

OUR PROGRAM BEGINS AT 12:30



PURPOSE



We champion shared learning across the clinical and executive leaders of Minnesota’s assisted living and skilled care settings.

Through supportive dialogue grounded in the ECHO principle of “all teach, all learn,” our virtual community of interdisciplinary leaders shares promising practices to improve operational outcomes and quality of life as we age.



THE CHECK-IN

Have you faced an emergency situation in your building?



WELCOME: January 13, 2026



THE CHECK-IN



**AIDING
RESIDENTS IN
EMERGENCIES**



**ALL TEACH.
ALL LEARN.**



WELCOME



JANUARY 13, 2026

AIDING RESIDENTS IN EMERGENCY SITUATIONS

FEATURING



KARI EVERSON
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA



Background



Two, consecutive news stories focused on resident incidents and lack of response in assisted living settings.



Reporters Call To Action



Potential for Inquiries

Goals

Discuss resident incidents; particularly residents who are on nursing services v. residents who are not on nursing services.

- **NOTE: *These news stories were on residents receiving nursing services, this is part of the discussion because questions are emerging on this specifically.***

Clarify potential options and risks

Discuss communication options



Residents and Nursing Services

Receiving nursing services

- Residents who receive care from or under the direction of a registered nurse
- Nursing assessments are completed

Not receiving nursing services; may or may not receive supportive services

Nursing Services	No Nursing Services
Clinical / medical information available	No clinical / medical data or inconsistent data
Service agreement and a plan for resident care and services	No plan for services and risk for injuring resident

When staff respond to a resident, *and there is no information about diagnoses, baseline mobility, injuries, anticoagulant use, or medical history*, moving the resident can create significant and avoidable harm.



Incident Response No Nursing Services: To Move or Not to Move

Why would we want to move / assist someone?

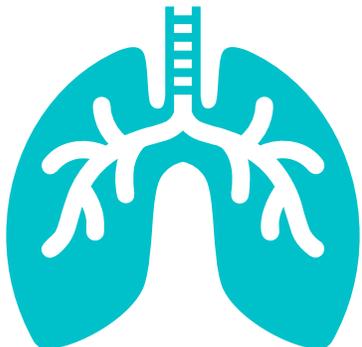
Why would we not want to move / assist someone?



DETERMINE HIGH-RISK SITUATION

ABC Check: A rapid check of the resident's Airway Breathing, and Circulation to determine immediate life safety risks.

A - 
Airway

B - 
Breathing

C - 
Circulation



A - AIRWAY

Question:

Is the resident's airway open and clear so air can move in and out?

- **Is the resident talking or making any sound?**
→ If yes, the airway is open.
- **Is the mouth or throat blocked with food, dentures, vomit, or an object?**
- **Is the resident choking, gasping, or struggling to breathe?**
- **Are they unconscious with the head/neck in a position that may block the airway?**
- **If airway appears blocked or the person cannot breathe → CALL 911 immediately.**



B - BREATHING

Question:

Is the resident breathing normally? Look, Listen, Feel

If breathing is absent or abnormal → CALL 911 immediately

Look	Listen	Feel
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Chest rising and falling• Normal or labored breathing• Skin color (pale, blue, gray)	Listen near the resident's mouth/nose for breath sounds	Feel a light airflow on your cheek or hand (if appropriate)

Signs of abnormal breathing:

