

IRF Nursing Care Plan Audit Checklist

SECTION 1 – Timeliness (Compliance Protection)

- ■ Initial nursing assessment completed within 8 hours of admission
 - ■ Nursing care plan initiated within 24 hours
 - ■ Interdisciplinary plan of care documented
 - ■ Care plan updated within last 7 days
 - ■ Daily nursing notes completed for each shift
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SECTION 2 – Medical Necessity Support (IRF-Level Justification)

- ■ Care plan documents need for 24-hour RN monitoring
 - ■ Comorbidities addressed (CHF, CKD, diabetes, wounds, etc.)
 - ■ Nursing interventions support therapy participation
 - ■ Medication management tied to rehab tolerance
 - ■ Risk of medical instability documented
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SECTION 3 – Individualization (Avoiding Template Risk)

- ■ Goals are measurable (not generic)
 - ■ Timeframes documented (e.g., within 14 days)
 - ■ Patient-specific risks identified
 - ■ Interventions customized
 - ■ No irrelevant copied-forward content
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SECTION 4 – Risk Management (Malpractice Shield)

- ■ Fall risk assessed and addressed
 - ■ Skin integrity plan documented
 - ■ Bowel/bladder plan if indicated
 - ■ Pain management linked to therapy
 - ■ DVT prevention documented
 - ■ Medication reconciliation complete
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SECTION 5 – Interdisciplinary Alignment (True IRF Standard)

- ■ Nursing goals align with PT/OT/ST goals
 - ■ Barriers to discharge identified
 - ■ Family/caregiver education addressed
 - ■ Discharge planning initiated
 - ■ Weekly team conference documentation present
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Documentation Quality Scoring

- ■ Timeliness (0–5) _____
- ■ Medical Necessity (0–5) _____
- ■ Individualization (0–5) _____
- ■ Risk Management (0–5) _____
- ■ Interdisciplinary Alignment (0–5) _____
- ■ Total Score (out of 25) _____