

Initial Wandering Assessment Guide (Sample)

You may wish to consider the following questions when assessing any new resident. It may help you determine whether a resident should wear a signaling device. Additional conditions unique to your facility, the needs of the resident and wishes of the family should be taken into account. Keep this assessment with the resident's records as documentation of your decision to monitor or not monitor that resident.

Date _____

Resident's name _____

- | | | |
|---|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. Is this a new admission? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| 2. Is this resident ambulatory? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| a. able to walk alone? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| b. able to walk with walker or other assistive device or use a wheelchair? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| c. able to walk with assistance of others? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| 3. Is the resident resistant to being placed in a long term care home? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| 4. Does the resident have a history of wandering? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| 5. Is the resident currently taking any medication which may cause confusion or disorientation? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| 6. Are there any indications of dementia? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |

Action

If you answered "Yes" to 1 and 2, and any of the other questions, consider placing a 90-Day signaling device on the resident for assessment purposes. Wandering behaviors can increase with changes in residents, so consider monitoring the resident until the next assessment period or until you can determine the wandering risk has decreased.

***Note:** According to ITT Hartford Insurance Group, 45% of all large loss wandering liability claims are a result of incidents that occur within the first 48 hours of resident admission.*