

Sample handover cue cards

ISBAR cue card 1

ISBAR prompts for ward/DPU nurse handover to holding bay nurse	
IDENTIFY	Handing over nurse identifies self. Identify the patient with three key identifiers: Patient (or designated other if unable) must state: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • first and last name • date of birth • UR number.
SITUATION	Ask patient 'What procedure will be performed?' (Check against theatre list.) Check consent is correct with theatre list.
BACKGROUND	What is the background/reason for surgery? Any other medical or surgical concerns/history.
ASSESSMENT	Follow 'Passport to surgery AD250' Should clearly state whether the patient has been identified as being at risk. Examples of relevant assessment and risks: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • cognition • falls • pressure injury • continence • nutrition • aggression/violence • most recent vital signs • trends in vital signs • oxygen therapy • medication i.e. cytotoxic • pain • bleeding • weight • wound status • urine output • carer concern • communication • IV cannula site/therapy • transmission precautions
REQUEST/ REFERRAL	All required patient documentation present. Patient readiness for surgery.

ISBAR cue card 2

ISBAR prompts for scout nurse handover to PACU nurse	
IDENTIFY	Handing over nurse identifies self. Identify the patient with three key identifiers: Patient (or designated other if unable) must state: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • first and last name • date of birth • UR number.
SITUATION	What procedure was performed.
BACKGROUND	Any surgical/intra-operative concerns.
ASSESSMENT	Dressings Drains Specimens Examples of relevant assessment and risks: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • cognition • falls • pressure injury • continence • nutrition • aggression/violence • most recent vital signs • trends in vital signs • oxygen therapy • medication i.e. cytotoxic • pain • bleeding • weight • wound status • urine output • carer concern • communication • IV cannula site/therapy • transmission precautions
REQUEST/ REFERRAL	Transfer to PACU.

ISBAR cue card 3

ISBAR prompts for PACU nurse handover to ward/DPU nurse																					
IDENTIFY	Handing over nurse identifies self. Identify the patient with three key identifiers: Patient (or designated other if unable) must state: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• first and last name• date of birth• UR number.																				
SITUATION	What procedure was performed. What type of anaesthetic the patient had. Drugs given intra-operatively, post-operatively.																				
BACKGROUND	What was the background/reason for surgery? Any other medical or surgical concerns/history.																				
ASSESSMENT	Follow 'Operation report' and 'Post-operative orders AD253' Examples of relevant assessment and risks: <table><tr><td>• cognition</td><td>• aggression/violence</td><td>• pain</td><td>• carer concern</td></tr><tr><td>• falls</td><td>• most recent vital signs</td><td>• bleeding</td><td>• communication</td></tr><tr><td>• pressure injury</td><td>• trends in vital signs</td><td>• weight</td><td>• IV cannula site/therapy</td></tr><tr><td>• continence</td><td>• oxygen therapy</td><td>• wound status</td><td>• transmission precaution</td></tr><tr><td>• nutrition</td><td>• medication i.e. cytotoxic</td><td>• urine output</td><td></td></tr></table>	• cognition	• aggression/violence	• pain	• carer concern	• falls	• most recent vital signs	• bleeding	• communication	• pressure injury	• trends in vital signs	• weight	• IV cannula site/therapy	• continence	• oxygen therapy	• wound status	• transmission precaution	• nutrition	• medication i.e. cytotoxic	• urine output	
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• nutrition	• medication i.e. cytotoxic	• urine output																			
REQUEST/ REFERRAL	Discharge summary completed and documented.																				

ISBAR cue card 4

ISBAR prompts for anaesthetist handover to PACU nurse	
IDENTIFY	<p>patient</p> <p>staff members</p>
SITUATION	<p>procedure</p> <p>anaesthetic type</p>
BACKGROUND	<p>allergies</p> <p>comorbidities</p> <p>communication difficulties (including NESB)</p>
ASSESSMENT	<p>Intra-operative issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • anaesthesia • surgery <p>Current issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • cardiovascular observations, limits, therapy • respiratory observations, limits, therapy • analgesia interventions to date and orders • additional needs e.g. anti-emetics, BSL • IV flushed, rate • PIVC chart present, up to date and completed
RESPONSIBILITY/ REFERRAL	<p>Name and contact details</p> <p>ICU/HDU/ward/discharge/home</p>