Pain: Decision Tree for Pain Care Processes

1. Conduct admission pain screening

   - Does resident screening indicate presence of pain?
     - Yes: Complete in-depth pain assessment
       - Initiate pain management plan of care
         - Initiate monitoring
           - Is pain well managed?
             - Yes: Continue with plan and monitoring
             - No: Re-screen at pre-determined intervals (e.g., Pain as fifth vital sign*)
               - Revise plan

   - No: Re-screen at pre-determined intervals (e.g., Pain as fifth vital sign*)

*Ask patient if they have pain at regular intervals, when interacting with resident (i.e., during routine care or when giving medications). Asking residents if they have pain should be a routine aspect of care. Clinical judgment will dictate how often is appropriate.