- Gaspings or very slow breaths
- No visible chest movement

- Wheezing, rattling, or gurgling sounds
- Blue lips or fingernails



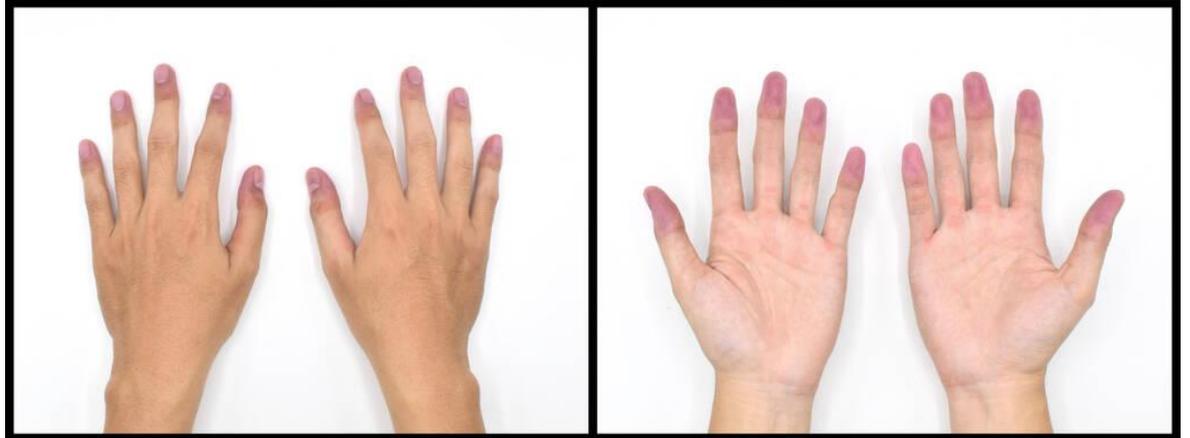
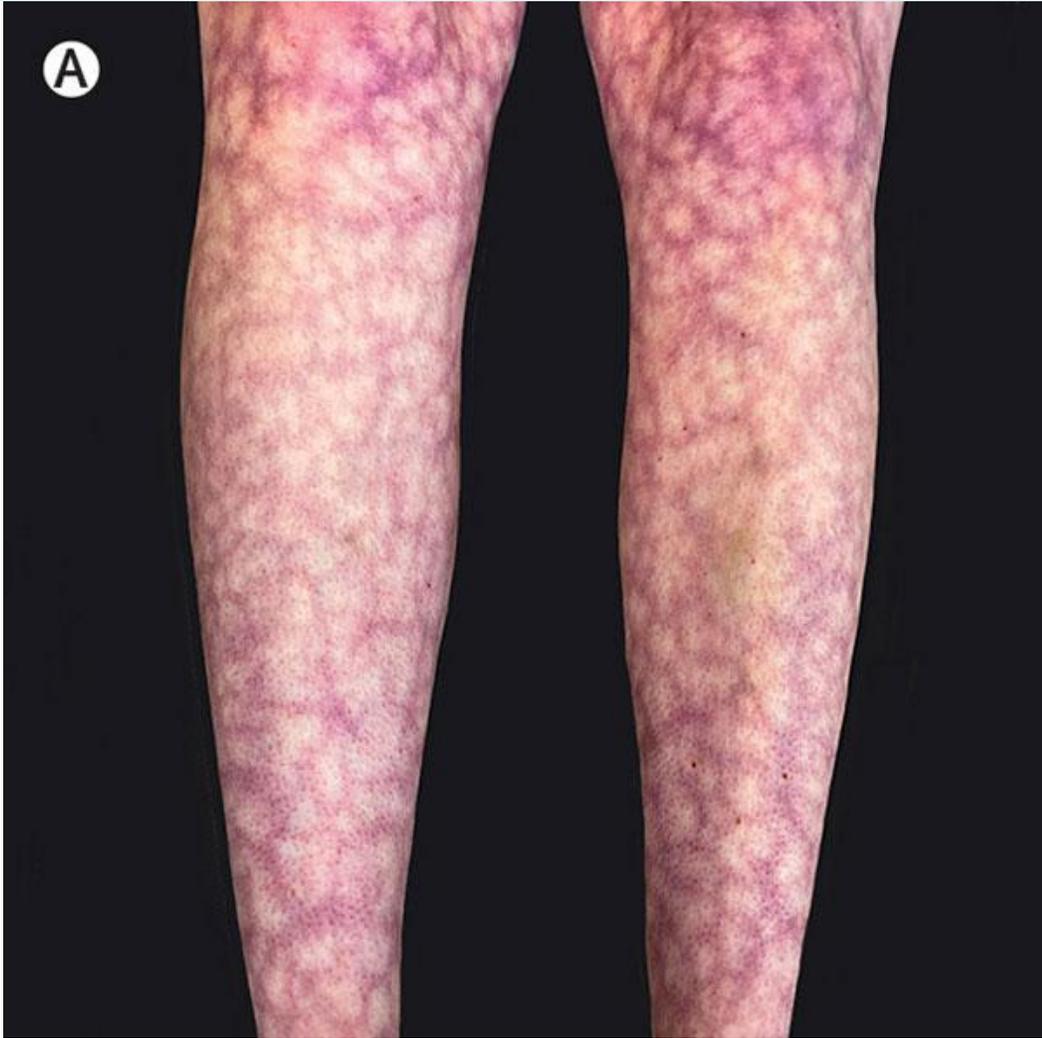
C - CIRCULATION

