

Student Scope of Practice and Patient Emergencies

POLICY TITLE: STUDENT NURSE SCOPE OF PRACTICE – LEGAL LIMITATIONS

Date of Origin (if available):

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Policy: The guidelines set forth in this policy, are intended to ensure delivery of safe, competent nursing care during a clinical rotation/practicum by the student nurse. Failure to adhere to the policy guidelines may result in disciplinary action.

Scope of Practice: Performance of any clinical skills and activities by the nursing student is contingent on clinical partners policies and instructor discretion - based on student level and competency. Each student will clarify and establish their scope of practice with the primary RN or community supervisor at the beginning of each shift during the clinical rotation/practicum.

All skills will be done under direct supervision of an instructor or RN

Skill/Activity:	Sophomores	Juniors	Seniors
Intravenous Devices and Medications			
Start IVs	NO	YES	YES
D/C IVs	NO	YES	YES
Peripheral line saline flush	NO	YES	YES
Central Line Flush	NO	YES	YES
Administer IVPBs	NO	YES	YES
Administer IV Push	NO	NO	YES
Blood Draw from Central Line	NO	YES	YES
Central Line Tubing Change	NO	YES	YES
Central Line Dressing Change	YES	YES	YES
Medications			
PO Medications	YES	YES	YES
IM Medications	YES	YES	YES
SQ Medications	YES	YES	YES
Enteral Medications (NG / Feeding Tube/ G-J Tube)	YES	YES	YES
Topical Medications	YES	YES	YES
Treatments and Procedures			
Suctioning of Nasopharyngeal/Nasotracheal and Tracheostomy	NO	YES	YES
Trach Care	NO	YES	YES
Chest Tube Maintenance	NO	YES	YES

Skills / Procedures / Medications that MAY NOT be done by any UCCS nursing student:

1. Administer ANY medication not pulled by the student from an automated medication station
2. Administer any controlled substance
3. Any medication requiring two healthcare professionals to document administration
4. Blood or Blood Product Transport or Administration
 - including Rhogam injections
5. Epidural Catheter Medications and Management
6. Patient-Controlled Analgesia Pump: Initiation, Management
7. Fingertick Blood Sugars (in hospital settings)
8. Hemocult Stools
9. Implanted Ports: Access / De-access and management
10. **Intravenous Administration of:**
 - a. Cardiac medications
 - Antihypertensive, -Antidysrhythmic
 - b. Vasoactive medications
 - c. Hazardous medications
 - Chemotherapy, -Antineoplastic, -Cytotoxic
 - d. Iron Preparations
 - e. Neuromuscular Blocking Agents
 - f. Sedatives for invasive procedures
 - g. Thrombolytics (any form of tPA)
 - h. Specific Medications
 - Heparin
 - Insulin
 - magnesium
 - IVPB of potassium
 - Prostaglandin /Prostacyclin
 - Oxytocin
 - Methergine
 - Terbutaline
11. And other medications as identified by clinical partner policy – see partner policy

Legal Limitations:

1. Students may not give medications with an outdated order.
2. Students may not document NIH Stroke Score / Scale (NIHSS) assessments.
3. Students may not transfer/transport narcotics from pharmacy or other nursing units.
4. Students may not carry narcotics keys and/or count narcotics
5. Students may not take verbal or telephone orders from any physician.
6. Students may not partake in restraint application, management and assessments r/t restraints
7. Students may not sign or witness any legal document (other than the medical record) while in student role (i.e. consent to treat, informed consents, wills, etc.).
8. Students may not accept gifts from patients. Students may accept notes/letters of thanks from patients.

Rationale: Adherence to the guidelines set forth in this policy will ensure delivery of safe, competent patient care by the student nurse.