

Patient Care - Elderly Persons

This audit tool covers accessibility issues, risk management associated with the handling elderly patients, facilities, communication approaches, dignity of care and confidentiality.

1) Accessibility.	Yes	No
Is the hospital accessible by public transport?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is the hospital clearly sign posted?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are visiting times clearly understood?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is the environment suitable for wheelchair users in all areas?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are there suitable facilities for parents with young children?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are the surrounding access areas of the hospital well lit at night?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are the bathrooms and toilets suitable for those with reduced mobility or are frail?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are there translation facilities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are there facilities for patients who have impairments?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is clear information readily available?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are patients kept informed about how long they will wait to see a health professional	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

2) Risk Management - Is care organised to minimise risk to patients and staff?	Yes	No
Do staff wear protective clothing appropriately when dealing with spills/body fluids?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is there hand washing after every patient contact?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are spillages cleaned up right away?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are the bathrooms, utility rooms and waiting areas clean?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is the area clean and tidy?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are the sharps disposals out of reach, regularly emptied?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are the normal safety features in place? (sockets, hazardous materials out of reach)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are the resuscitation trolleys subject to regular and routine checks?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is there any evidence of equipment checks?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is there any evidence of equipment failure?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are visitors asked who they are?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is the appropriate manual handling equipment available?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are there chaperones to accompany patients undergoing physical examination?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

3) Dignity of Care

	Yes	No
Is there provision for single sex facilities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are patients encouraged to wear appropriate clothing? (patient's own, use of blankets)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Do staff show respect for different patient needs? (cultural, spiritual)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are curtains used for privacy during examinations?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are patients asked personal questions in a private area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Do staff listen to the patients and encourage them to ask questions?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are messages passed onto patients?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Do staff refer to the patients by their given name?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

4) Patient Confidentiality.

	Yes	No
Are there quiet areas and private spaces available on the ward?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Do staff ensure that patients are not discussed in public areas?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is information clear and open to the relatives of patients?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is information visible to the public? (computer screens, whiteboards)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

5) Facilities - This includes noise, room temperature, catering needs and information.

	Yes	No
Is the environment therapeutic and pleasant?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Does the catering include a choice of dishes, planned meal times, menus in advance?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are patient waiting areas well organised and is there reading material available?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is the noise level appropriate?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are the display areas informative and helpful?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

6) Communication - How do professionals discuss patients appropriately?

	Yes	No
Does each member of the team contribute to the patient discussions?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are there examples of clear communication at shift hand-overs?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is there communication on the ward rounds between different members of the team?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are there arrangements for continuity of nursing care - named nurse, team nurse?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is there integrated care pathways or other multi-disciplinary care planning?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is discharge managed effectively?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>