

STANDARD 14: NURSE AIDE SCOPE OF PRACTICE

The nurse aide will perform only the tasks in the course standards and *Resident Care Procedures* manual, unless trained appropriately by licensed staff of the facility with policies and procedures and a system for ongoing monitoring to assure compliance with the task, i.e., (see supplements for examples). This additional training would only apply for tasks, which are not prohibited by paragraphs 2 and 3 of this section and by current rule, which prohibits the giving of injections.

The nurse aide will not perform any invasive procedures, including enemas and rectal temperatures, checking for and/or removing fecal impactions, instillation of any fluids, through any tubing, administering vaginal or rectal installations.

The nurse aide will not administer any medications, perform treatment or apply or remove any dressings. Exception to the above would be the application of creams/ointments to intact skin, such as moisture barrier cream.

ARJO TUB

<u>STEP</u>	<u>RATIONALE</u>
1. Do initial steps.	
2. Fill tub with water before bringing resident to bathing area.	2. Tub takes an extended time to fill with water.
3. Help resident remove clothing. Drape resident with bath blanket (according to procedure #14).	3. Maintains resident's dignity and right to privacy by not exposing body. Keeps resident warm.
4. Transport resident to tub room via wheelchair, geri-chair, or lift bath trolley.	
5. Have resident check water temperature.	5. Resident's sense of touch may be different than yours, therefore, resident is best able to identify a comfortable water temperature.
6. If not already on trolley, assist resident into lift bath trolley, secure straps, and lower lift bath trolley and resident into tub. Turn system on.	6. Resident must be on lift bath trolley in order to be lowered into tub.
7. Let resident wash as much as possible, starting with face.	7. Encourages resident to be independent.
8. You may shower the resident by using the shower handle to gently spray over the resident's body. Stay with resident during procedure.	8. Staying with resident provides for resident's safety.
9. Turn system off after completion of bath and return shower handle to hook, if used.	
10. Raise trolley out of tub; give resident towel and assist to pat dry.	10. Patting dry prevents skin tears and reduces chaffing.
11. Assist resident out of trolley.	
12. Help resident dress, comb hair, and return to room.	12. Dressing and combing hair in shower room allows resident to maintain dignity when returning to room.
13. Do final steps.	
14. Sanitize tub per manufacturer's instructions.	14. Reduces pathogens and prevents spread of infection.

I verify that this procedure was taught and successfully demonstrated according to facility policy.

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BED SHAMPOOS

<u>STEP</u>	<u>RATIONALE</u>
1. Do initial steps.	
2. Gently comb and brush resident's hair (according to procedure #29).	2. Reduces hair breakage, scalp pain, and irritation.
3. Insert a cotton ball into each ear.	3. Keeps water from entering into resident's ears.
4. Drape resident (according to procedure #14).	4. Maintains resident's dignity and right to privacy by not exposing body.
5. Remove resident's gown or pajama top. Place a towel around resident's neck and shoulders. Lower head of bed.	5. Decreases the chance of resident getting wet.
6. Have resident check temperature of water to be used.	6. Resident's sense of touch may be different than yours, therefore, resident is best able to identify a comfortable water temperature.
7. Place bed shampoo basin under resident's head according to manufacturer's instructions.	7. If equipment is not applied according to manufacturer's instructions, discomfort or injury could result.
8. Place wash basin on chair to catch water.	
9. Pour water carefully over resident's hair.	
10. Lather hair with shampoo using fingertips. Rinse thoroughly.	10. Utilizing fingertips massages the scalp and decreases the risk of scratching resident.
11. Remove cotton balls from resident's ears and squeeze excess water from hair. Towel dry hair.	
12. Replace gown or pajama top.	
13. Comb and brush resident's hair (according to procedure #14). Dry hair with dryer if resident wishes.	13. Helps maintain resident's dignity and self-esteem.

