

SBAR Communication Tool

BEFORE CALLING THE PHYSICIAN

1. Assess the person/ issues using validated tools.
2. Review the chart for the appropriate person/physician to call.
3. Know the admitting/current diagnosis.
4. Read the most recent Progress Notes and the assessment from the nurse on the prior shift/visit.
5. Have **available** when speaking with the physician:



Chart, PPS, ESAS, Allergies, Medications, new Lab/Radiology Reports

S

SITUATION

State your **name and unit/agency**

I am calling about: **(Person First & Last Name & Facility/Address/ OHIP number)**

The **problem** I am calling about is:

B

BACKGROUND

State briefly the *pertinent* **medical history/any recent changes/trauma**

A brief synopsis of the **treatment to date and effectiveness:**

A

ASSESSMENT of ANY ISSUE

Onset	
Precipitating & Alleviating factors	
Quality	
Region & radiation	
Severity	
Timing	
U "How is the symptom affecting the person?"	

Any changes from prior assessments:

R

RECOMMENDATION

Do you think we should: (State what you would like to see done)

- Order/increase analgesic/other medication? (NB: match the severity of the pain with the analgesic order)
- Physician to see the person at this time?
- Consult the Palliative Care Consultation Team/CCAC/Palliative Care Physician?
- Order diagnostic tests?
- Other:

If a change in treatment is ordered, then ask:

- If the patient does not improve, **when would you want us to call again?**
- Do you want to refer to the Palliative Care Physician if there is no improvement?

Document the change in condition & the Physician notification

