

# Bay watch process

**1. The nurse in charge can designate any bay/s on the ward a “bay watch” bay. This will be reviewed at least daily to best identify which patients would benefit based on of their enhanced observation risk assessment.**

**2. A bay watch bay must ALWAYS have a “bay watcher” who provides observation within the bay to prevent falls both during the day and night. The bay watcher must not be a staff member doing a drugs round.**

**3. The bay watcher must position themselves in the bay to ensure maximum observation of all patients (e.g. moving to ensure they do not have their back to patients).**

**4. The bay watcher with support from the nurse in charge must risk assess if it is safe for them to provide care behind curtains or request other staff members to support them to ensure that observation within the bay is not reduced.**

**5. The bay/s where bay watch is taking place will be identifiable by the use of a baywatch sign on the entrance to the bay.**

**6. The same member of staff will not be allocated to bay watch for a whole shift- staff should rotate. The bay watch rota should be drawn up at the beginning of the shift.**