

Leamington Mennonite Home
Long Term Care

POLICY AND PROCEDURE

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| CATEGORY: Nursing | SUBJECT: Vital Signs | SECTION: V |
| DATE: December 2004 | Administrator: _____ <i>J. M.</i> | POLICY: 2 |
| REVISION DATES: | Director of Care: _____ <i>Cheryl Allick</i> | |

VITAL SIGNS

POLICY:

To monitor the residents' blood pressure, pulse and respirations on a monthly basis. This provides the Physician and Registered Staff with baseline vitals that can be referred to in the event of a change in resident health status.

PROCEDURE:

1. The Registered Staff will obtain a monthly blood pressure, pulse rate and respiratory rate on each resident and document the findings on the Vital Signs sheet located in the front of the TARS. The vital signs will be taken more frequently if ordered by the Physician.
2. The Registered Staff will record the findings on the residents Vital Signs Record which is located in the Resident Weight Summaries and Graphic Vital Signs binder and on the bottom of the MARS.
3. If there is an elevation in any of the resident's vital signs and the resident is asymptomatic, the Physician will be notified on his next visit.
4. If the resident is symptomatic, the Physician will be notified immediately. If the Physician is unavailable, the resident may be sent to hospital.
5. Temperatures are not taken monthly, however, in the event of a change in the resident's health status, temperatures will be taken on an as needed basis or as ordered by the Physician.