem Noted                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                         | Hand Grips <input type="checkbox"/> Strong <input type="checkbox"/> Weak                                                                               | <input type="checkbox"/> Pressing <input type="checkbox"/> Dull <input type="checkbox"/> Burning                                                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Partially Impaired <input type="checkbox"/> R <input type="checkbox"/> L                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                                                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Equal <input type="checkbox"/>                                                                                                | <input type="checkbox"/> Heaviness <input type="checkbox"/> Tight <input type="checkbox"/> Stabbing                                             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Severely Impaired <input type="checkbox"/> R <input type="checkbox"/> L                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                         | <b>GASTROINTESTINAL</b> <input type="checkbox"/> No problem                                                                                            | WITH <input type="checkbox"/> Dyspnea <input type="checkbox"/> Diaphoresis                                                                      |
| <b>HEARING</b> <input type="checkbox"/> No observed impairment                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                         | Last BM                                                                                                                                                | <input type="checkbox"/> No edema <input type="checkbox"/> Edema                                                                                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> W/ min. difficulty <input type="checkbox"/> R <input type="checkbox"/> L                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                                                         | Appetite <input type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Poor                                                     | <input type="checkbox"/> 1+ <input type="checkbox"/> 2+ <input type="checkbox"/> 3+ <input type="checkbox"/> 4+                                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> W/ mod. difficulty <input type="checkbox"/> R <input type="checkbox"/> L                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                                                         | Abdomen <input type="checkbox"/> Soft <input type="checkbox"/> Distended                                                                               | <input type="checkbox"/> Pitting <input type="checkbox"/> Non-pitting                                                                           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Unable to hear <input type="checkbox"/> R <input type="checkbox"/> L                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                         | Pain <input type="checkbox"/> Dull <input type="checkbox"/> Sharp <input type="checkbox"/> Crampy                                                      | <input type="checkbox"/> RUE <input type="checkbox"/> RLE <input type="checkbox"/> LUE <input type="checkbox"/> LLE                             |
| <b>NOSE/THROAT/MOUTH</b> <input type="checkbox"/> No problem                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                                                                         | <input type="checkbox"/> RUQ <input type="checkbox"/> RLQ <input type="checkbox"/> LUQ <input type="checkbox"/> LLQ                                    | <b>Pedal Pulse</b> <input type="checkbox"/> RLE <input type="checkbox"/> LLE                                                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Congestion <input type="checkbox"/> Chewing prob.                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Ascites <input type="checkbox"/> Abdominal Girth                                                                              | <input type="checkbox"/> Present <input type="checkbox"/> Absent                                                                                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sinusitis <input type="checkbox"/> Swallowing prob.                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                                                                         | Bowel sound <input type="checkbox"/> Active <input type="checkbox"/> Hyperactive                                                                       | <b>WOUND ASSESSMENT</b>                                                                                                                         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sore throat <input type="checkbox"/> Gingivitis                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Hypoactive <input type="checkbox"/> Nausea <input type="checkbox"/> Diarrhea                                                  | 1 2 3 4                                                                                                                                         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hoarseness <input type="checkbox"/> Ulceration                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Constipation <input type="checkbox"/> Incontinence                                                                            | Site                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>MEDICATION</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Compliant                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                         | <input type="checkbox"/> G-Tube <input type="checkbox"/> Patent <input type="checkbox"/> Obstructed                                                    | Location                                                                                                                                        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Non compl. <input type="checkbox"/> Needs teaching                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |                                                                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Ostomy: Location                                                                                                              | Stage                                                                                                                                           |
| <b>NUTRITION (DIET)</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Followed                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                                                                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Patent <input type="checkbox"/> Obstructed                                                                                    | Length                                                                                                                                          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Not followed <input type="checkbox"/> Needs teaching                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                         | Amount of Drainage:                                                                                                                                    | Width                                                                                                                                           |
| Homebound Reason                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                        | Depth                                                                                                                                           |
| Nursing Diagnosis/Problems:                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                        | Tunneling                                                                                                                                       |
| Interventions/Skilled Care Performed                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                        | Drainage                                                                                                                                        |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                        | Odor                                                                                                                                            |
| Response to Care/Instruction:                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                         | <input type="radio"/> Next or <input type="radio"/> Last MD Visit date:                                                                                |                                                                                                                                                 |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                         | Is there any change in insurance: <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No. If yes, when?                                                    |                                                                                                                                                 |
| Plan for next visit:                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                                 |
| Communication with: <input type="checkbox"/> Physician <input type="checkbox"/> Pharmacy <input type="checkbox"/> Care/Clinical Coordinator <input type="checkbox"/> Caregiver <input type="checkbox"/> PT <input type="checkbox"/> OT <input type="checkbox"/> ST <input type="checkbox"/> MSW |                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                                 |
| Discussed:                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                                 |
| Resulted to: <input type="checkbox"/> New <input type="checkbox"/> Changed <input type="checkbox"/> No MD Order                                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                                 |
| Patent Name                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | MR #:                                                                   | SN Name - Title                                                                                                                                        | RN/LVN                                                                                                                                          |
| Date                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | Time In                                                                 | Time Out                                                                                                                                               | SN Signature                                                                                                                                    |

