



Comfort Rounding sometimes known as “Hourly Rounding” or “Intentional Rounding” is a practice *that improves patient safety, patient experience and reduces call bells.* Check your patients every 1-2 hours for the 4“P’s”: Positioning, Potty, Pain and Possessions.

Potty

Scheduling patient trips to the bathroom to avoid unassisted walking, which can lead to falls, and possible embarrassment.

Pain

Asking patients to describe their level of pain on a scale of 0 to 10, and doing what they can to help.

Possessions

Make sure that *necessary personal items* are within easy reach; e.g., fresh water, Kleenex, TV remote control, telephone, and call bell.

Position

Making sure the patient is comfortable and assessing the risk of bed sores.

Nursing staff always greet patients, *explain they're doing comfort rounds, and answer patient questions.* They remind patients a nurse will return within a specified time and ask, *"Is there anything else I can do for you before I leave?"*



Why do Comfort Rounds?

Research shows comfort rounding improves clinical outcomes, patient safety, patient satisfaction, nursing efficiency, and staff satisfaction.

In one study here is what nurses have to say about comfort rounding . . .*

“With fewer call light interruptions, nurses can better organize their time and reduce stress”

“What’s so splendid about hourly rounding is its simplicity”

“The patients love it...I hear them tell their family members during visiting hours when rounds are being done, “Oh, she’s just checking on me to make sure I’m all right.”

“In a finite way, rounding gives some time back to nurses, and they’re not as tired at the end of their shift.”

“Consistent hourly rounding is a key concept for improving patient safety and quality care”

“It’s a win-win situation on a very large scale”

This Practical Wisdom Adapted from:

Mercer, J., & Fagan, C. (2010). *Hourly rounding – the 4 p’s*. Retrieved from

http://www.marylandpatientsafety.org/html/education/solutions/2010/documents/culture/Hourly_Rounding_The_4_Ps.pdf

Leighty, J. (2006, December 04). *Hourly rounds dims call lights*. Retrieved from <http://www.studergroup.com/dotCMS/knowledgeAssetDetail?inode=319742>

* Meade, C., Bursell, A., & Ketelsen, L. (2006). Effects of nursing rounds on patient’s call line use, satisfaction, and safety. *American Journal of Nursing*, 106(9), 58-70.