



## Are you discharging this patient to a nursing home? Let's decrease the risk for readmission....

**Did you Know?** Dementia patients discharged from hospitals on antipsychotics have a 20% greater chance of acute care recidivism.<sup>1</sup>

### Please Consider:

- Avoiding chemical restraints, if at all possible. Antipsychotics have not been demonstrated to be effective at impacting severity or duration of behaviors caused by delirium.<sup>2</sup>
- Has the etiology of the delirium been identified? Can it be attributed to infection, medications, constipation, etc.?
- If an antipsychotic was prescribed for delirium, has the delirium resolved? If so, please discontinue the order for the antipsychotic before discharge or in discharge orders.
- If antipsychotic order is continued on discharge orders, please note in orders the indication for this medication and when this medication can be discontinued.
- Please alert nursing home staff if prescribed antipsychotics increased the QT interval on EKG in order to mitigate the risk of Torsade's de pointes.
- Readmission to acute care negatively affects hospital reimbursement rates, nursing home quality measures and most importantly, **the PATIENT.**

### References:

1. Lori A. Daiello, Rebekah Gardner, Gary Epstein-Lubow, Kristen Butterfield, Stefan Gravenstein. Association of dementia with early rehospitalization among Medicare beneficiaries. *Archives of Gerontology and Geriatrics*, 2014
2. Karin Neufeld, M.D., M.P.H., clinical director, psychiatry, Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center, associate professor, Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, Baltimore; Eugene Grudnikoff, M.D., psychiatrist, South Oaks Hospital, Amityville, N.Y.; March 23, 2015, *Journal of the American Geriatrics*



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