Comfort Rounding sometimes known as “Hourly Rounding” or “Intentional Rounding” is a practice that improves patient safety, patient experience and reduces call bells. Check your patients every 1-2 hours for the 4 “P’s”: Positioning, Potty, Pain and Possessions.

**Pain** 
Asking patients to describe their level of pain on a scale of 0 to 10, and doing what they can to help.

**Potty** 
Scheduling patient trips to the bathroom to avoid unassisted walking, which can lead to falls, and possible embarrassment.

**Position** 
Making sure the patient is comfortable and assessing the risk of bed sores.

**Possessions** 
Make sure that necessary personal items are within easy reach; e.g., fresh water, Kleenex, TV remote control, telephone, and call bell.

Nursing staff greet patients, explain Comfort Rounds, and answer any patient questions they are able to answer. They let the patient know a nurse will return within a specified time and then ask, “Is there anything else I can do for you before I leave?”
Why do Comfort Rounds?

Research shows comfort rounding improves clinical outcomes, patient safety, patient satisfaction, nursing efficiency, and staff satisfaction.

Here is what nurses who were surveyed* had to say about comfort rounding:

"With fewer call light interruptions, nurses can better organize their time and reduce stress."

"What's so splendid about hourly rounding is its simplicity."

"The patients love it...I hear them tell their family members during visiting hours when rounds are being done, "Oh, she's just checking on me to make sure I'm all right."

"In a finite way, rounding gives some time back to nurses, and they're not as tired at the end of their shift."

"Consistent hourly rounding is a key concept for improving patient safety and quality care."

"It's a win-win situation on a very large scale."

This Practical Wisdom Adapted from:


