



Restoring Restorative

Restorative programs can be a key component to a facility's success with fall management. From a legislative point of view, it is a required program indicated for maintaining a resident's daily function. From a management point of view, it can be daunting. Too often, the restorative program is one of the first things that gets put on the shelf or "pulled" when there is a staffing crunch.

The expectation of residents and their families is that the care each resident receives is individual and specific to that resident. These same expectations exist from a State Survey perspective. A robust restorative program helps to create the environment. When it is not possible to maintain your restorative program secondary to other daily management concerns, consider these options:

1. Prioritize your restorative program for those residents who are most likely at risk for future falls, depression or feeding issues.
2. Cross train activity and dietary personnel to become certified nursing assistants and trained in the delivery of restorative programs.
3. Utilize these personnel to "fill in" as a restorative aide for those critical residents whose restorative program is also part of prevention, not only maintenance.
4. Work with the activities department to identify restorative appropriate groups that they can assist with or direct once their restorative training is completed.
- 5.

While these interventions should only be temporary, they can show a comprehensive approach from your facility to truly manage residents' needs and expectations.

Betty