

	<b>Domain: Risk Management</b>	<b>Document date:</b> 31 August 2024
<b>Policy Number:</b>	<b>Title:</b>	<b>Standard:</b>
RM - 351	<b>Policy and Procedure for Prioritizing Resident Assessments</b>	Legislation
<b>Date Developed:</b>	<b>Developed by:</b>	<b>Signed and approved by M.D.:</b>
30 July 2024	Dr Guin Lourens, Nursing Manager	Ms. Elize Porter, Managing Director
<b>Revision date:</b>	<b>Reviewed by:</b>	<b>Revision signed, approved by M.D.:</b>
July 2029		

This policy ensures that annual assessments are done in Evergreen Lifestyle Villages by Evergreen Health; on a priority basis for early support and care intervention as required.

**Purpose:**

To ensure that residents at Evergreen Lifestyle Villages, receive timely and appropriate care by prioritizing annual assessments for those most in need. This procedure outlines the criteria and process for selecting residents for assessment, in addition to those identified as red or orange in the medical triage system, according to the Medical and Mental Health Management Policies.

**Scope:**

This procedure applies to all residents at Evergreen Lifestyle Villages and involves Village Management and Registered Nurses (RNs) in the assessment process.

**Criteria for Prioritizing Assessments:**

**1. Medical Triage - Red and Orange Cases:**

- **Red Cases:** Residents with critical health conditions requiring immediate attention.
- **Orange Cases:** Residents with serious but stable conditions needing regular monitoring.

**2. Recent Health Changes**

- Residents who have experienced significant changes in their health status, including new diagnoses, recent surgeries, or noticeable declines in physical or cognitive function.

**3. Complex Medical Conditions:**

- Residents with chronic or complex medical conditions, such as diabetes, heart disease, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), or other illnesses that require ongoing management.

**4. History of Falls or Accidents:**

- Residents who have had falls or accidents in the past year, indicating a higher risk of injury or underlying health issues.

**5. Polypharmacy and Self- Medication**

- Residents taking multiple medications, particularly those involving high-risk and high schedule drugs or with potential drug interactions, to manage medication-related risks.

**6. Cognitive Impairments:**

- Residents with known cognitive impairments, such as Dementia or Alzheimer's disease, to monitor for changes in behaviour, memory, and overall mental health needs.

**7. Limited or No Family Support:**

- Residents with limited or no family support, who may be more vulnerable and in need of additional assistance or oversight.

**8. Expressed Concerns or Changes in Behaviour:**

- Residents who have expressed concerns about their health or shown changes in behaviour, as reported by themselves, staff, or family members.

**9. Independent residents**

- **Green Cases** are residents able to live independently in the village and cope with all activities of daily living.
- These residents will be required to do an annual self-assessment signed by themselves.
- Self-Assessments must be countersigned by Village Manager as the witness.

**10. New Residents**

- Conduct thorough initial assessments for all new residents to establish a baseline for their health and well-being.

**Procedure:**

**1. Initial Review:**

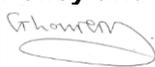
- Village Management and RNs review the list of residents to identify those who meet the above criteria. A high acuity list will be developed and reviewed monthly or more regularly as required by these parties.

**2. Scheduling Assessments:**

- Schedule assessments for identified residents, prioritizing based on the severity and urgency of their conditions.

**3. Conducting Assessments:**

- RNs conduct assessments using a standardized form to ensure consistent and comprehensive evaluation.
- The focus of the assessment is on key health indicators, including mobility, personal hygiene, eating and drinking, dressing, vision, hearing, medication management, elimination, therapeutic activities, mental and cognitive condition, and any specialized care needs.

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#### 4. Documentation and Follow-Up:

- Document assessment findings in the resident's health record.
- Develop care (Treatment) plans based on assessment outcomes, including any necessary interventions, referrals, or follow-up assessments.
- Meet or liaise with family/next of kin as required.

#### 5. Communication:

- Communicate findings and care plans to relevant staff, residents, and family members as appropriate.
- Ensure ongoing communication and monitoring for residents with identified needs.

#### 6. Continuous Monitoring and Adjustment:

- Continuously monitor residents for any changes in health status or needs.
- Adjust assessment priorities and care plans as necessary.

#### 7. Responsibilities:

##### Village Management:

- Oversee the implementation of this procedure and ensure resources are available for assessments.
- Coordinate with RNs and other healthcare providers to support resident care.
- Liaise with Evergreen Health at regular high acuity meetings

##### Registered Nurses (RNs):

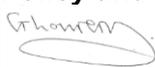
- Conduct assessments according to the criteria outlined above.
- Document findings and develop care plans.
- Communicate with residents, families, and other staff members regarding assessment outcomes and care needs.
- Liaise with ELV village management at regular high acuity meetings.

##### Review and Evaluation:

- This procedure should be reviewed annually to ensure its effectiveness and updated as required based on resident needs and healthcare best practices.

##### Confidentiality:

- All health information gathered through this process should be managed with confidentiality and kept in secure data holding.

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