



Room Checklist for Patients at Risk for Harm to Self or Others

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) states that “non-psychiatric settings of all hospitals where patients with psychiatric conditions may be cared for must also identify patients at risk for intentional harm to self or others and mitigate environmental safety risks.”

Patients determined to be at risk for harm to themselves or others who are admitted to a non-behavioral health setting must be protected from harm. This checklist can be used to assess the safety of a room where the patient is held and also serve as a handoff tool for shift-to-shift communications.

This checklist is an example of things that should be considered, if applicable, and should be modified to align with your specific environment and process.

In addition, patient belongings should be searched, inventoried, and placed in a locked area. Visitors should be informed that they are not allowed to bring items to the patient that could be used to cause harm.

If the room cannot be made ligature free, continuous 1:1 observation must be in place.

	Yes	No
Windows/mirrors are breakproof or resistant		
Electrical outlets are ground fault protected		
Lighting fixtures are either not accessible or tamper-resistant		
Sharps and instruments are removed or behind locked doors		
Alcohol-based hand gel is removed		
Unnecessary equipment is removed or behind locked doors		
If medical gases are not required, pressure gauges are removed		
Chemicals and cleaning agents are removed from the room		
Window coverings with cords are removed		
Bathrooms are locked when not in use		
Privacy curtains are removed		
Items that can be used as projectiles are removed		
Room Checklist (to be completed before putting patient in the room)	Check if completed	
Remove any cables, thermometer, and manual blood pressure cuffs and place in designated bin <i>Comment why, if not completed:</i>		

Remove medical equipment and supplies, place in designated bin <i>Comment why, if not completed:</i>	
Medical regulators (O2 flow meter, suction regulators, etc.) should be removed if not in use and placed in designated bin <i>Comment why, if not completed:</i>	
Remove supply cart <i>Comment why, if not completed:</i>	
Lock cabinets and drawers <i>Comment why, if not completed:</i>	
Remove trash cans from room <i>Comment why, if not completed:</i>	
Remove supplies on the counter <i>Comment why, if not completed:</i>	
Bedside commodes or urinals should be readily available but not in the room until the patient needs to void. Remove after each use <i>Comment why, if not completed:</i>	
Remove chairs, bedside table, and any extra furniture <i>Comment why, if not completed:</i>	
Utilize a computer on wheels to document or scan medications <i>Comment why, if not completed:</i>	
Remove the scanner from the computer and place in the bin <i>Comment why, if not completed:</i>	
Have the patient change into paper scrubs, put all clothing and personal items (cell phone, wallet, keys, etc.) in a patient belongings bag with patient label, and secure it in one of the bins in the storage closet <i>Comment why, if not completed:</i>	
Other:	
Name of person completing the checklist:	

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