Understanding LTCF Clinical Assessment Protocols (CAPs)

Information for assessors and managers

What is a Clinical Assessment Protocol (CAP)?
Clinical Assessment Protocols (CAPs) identify areas in which a resident has:
- A higher than expected rate of decline
- An increased potential to improve
- Symptoms that could be alleviated if a problem was addressed.

How to check a client’s CAP

Step 1: To check why a CAP has triggered, go to the CAPs tab.

Step 2: Click on the folder icon to display the assessment items that have triggered the CAP, and the ‘level’ at which it has triggered.
Step 3: You need to respond appropriately to every CAP that is triggered, by reviewing the highlighted items for each CAP.

Step 4: On the Assessment Summary screen, tick the CAPs that you are including in your care plan and give a reference to where it can be found.

Step 5: Some CAPs that trigger may not require care planning. In these cases, do not tick the check box, but do give a reason for your decision.

Step 6: Some CAPs that do not trigger will still need to be addressed in your care plan (called Standard Care). In these cases, tick the CAP’s check box to indicate your decision to include it in your care plan, and give a clinical reason in the box provided.
Step 7: Use the CAPs Manual (the orange book) to help you to arrive at a plan of care for each triggered CAP. The information provided in the CAPs Manual focuses on the clinical concerns and strategies that lead to positive outcomes for your clients.

Step 8: Remember to print the Assessment Summary page report each assessment.