



HIGHLIGHTS OF NURSE DELEGATION RULES

Know the Rules and follow the Rules A simple prescription for success!

Currently, Nurse Delegation for people with developmental disabilities occurs in DDD contracted residential homes, adult family homes, and group homes

Registered Nurse (RN) Rules

- ⇒ Any Registered Nurse (RN) may delegate specified nursing care tasks to staff who become qualified nursing assistants and have completed the Nurse Delegation core training.
- ⇒ The Registered Nurse Delegate (RND) must obtain permission from the client or person authorized to give consent for the client before delegating.
- ⇒ The RND must complete initial and periodic assessments of the person receiving nurse delegation.
- ⇒ The person's medical condition must be stable and predictable.
- ⇒ The law prohibits the delegation of: 1) injections; 2) sterile procedures; and 3) central line maintenance.

Nursing Assistant (NA) Rules

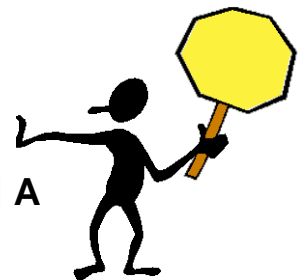
- ⇒ Qualified Nursing Assistants (NA) may perform nursing care tasks **ONLY** for the client who is specified by the RN to receive the care – **NO TRANSFER OF DUTIES** from one nursing assistant to another NA is allowed.
- ⇒ NAs must be certified or registered and have completed nurse delegation core training approved by DSHS.

- ⇒ Nursing Assistants Registered (NAR) must have completed 32 hours of staff training, in addition to the core training requirement, before doing nursing care tasks. Nursing Assistants Certified (NAC) do not have this additional training requirement.
- ⇒ NAs **MAY REFUSE** to consent to perform a delegated nursing care task and will not receive employer reprisal for refusing, **IF** the refusal is based upon client safety issues.
- ⇒ IF NAs are following **WRITTEN** directions from the delegating nurse, they will not be held liable.

Provider Rules

- ⇒ After a NA completes the required training, the provider must keep written instructions provided by the delegating nurse.
- ⇒ Providers must keep a copy of the current registration or certification for each NA.
- ⇒ Providers must post the toll-free number for complaints about the delegation of nursing tasks.
- ⇒ No retribution must occur for refusal of a NA to provide delegated tasks if the NA feels a client's health or safety may be violated.

WARNING: DSHS MUST IMPOSE A CIVIL FINE ON ANY SERVICE PROVIDER WHO KNOWINGLY PERFORMS OR PERMITS AN EMPLOYEE TO PERFORM A NURSING TASK WITHOUT PROPER DELEGATION.



THE MINIMUM AMOUNT IS \$250.00 AND THE MAXIMUM IS \$1,000.00 (depending on severity, frequency and other relevant factors). The provider must be given a reasonable period of time to correct violations of nurse delegation requirements before any penalty is imposed.

Questions? Contact Saif Hakim, DDD Community Residential Services Program Manager, 360-902-0263, hakims@dshs.wa.gov