# SN Notes / QA

- Are to be typewritten using the given template to make revisions easier
- If you are unable to save your notes, please bring your laptop in the office and we will install the program
- All notes will be checked by QA prior to **posting** your visit to ensure complete and accurate documentation.
- All notes go through the QA process, thus expect some revisions and corrections. You have a week to resubmit revised notes to the office

# Guidelines

- Make sure that date, time, VS and BS on your route sheet matches your notes.
- Make sure your times do not overlap or conflict with another patient.
- Put a 5-10 minute interval between patients even if they are in the same house/facility
- You need to write the date and time while at the patient's house because the route sheet has a duplicate copy that is left at the patient's house.

# Guidelines

- Make sure notes are COMPLETELY filled out.
  - Common areas not filled out are the LBM, pain assessment, NANDA, wound assessment, MD visit date and change in insurance
- Please use the 485/POC as a guide when doing your notes.
  - It will tell you the things that need to be reflected on your notes, parameters that are reportable to the agency/MD, detailed wound treatment and patient's diagnoses and medications that you can discuss

# Guidelines

- If VS, BS or pain is out of normal range
  - Do your intervention/teaching then recheck it.
  - Do not leave the patient with abnormal/unstable readings without reporting to MD/case manager
  - Address the problem for that day and document any interventions, teachings or new MD orders in your notes.

# NANDA Nursing Diagnosis

- Please ensure that NANDAs and interventions match and that they reflect the findings from your head to toe assessment. (ex. If BP is high that day, then discuss HTN management; if pt had a fall, then discuss fall/safety measures).
- If your patient has a new medication noted or a new diagnosis, please discuss and focus on that (ex. Antibiotics or UTI).



# What to Discuss

- Do not repeat the same NANDA and intervention on your notes. Discuss a different problem, diagnosis or medication each visit.
  - tip: use your 485 as a guide. Even having a daily/BID patient is not an excuse to have the same teaching all the time.
- Be careful of copying & pasting teachings as your intervention/teaching should be personalized for your patient.
- If you have problems thinking of teachings/NANDAs, please seek help from the case managers.

# What to Discuss

- Use negative reporting in your notes.
- Make sure each visit is a skilled visit.
- Provide detailed documentation of all procedures/interventions done (ex wound care).
- Use Medicare approved abbreviations only
- **Remember: If it's not documented, then it wasn't done !!!**

# PAIN

- Always assess pain and indicate where and what pain levels.
- If pt has pain meds and pt states they have no pain, ask where they usually have pain and document it as controlled.
- Pain should be part of your vital signs

# Accuracy of Notes

- When verbally reporting to the office (ex: wound sizes, VS, cough, constipation) make sure they will be the same information on your notes for that day.
- We fax communication notes and orders to the MD offices and once it has been sent, then it cannot be revised.
- If you submit your notes with different information, then you will have to revise your notes.

# Signature

- Make sure to sign your notes
- Don't forget to write your position (RN, LVN)