



## Nursing Student & Intern Guidelines & Limits

**Applies to:** All unlicensed nursing students including nursing interns.

Students provide basic care for patients and family under the supervision of a preceptor (staff RN) or faculty.

Topic	Guideline(s)
<b>Delegation</b>	Means the transfer of authority to another nurse or competent, unlicensed assistive person to perform a specific nursing task or activity in a specific situation. <b><i>Regardless of the level supervision, the licensed registered nurse remains responsible for all delegated tasks.</i></b>
<b>Direct Supervision</b>	Preceptor or Faculty will be <b>present</b> with the student to coordinate, direct, and inspect <b>first-hand</b> the care provided by the student. This includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Administration of ALL medications</li> <li>• Performing procedures requiring sterile technique or universal precautions</li> <li>• Performing specimen collection</li> <li>• Reviewing or discussing the patient's plan of care with patients or interdisciplinary team</li> </ul>
<b>General Supervision</b>	Preceptor or Faculty will be available as needed to coordinate, direct, and inspect the care provided and documented by the student. This includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide physical care including nutrition, elimination, comfort, mobility, safety, and emotional support to patients</li> <li>• Provide personal care, assist patient with ADLs, and encourage self-care under the direction of the student preceptor and plan of care</li> <li>• Demonstrate effective communication with health care team, patients, and families</li> <li>• Follow the standards of care for hand hygiene, use of personal protective equipment, fall prevention, and use of correct body mechanics in patient care provision</li> </ul>
<b>Documentation</b>	RN students can document cares and assessments in Cerner as long as the staff RN and/or faculty review and co-sign documentation. <a href="#">Co-sign Student Documentation</a>  <b><u>Medication Administration:</u></b> Must be performed under the login of the staff RN or faculty.  <b><u>Head-to-toe assessment:</u></b> The <b>Staff RN</b> remains responsible for the <b>accuracy</b> of the assessments for their patient(s). This is conveyed by the Staff RN co-signing student documentation <b>OR</b> Staff RN documenting assessment(s) independently. <b><u>Example:</u></b> The Staff RN and student complete a head-to-toe assessment and documentation together. The Staff RN can verify accuracy because they were present for both. They would not need to document independently. <b><u>Example:</u></b> The student and faculty completed a head-to-toe assessment and documentation together. The Staff RN was not present. The staff RN cannot verify accuracy and would need to perform and document an assessment independently.  <b>PEWS score and all other assessments</b> – student may assess and document. Staff RN is responsible for reviewing and acting on results as indicated.

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Medication Administration	<p>Students MAY administer <b>medications, fluids, or immunizations</b> if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Staff RN or Faculty Directly Supervise all steps of medication administration including preparation, administration, and documentation.</li> <li>• Staff RN or Faculty are logged into Cerner for documentation</li> <li>• The medication/route is not addressed in the “may NOT” section</li> </ul> <p>Notable routes that Nursing students <b>may</b> administer the following with <b>Direct Supervision</b>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• IV fluids, secondary meds, or push medications via PIV</li> <li>• Intramuscular (IM) injections</li> <li>• Oral, rectal, enteral, inhaled, topical</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Have a Pyxis login</li> <li>• Document medication administration under student login (must be done under staff RN or Faculty login)</li> <li>• Administer IV or subcutaneous <b>insulin</b></li> <li>• Initiate or hang <b>TPN or lipids</b></li> <li>• Administer medications via <b>central line</b></li> <li>• Administer <b>blood</b></li> <li>• Program a <b>PCA</b> pump</li> <li>• Administer <b>chemotherapy</b> via any route</li> <li>• Administer intrathecal medications</li> </ul>
Lines	<p>May Perform delegated cares not addressed in the “NOT” column with <b>Direct Supervision</b>.</p>	<p>May <b>NOT</b>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Place an intravenous line of any kind</li> <li>• Perform central line tube changes</li> <li>• Discontinue central lines</li> <li>• Perform line blood draws from ANY type of line (including PIV)</li> <li>• Manage epidural infusions, tubing, or pump settings</li> </ul>
General care	<p>MAY:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Perform delegated cares not addressed in the “NOT” column.</li> <li>• Be assigned with a nurse to a medical 1:1 to partner in care.</li> </ul>	<p>May <b>NOT</b>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Take verbal or telephone orders</li> <li>• Interpret EKG/telemetry printouts</li> <li>• Verify Informed Consent</li> <li>• Cannot perform any dual signature or witness medication verification independently</li> <li>• Remove any type of wound drain</li> <li>• Provide 1:1 care/observation of a behavioral health patient independently</li> <li>• Operate a point-of-care (POC) device or perform any POC testing or quality control checks</li> <li>• Attend deliveries or shadow/observe in other hospitals (i.e., Mother/Baby Center)</li> </ul>

