

# SBAR report about a critical situation

## S

### Situation

I am calling about \_\_\_\_\_ <patient name and location>

The patient's code status is \_\_\_\_\_ <code status>

The problem I am calling about is \_\_\_\_\_.

I have just assessed the patient personally:

- **Vital signs are:** Blood pressure \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_, pulse \_\_\_\_, respiration \_\_\_\_, and temperature \_\_\_\_.
- **I am concerned about the patient's**
  - blood pressure because it is over 200 or less than 100 or 30 mmHg below usual
  - pulse because it is over 140 or less than 50
  - respiration because it is less than five or over 40
  - temperature because it is less than 96 or over 104

## B

### Background

The patient's mental status is

- alert and oriented to person, place, and time
- confused and cooperative or noncooperative
- agitated or combative
- lethargic but conversant and able to swallow
- stuporous, not talking clearly, and possibly unable to swallow
- comatose, eyes closed, and not responding to stimulation

The skin is

- warm and dry
- diaphoretic
- mottled
- pale
- extremities are cold
- extremities are warm

The patient is not or is on oxygen.

- The patient has been on \_\_\_\_\_ (L./min.) or (%) oxygen for \_\_\_\_\_ minutes (hours)
- The oximeter reads \_\_\_\_\_%
- The oximeter does not detect a good pulse and is giving erratic readings

# A

## Assessment

I think the problem is \_\_\_\_\_ <say what you think is the problem>

- The problem seems to be cardiac/infection/neurologic/respiratory \_\_\_\_\_.
- I am not sure what the problem is, but the patient is deteriorating.
- The patient seems to be unstable and may get worse. We need to do something.

# R

## Recommendation

I suggest or request that you \_\_\_\_\_ <say what you would like to see done>

- transfer the patient to critical care
- come to see the patient at this time
- talk to the patient or family about code status
- ask the on-call family practice resident to see the patient now
- ask for a consultant to see the patient now

### Are any tests needed?

Do you need any tests done (e.g., CXR, ABG, EKG, CBC, or BMP)?  
Others?

### If a change in treatment is ordered, ask

- how often do you want vital signs?
- how long do you expect this problem will last?
- if the patient does not get better, when would you want us to call again?

### Contact us

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