**NURSE AIDE CURRICULUM SKILL PERFORMANCE CHECKLIST**

Name: ____________________________

**Measure and record temperature: Tympanic Thermometer  4.01E**

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*This skill MUST BE TAUGHT.*

However, individual skill competence check is NOT required for this skill.

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**Equipment:** Paper, pen, electronic thermometer, probe covers, tissues, gloves

1. Assemble equipment. Knock before entering room.
2. Address resident by name. State your name and title.
3. Identify resident. Explain procedure and obtain permission.
5. Provide for resident safety. Position bed at best level for body mechanics.
6. Put on gloves if contamination possible.
7. Place cover on tympanic thermometer.
8. Do not use until “ready” is displayed.
   
   To gently insert the probe into the ear canal:
   - Gently pull back and up slightly on the edge of the ear to straighten out the ear canal.
   - In children under the age of 2, pull the earlobe down and back to straighten the ear canal.
9. The probe should totally occlude the ear canal.
   - Hold thermometer in right hand if right ear is to be used for measurement.
   - Hold thermometer in left hand if left ear is to be used for measurement.
10. Press the “start” button on the thermometer.
11. Leave the thermometer in place until you hear a tone or see a flashing light on the readout display. Read the thermometer reading on the display.
12. Remove the probe from the ear and let go of the ear.
13. Until the skill is perfected, take three temperatures and record the highest.
14. Remove probe and eject and discard probe cover. Do not touch the cover.
15. Return probe to its stored position or put tympanic thermometer down.
16. Record resident’s name and temperature on notepad using T as appropriate.
17. Remove gloves, if worn, and wash hands.
19. Return thermometer to appropriate place.
20. Record temperature and report any abnormal reading to supervisor.