



NURSING ASSISTANT (Unlicensed Assistive Personnel)

SCOPE OF PRACTICE

Role

- The Nursing Assistant is an unlicensed assistive health care provider who practices under the direction of a Registered Nurse (RN) or Registered Nursing Assistant (RNA) to deliver supportive nursing care.
- The Nursing Assistant may practice in a variety of areas in which health care is provided such as community, residential, hospital and ambulatory care settings.
- Nursing Assistants do not conduct independent nursing assessments, plan or evaluate nursing interventions and can only perform tasks that have been delegated by an RN.
- Nursing Assistants have a legal and ethical obligation to discuss a patient's care with the nurse to whom he/she reports.

Education

- A minimum of 160 hours of training divided equally between classrooms and supervised clinical experience utilizing a recognised curriculum.
- Completion of in service training each calendar year beyond basic training, in order to maintain basic skills.
- Maintenance of current Basic Life Support (BLS) Certification.

Accountability

- The Registered Nurse is accountable for all tasks delegated to a Nursing Assistant and determines the level of supervision required for each delegated task.
- The Nursing Assistant is responsible for carrying out the delegated tasks as instructed.
- Maintains patient confidentiality and accurate, legible record of completed tasks.
- Complies with policies and procedure of their employing institution.

Scope

The Nursing Assistant is assigned tasks that do not require the professional judgement of the RN responsible for the care of the patient.

The Nursing Assistant assists patients/clients with activities of daily living which include but are not limited to:

- Bathing, dressing, transferring of patients
- Nutrition (including naso-gastric and gastric tube feedings)
- Assistance with elimination, hydration, mobility, social functioning and personal hygiene
- Maintenance of a safe environment for the patient
- Accurate measurement and recording of vital signs
- Applies principles of hand asepsis
- Maintenance of patient confidentiality
- Interacts effectively, and supports relationships with patients, families and other members of the health team
- Refers to the nurse to whom they report if unsure that a task is within the scope of their practice.

In the home setting the Nursing Assistant may administer prescribed medication according to the directions on the container.

The Nursing Assistant may not re-assign an assigned task.