Question:

Is blood circulating well enough to keep the resident conscious and alive?

**If there is severe bleeding, unresponsiveness, or signs of shock →
CALL 911 immediately.**

Responsiveness	Skin Color	Major Bleeding	Movement	General Appearance
Does the resident respond when spoken to or gently touched?	Normal v. Pale, blue, mottled	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Visible severe bleeding• Blood pooling or rapidly soaking clothing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Are they moving extremities normally?• Are they limp or unresponsive?	Do they look very ill, faint, or about to pass out?



<https://www.thelancet.com/doi/story/10.1016/pic.2022.08.18.109258>

<https://create.vista.com/photos/cyanosis/>



PERIPHERAL CYANOSIS

Feet



Nose



Hands



Nail beds



Nail beds



www.themedicallounge.co.uk



CASE STUDY

- **It's 7:10 PM in an assisted living building. You are an unlicensed staff member responding to a call light.**
- **You enter Mrs. Jensen's apartment and find her on the floor near the bathroom doorway. She is awake and looks frightened. You do not have immediate access to her full clinical history, and you're not sure about:**
 - **her diagnoses or baseline mobility**
 - **recent injuries or falls**
 - **whether she takes blood thinners/anticoagulants**
 - **other relevant medical history**
- **Mrs. Jensen says: "I slipped... please help me up."**
- **Ms. Jensen has a large cut on her arm that is bleeding significantly. In her room you see a bunched up area rug 2 feet from her.**



UNDERSTANDING THE IMPACT

“Care Providers of Minnesota is monitoring reports of targeted federal immigration enforcement activity in our state. Immigrant workers are a vital, valuable part of Minnesota’s long-term care workforce, providing compassionate, hands-on support to vulnerable Minnesota seniors every single day. Our commitment is to the safety and dignity of our valuable workforce, and continuity of care for the vulnerable residents we serve.”

– Care Providers of Minnesota (12/4/25 Statement)

“Minnesota’s senior care providers depend on the talent, compassion, and dedication of caregivers from around the world. Immigrant caregivers make up one-third of direct care workers in Minnesota – providing essential care for our state’s seniors and strengthening the communities where they live and work. We stand with and support every caregiver who chooses this noble profession. Compassion and skill know no borders – and our commitment to building and supporting welcoming communities remains unwavering.”

- Kari Thurlow, President and CEO, LeadingAge Minnesota (12/3/25 Statement)



SHARING & LISTENING

What are the implications for your staff or organizations responding to the targeting of immigrants?



COMING SOON...

Visit us online:

<https://www.mngeriatricsecho.org>

Email:

GeriatricsECHO@umn.edu



JANUARY 27, 2026

HOW MIGHT 2026 RULES AND POLICIES CHANGE OUR WORK?



ERIN HUPPERT
LEADINGAGE MINNESOTA



NICOLE MATTSON
CARE PROVIDERS OF MINNESOTA