

# Think About It!

*Most residents who experience an adverse outcome exhibit early warning signs that were not recognized or reported by staff.*

## Changes in Condition

The ability for all clinical and nonclinical staff to collaborate effectively, recognize and communicate changes in a resident's condition leads to early identification of deterioration and improved resident outcomes. Make sure these changes are reported as soon as they are noticed.

### Physical Changes

- Walking
- Urination and bowel patterns
- Skin
- Level of weakness
- Falls
- Vital signs

### Non-Physical Changes

- Demeanor (appearance or way of acting)
- Appetite
- Sleeping
- Speech
- Confusion or agitation
- Complaints of pain

## Simple Strategies for Changes in Condition