

Table 13.
Examples of Condition Changes to Report to a Practitioner

>greater than, < less than

Condition	Report Immediately	Report on Next Office Day
Acute change in mental status	Sudden onset	Gradual onset
Bleeding	-- Uncontrolled or repeat episode within 24 hours (e.g., prolonged nosebleed, bloody emesis) -- Bloody stools not from hemorrhoids -- Profuse vaginal bleeding -- Grossly bloody urine	-- Controlled, no further episodes -- Bleeding from hemorrhoids
Chest pain	-- New onset or recurrent, not relieved in 20 minutes by previously ordered nitroglycerin x 3 -- Accompanied by change in vital signs, diaphoresis, nausea, vomiting, shortness of breath	-- Increase in frequency of episodes in a resident with a known history of chest pain
Combative/aggressive behavior	-- Unresolved by environmental interventions -- New onset associated with change in medication or medical status	-- Increase in frequency of episodes of mildly aggressive behavior
Constipation	-- Severe abdominal pain, rigid abdomen -- Absence of bowel sounds	-- Unresolved symptoms -- <u>>2</u> episodes within 30 days
Decreased oral intake of fluids (dehydration risk)	-- Drinking <50% of usual fluid intake in previous 24 hours -- >1 episode of vomiting within 24 hours	-- Persistent symptoms for more than 24 hours in spite of interventions
Depressed mood/reactive depression	-- Realistic expression of suicidal intent (e.g., a specific plan that could be carried out)	-- Persistent sadness -- Expression of suicidal thoughts without a specific plan or prior history of suicide attempts
Diarrhea	-- Acute onset of multiple stools with change in vital signs (e.g., temperature >101°F) and/or altered mental status, etc. -- Accompanied by positive fecal occult blood test	-- Persistent loose stools for >48 hours while diarrhea is being treated symptomatically -- Chronic loose stools -- Recurrence of diarrhea after return to usual diet
Edema	-- Sudden onset in resident with lung, heart, or kidney disease -- Accompanied by sudden onset of shortness of breath and/or chest pain -- Sudden onset in one leg -- Loss of sensation in swollen leg -- Sudden onset with tenderness and redness	-- Known history of edema with progressive unilateral or bilateral increase in severity -- Gradually progressive edema accompanied by weight gain -- Skin changes associated with edema
Emesis	-- Bloody or coffee ground vomit -- >1 episode within 24 hours -- Accompanied by abdominal pain and changes in vital signs	-- Single episode
Eye discomfort	-- Severe persistent eye pain -- Sudden vision change -- Resident complains of seeing halos	-- Persistent symptoms unrelieved by measures in protocol