



COHESIVE HEALTHCARE MANAGEMENT & CONSULTING

Mangum Regional Medical Center

TITLE		POLICY	
Therapy Screening		502	
MANUAL	EFFECTIVE DATE	REVIEW DATE	
Rehabilitation			
DEPARTMENT	REFERENCE		
Rehabilitation Services			

SCOPE: Licensed therapist PT/OT/ST serving at Mangum Regional Medical Center.

PURPOSE: To outline and maintain Rehabilitation Services’ policy for screening of patients.

POLICY: Patients will be screened for skilled intervention as per facility procedure and upon request:

1. To determine if any declines in functional statuses have occurred:
2. To determine if patient shows potential to benefit from skilled therapy services:
3. Upon new functional problem development:
4. To assure patient needs are fully addressed.

PROCEDURE:

1. A screen is generally a brief (less than 15 minutes), non-invasive review of a patient to determine if rehabilitation evaluation is medically necessary. Information should be obtained from patient/staff/family interview, chart, and observation of the patient.
 - a. Physician order is not required, and service is not billed to the patient.
 - b. Reason for requesting a screen should be clear and defined per nursing, physician, provider, or other documentation.
2. Screens can be performed by one member of the rehabilitation services team, for all disciplines, or per discipline by patient performance deficit area.
 - a. Specific questions related to a specific patient’s need for a skilled evaluation can be referred to the appropriate discipline when completing cross-disciplinary screen, when necessary.
3. The therapy department, upon receipt of notification from nursing unit or other care provider initiates the screening process.
 - a. Patients who experience a change in functional status or are experiencing a newly identified risk situation should be screened by therapy if an evaluation has not been initiated.
 - b. Status change may be identified through:
 - Nursing, physician, family, or caregiver observation

- Fall reports, etc.
4. Initial screening(s) must be completed within twenty-four (24) work hours excluding holidays and weekends, and documentation placed in the medical record.
 5. Post screen, the therapist making the recommendation for skilled evaluation will follow the facility procedure to request physician order for evaluation, and if applicable, treatment.
 6. By exception, a recommendation can be provided when the screen identifies that a skilled evaluation is not needed.
 - a. Recommendations that do not require the unique skills of a therapist are made when the problem is not at a level of complexity that skilled evaluation or therapy services are medically necessary.
 - b. Recommendations are defined as giving advice or information to another healthcare provider related to general programming, care, or other issues, or related to a specific patient.
 - 6.b.1 Example of recommendation: Patient was referred for eating problems (not dysphagia). Recommend attempt to fix denture problems and request screen again if eating problem is not resolved.
- 7.0 A therapist may request a screen by another healthcare provider as applicable.

REVISIONS/UPDATES

Date	Brief Description of Revision/Change