



# TIPS FOR SUCCESS:

## Nursing Home Huddles

Huddles can occur any time and in any location. These quick, stand-up meetings are opportunities to discuss critical information, plan or problem-solve.

### Value of Huddles:



- Prompt exchange of information
- Quick resident updates – review current Stop and Watch concerns
- Real-time problem-solving
- Involvement of frontline staff
- Team orientation to the same goal
- Early identification of issues leads to early resolution
- Real-time teaching/learning
- Team building
- Timely redirection of resources in urgent situations

### When to Have Huddles:



- Promptly after an incident
- At the beginning and end of shifts
- Before a new admission
- After a fall
- When engaging a resident/getting input
- When vital information needs to be quickly relayed
- In preparation for an impending event/disaster
- To teach a new skill or how to operate a new device

### Tips for Successful Huddles

- ☐ Keep it short; practice to reduce time – eventually most huddles should be between 5 and 15 minutes
- ☐ Keep it in the work area
- ☐ Allow flexible time for reoccurring huddles
- ☐ Facilitate huddles using team leaders
- ☐ Engage staff by asking for their input and ideas
- ☐ Keep it positive; redirect any negative comments back to the topic or concern
- ☐ Provide coverage on the unit during huddles (management or supportive staff)
- ☐ Encourage discussion instead of using a checklist; ask, “What do you think?”
- ☐ Recognize staff who regularly participate in huddles
- ☐ Allow any staff and/or department to call a huddle about any issues related to resident safety or care
- ☐ Huddle with a resident and/or family member to hear what they want to know or to address any concerns

For more information:  
**Mountain-Pacific Quality Health**  
[www.mpqhf.org/QIO](http://www.mpqhf.org/QIO)