Focus Note Documentation for Nurses

Focus Note Use

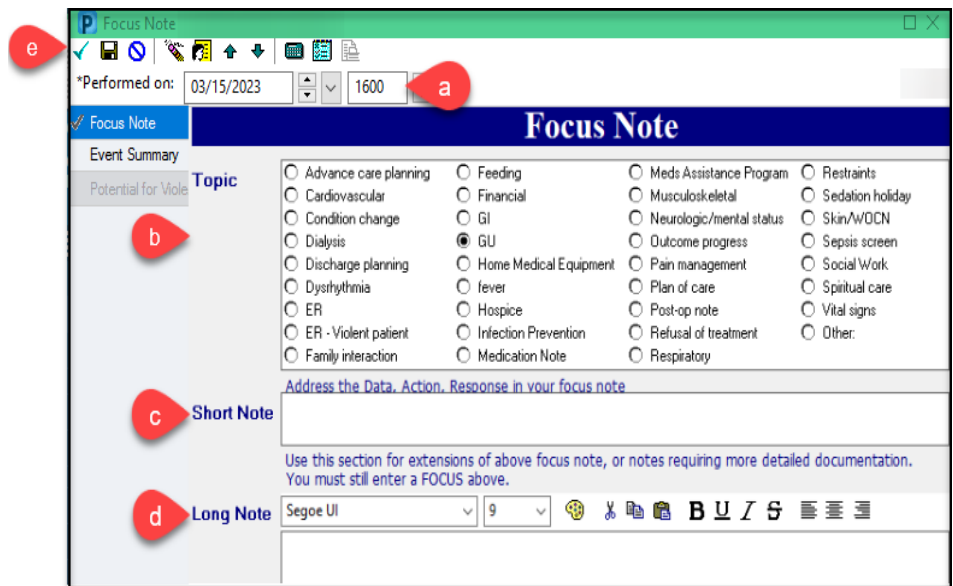The Focus Note PowerForm is used for documenting the following:

1. Unusual or unexpected events:
   a) Condition changes in:
      - Mentation (example, sudden confusion or slurred speech).
      - Withdrawal from nicotine, alcohol, or other substances.
      - Mobility/gait.
   b) In the event of MRT/Code Blue.
2. Nursing or medical interventions:
   a) Oxygen level changes with treatment/patient response.
   b) Blood pressure and heart rate level changes with treatment/patient response.
   c) Cardiac rhythm changes and response to treatment/patient response.
3. Emotional or psychological needs of the patient and family.
4. Abnormal patient finding that needs in-depth explanation.

> **Note**: MRT/Code Blue documentation occurs on paper. A nurse views the paper chart for all details.

Focus Note Documentation

The Focus Note is accessed from AdHoc. To document:
a) Verify correct date and time in Performed on.
b) Choose the Topic of an event.
c) Document the information in Short Note using the Data/Action/Response (DAR) format if the note has less than 255 characters.
d) Document the information in Long Note using the DAR format if the note has 255 characters or more.
e) Sign.

> **Note**: Do not use exact times when documenting a focus note unless the times exactly match what is documented in the chart.

> **Example**:
> D: Patient's urine output 100ml for last 8 hours.
> A: Dr. Test notified. Order for 1000ml normal saline bolus received.
> R: RN to wait for patient's response which will be documented in the 2nd focus note.
>
> Document the 2nd Focus note later if patient's response is not seen immediately.
> **Example**:
> R: Patient's urine output 400ml for last 4 hours.