**SBAR Communication document:**

Instructions:
Please obtain a complete set of vital signs.
Complete the SBAR communication document quickly before calling the doctor by filling in:
- the required information or using tick box (Yes) X (NO) or ND (Not done).
- Keep your descriptions brief and relevant to why you are calling.
- Ensure you have the patient’s ‘OBS’ chart and medication charts at hand when calling the doctor.
- Be prepared for a second witness if medications are ordered.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time Dr. alerted: ____________________</th>
<th>Time DR. responded ____________________</th>
<th>Date: _____________________</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Ensure you have the patient's 'OBS' chart and medication charts at hand when calling the doctor.

Complete the SBAR communication document quickly before calling the doctor by filling in:

### S
**Situation**
The patient was admitted on ____________________________ (Admission date and time if known)

A brief relevant history for this patient is ____________________________________________

(Provide current weight and a quick summary of any secondary diagnosis such as diabetes, hypertension as well as procedures/operations/tests related to the current problem and if the patient has any allergies).

Current treatment includes ______________________________________________________

(Provide a brief summary of current treatment such as intravenous access, intravenous fluids given, medications recently given or of importance, oxygen therapy and oral intake).

This is a change from ____________________________________________________________

(Describe briefly what the previous condition was).

### B
**Background**
Current vital signs are: Respiratory rate ______ Oxygen saturation % ______ On oxygen %/L/min ______ or Room air ______

Temperature ______ Heart rate ______ Blood pressure ______/_______

Glasgow coma scale (_/15) or Alert ☐ Responds to Verbal ☐/Pain ☐ is Unresponsive ☐

ONLY IF APPLICABLE complete and state the following:

**Skin colour:** Pale ☐ Cyanotic ☐ Pale/Purpuric ☐

**Periphery:** Warm (Capillary refill time <2 seconds) ☐ or Cool (CRT>2 seconds) ☐

**Pupils:** Equal ☐/Pinpoint ☐ Normal size ☐ Dilated ☐/Reacting to light ☐/Mood: ☐ Lethargic ☐ Confused ☐ Agitated ☐

The patient is complaining of ______________________________________________________

### A
**Assessment**

Pain experienced: No pain ☐ Mild pain ☐ Moderate pain ☐ Severe pain ☐

Sweating: ☐/Wound ooze: ☐/Pedal pulses: Normal ☐ Weak ☐ or Absent ☐/Blood glucose: _______/Finger prick Hb: _______

Additional item: Urine output has decreased over the last few hours ☐

### R
**Recommendation**

I would like you to see the patient now ☐ in the next 30 minutes ☐

Is there anything you would like me to do in the meantime?

(If medications are ordered): While I have you on the phone may I get a second witness? ☐

(If not coming to see the patient now): Do you want to be notified for any reason? __________________________

If no improvement, when should I call again? __________________________

Compiled by Debora Whitaker R/N UCT Division of Nursing and Midwifery (Supervisor Dr. Una Kyriacos, UCT/ Co-Supervisor Dr. Sue Jordan, Swansea University) based on SBAR report to a physician, Magee-Women’s Hospital of UPMC © 2008 (Woodhall et al. 2008).