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# Nursing Note Template

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**PATIENT**

**DATE AND TIME**

**UNIT OR SETTING**

**NURSE**

## CONTEXT

Reason for the entry, location or encounter, your role, and the comparison point.

## SOURCE

What the patient, caregiver, device, record, or team member reported, and who supplied it.

## ASSESSMENT

Focused observations and measurements you actually obtained.

## NURSING INTERPRETATION

The change, priority, concern, or risk you identified, within your scope.

## ACTION

Intervention completed, safety measure, protocol or order used, with exact times when they matter.

## COMMUNICATION

Who you contacted, when, what you said, and what instruction or order you received.

## RESPONSE

Reassessment time, patient response, current status, and any remaining concern.

## FOLLOW-UP

Next action, who owns it, the time frame, and handoff status.

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# Nursing Note Example: Change in Condition

FICTIONAL EXAMPLE. NOT A REAL PATIENT. FOR ILLUSTRATION ONLY.

| PATIENT | DATE AND TIME |
| --- | --- |
| A. Okoro (fictional), 72 | 11/21/2026, 09:18 |
| **UNIT OR SETTING** | **NURSE** |
| Medical unit, room 208 | Jamie Ruiz, RN |

## CONTEXT

Event note for new lightheadedness during an assisted transfer from bed to chair. Compared with the 08:00 assessment.

## SOURCE

Patient stated, "I feel lightheaded." Says it began when he stood up.

## ASSESSMENT

Transfer paused. Patient helped back to bed with two staff. No fall. Awake and answering questions. BP 98/60 lying (08:00: 132/78), HR 104. Values entered in the flowsheet at 09:20.

## NURSING INTERPRETATION

New drop in blood pressure on standing compared with this morning.

## ACTION

Kept in bed with the bed alarm on and call light in reach. Repeat vital signs at 09:40.

### COMMUNICATION

Charge nurse notified at 09:24. Hospitalist paged at 09:26 using SBAR. Order for a 500 mL saline bolus received, read back, and entered by the hospitalist.

### RESPONSE

At 09:42 patient reports feeling better while resting. BP 112/70, HR 92.

### FOLLOW-UP

Recheck orthostatic vital signs before the next transfer. Handoff updated with status and the pending recheck for the day nurse.