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CONVERTING A URINARY DRAINAGE BAG TO A LEG BAG

<u>STEP</u>	<u>RATIONALE</u>
1. Do initial steps.	
2. Put on gloves (according to procedure #2).	2. Protects you from contamination by bodily fluids.
3. Empty Urinary Drainage Bag (according to procedure #39).	
4. Measure and accurately record amount of urine.	4. Accuracy is necessary because decisions regarding resident's care may be based on your report. What you write is a legal record of what you did. If you don't document it, legally it didn't happen.
5. Place paper towel or cloth towel under the tubing at the point the catheter connects with the urinary drainage bag tubing.	5. Reduces contamination and protects surface from drips.
6. Place the leg bag with tubing within reach for easy access. Make certain the spout of the leg bag is clamped.	
7. Loosen the cap on the leg bag tubing to prepare for connection to catheter.	
8. With the catheter tubing kinked in one hand to prevent urinary drainage during the transition, gently twist the catheter tubing and urinary drainage bag tubing in an effort to separate the two at the connection.	
9. Once separated, continue to hold the kinked catheter tubing in one hand being cautious not to contaminate the open end of the tubing. Cap the open end of the tubing leading to the urinary drainage bag with an available cap or cover the open end of the tubing with alcohol swabs to prevent contamination. Lay the urinary drainage bag with tubing capped/covered aside.	9. Prevents contamination of tubing.
10. Remove the cap on the leg bag drainage tubing and gently insert and secure into the open end of the catheter tubing. Unkink the	

FEEDING WITH A SYRINGE

<u>STEP</u>	<u>RATIONALE</u>
1. Do initial steps.	
2. Assist resident with elimination, if necessary.	2. Resident will be more comfortable when eating.
3. Assist resident to wash hands.	3. Promotes good hygiene and prevents the spread of infection.
4. Place resident in comfortable sitting position.	4. Puts resident in a more natural position.
5. Check meal card for name and diet. Check tray for correct food, condiments, and utensils. Review any special feeding instructions provided by the speech therapist, if applicable.	5. Since resident's diet is ordered by the doctor, tray should contain foods permitted by the diet.
6. Set tray on table and describe food.	
7. Place napkin or clothing protector under resident's chin and across chest.	7. Protects resident's clothing.
8. Ask resident what food is preferred.	8. Resident has a right to choose.
9. Fill syringe with small amount of food.	
10. Carefully insert tip of syringe into resident's mouth and slowly push food into resident's mouth.	10. Food should be pushed slowly into mouth to decrease risk of choking.
11. Allow resident time to swallow. Give verbal cues as indicated. Offer fluids as resident wishes. Be observant for cough or signs/symptoms of swallowing difficulty. If observed, stop feeding and immediately alert the nurse.	
12. Wipe resident's mouth, as needed.	12. Maintains resident's dignity.
13. Remove napkin or clothing protector and tray.	
14. Wash resident's face and hands.	14. Promotes self-esteem and prevents the spread of infection.
15. Measure and record intake, if required.	15. Provides nurse with necessary information to properly assess resident's condition and needs.
16. Do final steps.	

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ATTENTION: The number of nursing staff required to lift a resident would depend on the specific resident's plan of care and instructions from the charge nurse.

NOTE: The following are standard steps utilized with many mechanical lifts. However, it is the obligation of the facility to compare these steps with the manufacturer's instructions provided for the specific type of lift used by the facility and revise as needed to ensure safe operation. The operator must use care and discretion with all lifts. Special care must be taken with persons who cannot cooperate while being lifted - such as comatose, spastic, agitated or otherwise severely handicapped persons. A mechanical lift, unless specified otherwise, is for transfer only. It is not to be used for transporting or moving a resident from one location to another. The operator of the lift must be knowledgeable of the maximum weight that can be safely lifted using the device.

MECHANICAL LIFT	
STEP	RATIONALE
1. Inspect the mechanical lift before each use. Check bolts for tightness, make certain brakes engage and base can be easily widened.	
2. Make certain all necessary items such as slings, chains or straps and wheelchair or bedside chair is ready. If wheelchair is the destination, make certain wheels are in the locked position prior to transfer.	
3. Do initial steps.	
4. Resident should be in the center of the bed. Turn resident to the side (away from you).	
5. Center sling behind resident and fanfold half-way under resident's body with the lower edge of seat slightly below the resident's knees.	
6. Turn resident toward you, across folded sling. Straighten sling and turn resident to back ensuring he/she is centered on sling - with lower edge now right behind the knees.	6. Correct placement permits the resident to be lifted evenly with minimal shifting.
7. Raise head of bed.	7. Makes application of lift to sling easier and places resident in the position they will be in when lifted off of bed in sling.
8. Roll the lift to bedside, raise it and place with open end of the base under the bed positioning the overhead bar directly over the resident.	

