

For **ANY** patient receiving treatment for the **6 Conditions** under the OPTIMISTIC CMS Benefit:

- Vitals Every shift: temperature, blood pressure, heart rate, respiratory rate, O2 saturation
- Daily discussion of patient's progress during nursing rounds
- Daily nursing assessment documented
- Pharmacy monitoring of any new medications ordered for significant interactions

SPECIAL considerations for any patient prescribed an **antibiotic**:

- Antibiotic stewardship is key: avoid excessive antibiotic use and limit dose, duration, and antibiotic choice to match condition and pathogen
- Set a stop date
- Facility nurse should inform primary provider when culture and sensitivity come back for consideration of antibiotic change
- Monitor INR closely if on warfarin
- Pharmacy to monitor dosing and medication blood levels when appropriate

Best Practices for each condition:

1. Pneumonia

- Daily CBC with differential until the WBC trends down
- O2 saturation (indicate whether room air or on oxygen)
- See special considerations for any patient on an antibiotic

2. CHF

- Daily weights → alert provider if weight increase ≥ 3 pounds in 1 day
- Daily I/O monitoring → alert provider if intake or output decreased
- If continent consider using “hat” or urinal to monitor output
- Daily BMP for first 3 days of diuresis and then as clinically indicated
- Consider BNP if patient not improving
- O2 saturation (indicate whether room air or on oxygen)

3. Skin Infection

- Assessment by wound care team
- Minimum of daily dressing changes (or at frequency recommended by wound team)
- If infected pressure ulcer, initiate facility’s frequent turning protocol
- See special considerations for any patient on an antibiotic

4. Electrolyte disturbance/dehydration

- Monitor BMP for first 3 days of treatment and then as clinically indicated
- Evaluate medications for renal toxicity
 - Reduce dose or hold nephrotoxic medications when appropriate

5. COPD/Asthma

- Prednisone can alter INR and cause GI bleeding so alert staff to monitor patients on warfarin and prednisone closely
- O2 saturation (indicate whether room air or on oxygen)
- If using antibiotic, see special considerations for any patient on an antibiotic

6. UTI

- Order a urinalysis with culture if indicated (“reflex culture”)
- See special considerations for any patient on an antibiotic