CARE PATH: *Mental Status Change*

Acute Mental Status Change

- New or increased confusion / disorientation
- Decreased level of consciousness
- New or worsened physical and/or verbal agitation
- New or worsened delusions or hallucinations
- New or worsened severe depressed mood

Take Vital Signs

- Temperature
- BP, Pulse
- Respirations
- Oxygen saturation
- Finger stick glucose (diabetics)

Nursing Assessment

- Danger to self or others?
- Suicidal ideation with plan?
- Not eating or drinking?
- Temp > 102°F (> 38.9°C)
- BP < 90 or >210 systolic?
- Apical heart rate > 130 or < 50 bpm?
- Respiratory rate > 28 or < 10/min?
- Oxygen Saturation < 90%?
- Finger stick glucose < 70 or > 400?
- Other critical symptoms or signs?

NO

YES

Consider Contacting MD/NP/PA for Orders for Lab Testing

- Blood work
  - Complete Blood Count
  - Basic Metabolic Panel
- Others if indicated by symptoms / signs or risk factors, e.g.,
  - Chest X-ray
  - Urinalysis
  - EKG

Evaluate Lab Results and Re-assess

- Critical lab values?
- Infiltrate or pneumonia on X-ray?
- Worsening clinical condition?

YES

Notify MD/NP/PA Immediately Consider Transfer to Acute Care Facility

NO

Manage in Facility - Options

- Monitor vital signs every 4-8 hours for 24-72 hours

**NOTIFY MD/NP/PA
if any criteria for transfer met**