

River Valley Therapeutic Residence Policy and Procedure		
Levels of Autonomy and Supervision		
Effective: 4/25/2023	Revised:	Due to Review: 4/25/2025

POLICY

Levels of resident autonomy and supervision must be assessed and identified at River Valley Therapeutic Residence (RVTR). It is the intention of RVTR to provide a secure environment in which residents can function as independently as possible. It is recognized that at times, residents may require periods of increased supervision and support during their recovery process.

PROCEDURE

Safety Levels and Descriptions

Changes in levels of supervision need a written order from the RVTR Psychiatrist unless staff is responding to an immediate safety issue. If there is a safety issue, staff should increase a resident's supervision level and inform the Nurse Manager. A written order should be obtained as soon as possible after a change in the level of supervision.

Lowering levels of supervision will be considered after review by the treatment team, discussion with the resident, and will require a written order.

Constant Observation

Staff must always maintain visual contact with the resident. A resident may use the bathroom with the door partially closed, however the door must not be fully closed, and staff must be within 5-feet of the bathroom. Staff will record the resident location and activity every 15 minutes. Residents on this level may be observed through a windowed door when meeting or phoning with an advocate, representative or other health care professional.

15 Minute Checks

Staff will check a resident every 15 minutes for the first 24- hours after a resident is admitted. Unless the nurse or designee determines there is a continued need for this level of supervision, resident will automatically change to 60-minute checks after 24 hours.

When a resident is on 15-minute checks, their bedroom door must remain unlocked and slightly open. Staff may restrict access to items for safety reasons. When in the bathroom, residents do not require visible contact but are subject to voice checks.

Standard 30-Minute Checks

Staff will make visible contact with each resident every 30-minutes between the hours of 0600 and 2300.

Standard 60-Minute Checks

Staff will make visible contact with each resident every 60 minutes between the hours of 0600 and 2300.

Continuous 30-minute checks

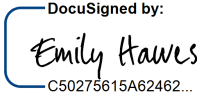
Staff will make visible contact with each resident every 30 minutes.

Continuous 60-minute checks

Staff will make visible contact with each resident every 60 minutes.

Yard Access

The yard will be accessible at designated times. Staff reserve the right to limit yard access due to safety reasons, inclement weather, and staff availability. Unsupervised yard access requires approval from the treatment team and a written order.

Approved by	Signature	Date
Emily Hawes Commissioner Vermont Department of Mental Health	 <p>DocuSigned by: Emily Hawes C50275615A62462...</p>	4/26/2023