Name: ______________________________

Measure/record temperature using non-mercury glass thermometer: 4.01C Rectal

This skill MUST BE TAUGHT.
However, individual skill competence check is NOT required for this skill.

Equipment: Paper, pen, non-mercury glass thermometer, sheaths, tissues, gloves

1. Knock before entering. Address resident by name.
2. State your name and title. Identify resident.
3. Explain procedure and obtain permission.
5. Provide for resident safety. Place bed in flat position, and at best working level for body mechanics.
6. Put on gloves. Have resident turn on side.
7. If soaking in disinfectant, rinse thermometer in cold water and dry with tissue.
8. Check thermometer for chips or cracks.
9. Shake indicator “ribbon” down and place thermometer in sheath, if available.
10. Lubricate bulb of thermometer with KY jelly and insert one inch into rectum or as directed.
11. Hold thermometer in place for 3-5 minutes or as directed. Never let go of thermometer.
12. Remove thermometer, holding stem end. Remove sheath and discard or wipe thermometer with tissue from stem toward bulb.
13. Read thermometer accurately.
14. Shake down indicator “ribbon” thermometer and place in container without touching container.
15. Remove gloves and wash hands.
16. Record resident’s name and temperature on notepad with “R” for rectal.
17. Provide for resident safety and lower bed.
18. Provide for comfort with call signal in reach.
19. Record temperature on appropriate form and report any abnormal reading to supervisor.