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Dr. Blue, RRT, patient emergency, Code Green (seclusion/restraints)	<b>MAY:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If alone – they may initiate BLS until hospital staff arrives to relieve the student.</li> <li>Observe the code process as long as their presence does not interfere with care.</li> <li>Participate in post-code debriefs – strongly encouraged if student was part of or observing the code.</li> </ul>	<b>May NOT:</b> <b>Dr. Blue:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Perform chest compressions (exception is if they are alone and initiate BLS until help arrives)</li> <li>Retrieve any essential equipment</li> <li>Perform any cares or administer any medications</li> </ul> <b>Code Green:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Apply restraints</li> <li>Intervene physically</li> <li>Perform any restraint assessments</li> <li>Document any restraint assessments</li> <li>Administer any medications</li> </ul>															
Airway	<b>MAY:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Participate in trach and vent cares with <b>Direct</b> supervision</li> <li>Perform inline or sterile suction with <b>Direct</b> supervision</li> </ul>	<b>May NOT:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Manage a Passey Muir valve</li> </ul>															
Airborne precautions & Aerosol-generating procedures (AGPs)	<b>Only people that have been fit tested are able to enter Airbourne Precaution rooms.</b> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 33%;">Role</th> <th style="width: 33%;">Fit Testing Status</th> <th style="width: 33%;">Airbourne Precautions</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Student Nurse <b>Intern</b> (SNI)</td> <td style="color: green;">Fit tested by Employee Health</td> <td style="color: green;">Able to enter rooms</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Nursing student groups</td> <td style="color: red;">NOT fit tested</td> <td style="color: red;">NOT able to enter</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Nursing student capstone / preceptorship in OR or ED</td> <td style="color: green;">Fit tested by school</td> <td style="color: green;">Able to enter rooms</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Nursing student capstone / preceptorship <b>NOT</b> in OR/ED</td> <td style="color: red;">NOT fit tested</td> <td style="color: red;">NOT able to enter</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p style="color: green; margin-top: 10px;"> <b>Students may participate in AGPs in care communities if the following are met:</b>                      The patient is not suspected or confirmed COVID positive                      The patient is not positive for influenza                      The patient is not under Airborne Precautions                 </p>		Role	Fit Testing Status	Airbourne Precautions	Student Nurse <b>Intern</b> (SNI)	Fit tested by Employee Health	Able to enter rooms	Nursing student groups	NOT fit tested	NOT able to enter	Nursing student capstone / preceptorship in OR or ED	Fit tested by school	Able to enter rooms	Nursing student capstone / preceptorship <b>NOT</b> in OR/ED	NOT fit tested	NOT able to enter
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### Observation of Restricted Activities:

Keep in mind nursing students may learn a great deal by observing experienced RNs carrying out the restricted activities list above. Learning may be enhanced following an observation by reviewing policies and procedures related to the activity, reviewing the risks associated with the activity, asking questions to clarify why the activity was carried out in a particular manner, etc.

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The following applies to the **Inpatient Mental Health Unit Only**

Skill Topic	Students MAY	Students may NOT
1:1 patient assignment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Partner with an MHS or RN on a 1:1 patient assignment</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Be alone at any time in a 1:1 patient assignment</li> </ul>
Seclusion/Restraints	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Observe the event</li> <li>Participate in debrief</li> <li>Sit 1:1 with an MHS or RN</li> <li>Observe assessments and interventions</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Apply restraints</li> <li>Intervene physically in a seclusion/restraint event</li> <li>Sit independently in 1:1 with patient</li> <li>Perform any restraint assessments</li> <li>Document any restraint assessments</li> </ul>
Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Observe or Co-facilitate group</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Facilitate groups independently</li> <li>Document group activities</li> </ul>
Safety & Attendance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>After RN assesses ability, independently perform observations of affect, where they are, and what they are doing</li> <li>Document observations</li> </ul>	
Milieu	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Partner with MHS or RN in milieu to interact with patients</li> <li>Report any concerns to RN assigned to patient</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Independently be in milieu</li> <li>Document any observations or discussions</li> </ul>