

Plan for Elopement

1. Every effort is made to prevent wandering episodes while maintaining the least restrictive environment for residents who are at risk of elopement. All residents are assessed by the interdisciplinary team and the resident's care plan is developed/modified as needed.
2. It is the responsibility of all personnel to report any resident attempting to leave the premises, or suspected of elopement.
3. Should an employee observe a resident leaving the premises, he or she should attempt to prevent the departure obtaining assistance from other staff members as needed.
4. If an employee discovers that a resident is missing from the facility, he or she should determine if the resident is out on an authorized leave or pass.
5. If not, make a thorough search of the building and premises.
6. If the resident is not located, notify the Administrator and the Director of Nursing immediately.
7. Notify the resident's legal representative, the attending physician and local law enforcement agencies.
8. If necessary, notify volunteer agencies.
9. Provide search teams with resident identification information. Make an extensive search of the surrounding area.
10. Upon return of the resident to the facility, examine the resident for injuries and report any findings and the resident's condition to the legal representative and the attending physician.
11. Notify search teams that the resident has been located.
12. Complete and file an incident report and make appropriate entries into the resident's medical record.