

SURVEY SPARKS

JOINT COMMISSION READINESS TIPS

Handover Communications



Handover at VUMC is based upon standardized verbal communication using the SBAR format. SBAR is a structured process that may provide an effective method for the exchange of information in urgent or unanticipated transitions in care.

S—Situation: What is occurring at the present time? Includes name, chief complaint, and diagnosis; plus additional information.

B—Background: What are the events leading up to this situation?

A—Assessment: What are the issues? Clear and concise, and note any upcoming labs or procedures.

R—Recommendation: What needs to occur to solve the issue? Review the patient's plan of care and disposition. Make sure to add any special needs, equipment, and concerns.