

Strategies to Support Sleep

Unit Interventions: Choose priorities from each category that would most improve sleep in your facility/unit		
Identify and Address Sleep Disruptions	Safety Rounds: what would be a less disruptive way to check on the safety of residents? Continence Care: Identify those who don't like to be wet or are at risk for skin breakdown. Who needs a super absorbent or night time product? What time should it go on? Repositioning: Identify residents who move by themselves, even a little. Turn only those who don't move at all ("wedge" don't "flip"!) Noise: identify staff-generated noise and strategies to reduce (squeaky carts, night cleaning and stocking routines, staff paperwork and communication). Light: identify light sources that may disrupt sleep (TV, street lights, hall or bathroom light, computer) Stimulation: identify sources of evening stimulation (light, noise, caffeine) and strategies to reduce Medication routines: identify medication-delivery times that require waking residents in a.m. or p.m. Other:	
Promote Sleep	Increase day time light exposure e.g. during meals (sunny window, full blue spectrum light) Accommodate individual bed time routines Toilet resident(s) before sleep Decrease night time light exposure (flashlights for safety rounds (red filter), dim hall lighting Increase day time activity: e.g. walking, exercise, outdoor activities Minimize day time naps (no more than 1 hour) Warm residents before sleep (bath, warm blanket) Reduce overheating during sleep (number of blankets, facility temperature if possible) Group residents and roommates according to night time care needs (e.g. Q2h turning/ repositioning) Other:	
Support Resident Night time Needs Comments:	Night time cues: e.g. unit is quiet, dimly lit, staff in fuzzy housecoats Routines for when residents wake up: toilet, offer drink and/or snack, pain relief if required, warm blanket and back to bed, sit with them for a brief time if that comforts them Night snacks available Safe place to wander or do quiet activity Other:	



Interventions for Individual Residents: choose 1-2 residents per month to focus on		
Decrease Antipsychotics Used for Sleep, as well as Other Sedatives	Identify antipsychotics prescribed for sleep: assess gradual dose reduction/discontinuation Identify use of other h.s. sedatives, consult with pharmacist re reduction/discontinuation Evaluate need for medications that may interfere with sleep such as: statins, acid blockers, anticholinergics, timing of antidepressants & diuretics Evaluate need for medications that may reduce melatonin levels such as: calcium channel blockers, SSRIs (fluoxetine), beta blockers, NSAIDs Discuss medication needs and proposed changes with prescriber, family/alt decision maker	
Identify Person- Centred Strategies to Enhance Sleep	Discuss with family/alternate decision maker: previous sleep patterns (what time they went to bed and got up), lifestyle habits and experiences, what helps resident relax e.g. music Identify what may disrupt resident sleep: itchy skin, restless legs, roommate, noise, snoring/sleep apnea, caffeine in the evening, uncomfortable bed, nocturnal cough, hot flashes, nightmares, leg cramps, congestive heart failure, acid reflux Modify care plan to maximize sleep: e.g. individualized bed time and nap requirements, continence care, need for turning, pain and hs medications, white noise (e.g. fan), night light requirements (e.g. red bulb in nightlight) Individualized routine if awake at night: e.g. toilet, offer drink and/or snack, pain relief if required, warm blanket and back to bed	
Collaborate Between All Shifts to Enhance Sleep Residents who are po	For fluctuating sleep/wake cycles, discuss at shift change: How was the night's sleep – therefore, when might be optimal time to wake for the day on day shift? When/how long might the resident need to nap? Is the resident struggling with any health issues requiring more rest? Given how the day went, might the resident be ready to sleep earlier or later than usual?	
Comments:		