

Serving Drinking Water

Purpose	The purposes of this procedure are to provide the resident with a fresh supply of drinking water and to provide adequate fluids for the resident.
Preparation	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Drinking water shall be obtained from an approved source that is:<ol style="list-style-type: none">a. A public water system; orb. A nonpublic water system that is constructed, maintained and operated according to applicable state/federal law.2. Verify that there is not a physician's order for NPO (nothing by mouth) or any fluid or ice restrictions before serving drinking water to the resident.3. Review the resident's care plan and provide for any special needs of the resident.4. Residents who are not permitted to have ice may receive tap water only. (Note: Notice on resident's drinking cup will be marked "Omit Ice.")5. When in doubt about serving ice water or other fluids to a resident, check with your supervisor.6. Assemble the equipment and supplies necessary to perform the procedure. Arrange them on the rolling cart.
Equipment and Supplies	<p>The following equipment and supplies will be necessary when performing this procedure.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Movable serving cart;2. Ice chest and cover;3. Ice;4. Scoop;5. Water pitcher and cup;6. Flexible straw, when indicated;7. Paper towels; and8. Personal protective equipment (e.g., gowns, gloves, mask, etc., as needed).
Steps in the Procedure	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Fill the ice chest with ice. Cover the chest.2. Roll the cart to the outside entrance of the resident's room.3. Go to the resident's bedside stand and pick up the water pitcher.4. Take the water pitcher into the bathroom. Empty the contents into the commode. Flush the commode.5. Rinse the water pitcher with tap water. Pour the water down the sink.6. Fill the water pitcher one-half full with tap water.7. Unless the resident is in isolation, take the water pitcher to the ice cart outside the room. Fill the pitcher with ice. Do not let the ice scoop touch the water pitcher.8. Return the water pitcher to the resident's bedside stand.9. Wipe the bedside stand with a clean paper towel. Discard used paper cups, paper towels and other disposable items into designated container.10. Offer the resident a fresh cup of water.11. Place the water pitcher and cup within easy reach of the resident. Place flexible straws next to the water pitcher.12. Repeat steps 2 through 11 until the procedure has been completed for each of your assigned residents. Wash your hands.
Reporting	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Notify the supervisor if the resident refuses the drinking water.2. Report other information in accordance with facility policy and professional standards of practice.