DON'T FORGET TO CHECK THE MEDICAL RECORD FOR INFORMATION & DISCUSS WITH LEAD PRIOR TO CALLING PHYSICIAN

Situation
I am calling about <patient name and location>.
The patient's code status is <code status>.
The problem I am calling about is

I have just assessed the patient personally:
Vital signs are: Blood pressure _____/_____, Pulse _____, Respiration_____ and temperature _______

I am concerned about the: (examples of changes in the patient's condition to report)
- Blood pressure because it is over 200 or less than 100 or 30 mmHg below usual
- Pulse because it is over 140 or less than 50
- Respiration because it is less than 8 or over 32.
- Temperature because it is less than 99 or over 101.

The patient is on these medications:

Background
The patient's mental status is:
- Alert and oriented to person place and time.
- Confused and cooperative or non-cooperative
- Agitated or combative
- Lethargic but conversant and able to swallow
- Stuporous and not talking clearly and possibly not able to swallow
- Comatose. Eyes closed. Not responding to stimulation.

The skin is:
- Warm and dry
- Mottled
- Extremities are cold
- Extremities are warm

The patient is not or is on oxygen.
- The patient has been on _____ (L/min) or (%) oxygen for _____ minutes (hours)
- The oximeter is reading _____ %
- The oximeter does not detect a good pulse and is giving erratic readings.

Assessment
- This is what I think the problem is: <say what you think is the problem>
- The problem seems to be: ☐ cardiac ☐ infection ☐ neurological ☐ respiratory
- I am not sure what the problem is but the patient's condition is deteriorating.
- The patient seems to be unstable.

Recommendation
Would you like to: <say what you would like to see done>.
- Transfer the patient to critical care
- Come to see the patient at this time.
- Talk to the patient or family about code status.
- Ask for a consultant to see the patient now.

Are any tests needed:
- Do you need any tests like ☐ CXR, ☐ ABG, ☐ EKG, ☐ CBC, or ☐ BMP?
- Others?

If a change in treatment is ordered then ask:
- How often do you want vital signs?
- How long do you expect this problem will last?
- For what specific clinical parameters would you like to be called?
  (i.e. vital signs, assessment findings, repeat lab tests, EKGs, Chest x-ray, etc.)

*Write any and all orders on Physician Order Sheet.

This is a worksheet. It is NOT part of the medical record.