9. Widen the base of the lift to its widest position.	9. To provide stronger support during the transfer. If the base is not opened to its widest position, there is increased risk of resident falling out of the sling.
10. Attach the sling to the straps or chains by hooking the short side to sling at the resident's back and the long side at the resident's thighs. The open end of the hooks should face away from resident.	10. Open ends of the hooks should be away from resident to prevent injury to resident.
11. Position resident's arms over the chest or in the lap.	11. To prevent injury during lift and transfer.
12. Pump the lift handle until resident clears the bed. NOTE* Be sure to support resident's head, neck, and feet.	12. Pump the lift gradually as this is less frightening to the resident than a rapid rise. Resident must clear the bed in order for a smooth transfer.
13. Roll the lift slowly away from bed and toward the chair. Have your assistant (if available) guide the resident's body gently until resident is directly over chair seat. Lock mechanical lift brakes.	13. Slow movement decreases swaying and is less frightening. Guidance also decreases swaying and gives resident a sense of security.
14. Slowly lower resident into chair while your assistant (if available) continues to guide his/her body.	14. Slowly lowering resident is less frightening than a quick descent.
15. Detach the chains or straps, leaving sling beneath resident.	15. Leave sling beneath resident so that when resident is ready to go back to bed sling is already in place.
16. Align resident's body in chair and adjust foot rests, if indicated.	16. Shoulders and hips should be in a straight line to reduce stress on spine and joints.
17. Allow resident to be up in accordance with physician's order.	
TO ASSIST BACK TO BED:	
18. Inspect the mechanical lift before use.	

NASAL CANNULA CARE

<u>STEP</u>	<u>RATIONALE</u>
1. Do initial steps.	
2. Put on gloves (according to procedure #2).	2. Protects you from contamination by bodily fluids.
3. Remove nasal cannula and clean nostrils with a soft cloth or tissue once each shift or as needed.	3. Removes any accumulation of dried drainage that may be present.
4. Note any redness or irritation of the nares or behind the ears and notify nurse if present. Continue procedure only if instructed.	4. Provides nurse with necessary information to properly assess resident's condition and needs.
5. Replace nasal cannula.	
6. Remove gloves (according to procedure #2).	
7. Do final steps.	

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PALM CONES

<u>STEP</u>	<u>RATIONALE</u>
1. Do initial steps.	
2. Place palm grip or cone in cleansed and dried resident hand.	2. Cleansing and drying of hands prevents odor and infection.
3. Check hand(s) every shift; cleanse and dry hands. Check for areas of redness, swelling, or open areas and report to the nurse. Replace cone(s).	3. Allows you to identify early signs of skin breakdown.
4. Note covering of palm cone and send to laundry when soiled, re-covering cone with a clean covering.	4. Maintaining cleanliness enhances resident's dignity.
5. Do final steps.	

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PASSING FRESH ICE WATER

<u>STEP</u>	<u>RATIONALE</u>
1. Do initial steps.	
2. Obtain cart, ice container, and ice scoop and go to ice machine. Keep ice scoop covered.	
3. Fill container with ice using ice scoop.	
4. Replace ice scoop in proper covered container, or cover it with a clean towel or plastic bag to prevent contamination.	4. Keeping the ice scoop covered maintains infection control practices.
5. Proceed to resident rooms, noting any fluid restriction(s) prior to pass and any residents who require thickened liquids.	5. Residents who require a fluid restriction or thickened liquids should not have a water pitcher placed at the bedside unless facility policy states differently.
6. Empty water from pitcher and bedside glass into the sink.	6. Emptying the pitcher of old water will allow you to fill it with ice and fresh water. Emptying the glass will allow you to fill it with fresh water.
7. Take pitcher into hall and fill it with ice. NOTE: Do not touch the pitcher with the ice scoop.	7. The ice scoop is utilized for all residents thus should not be contaminated by touching a water pitcher.
8. Replace the scoop in covered container, clean towel or plastic bag between rooms to prevent contamination.	8. Maintains infection control practices.
9. Return to resident's room and fill pitcher with water at bathroom sink.	9. Ensures that resident has fresh ice water in pitcher.
10. Pour fresh water into bedside glass and leave a straw with the glass if needed.	10. Ensures that water is available and ready for resident when he/she desires it.
11. Offer the resident a drink of fresh water if resident is present.	11. Resident may be unable to independently get a drink of water.
12. Repeat procedure until all residents have been provided with fresh ice water.	12. Ensures that all residents receive fresh ice water.
13. Do final steps.	

POST-MORTEM CARE

<u>STEP</u>	<u>RATIONALE</u>
1. Do initial steps.	
2. Put on gloves (according to procedure #2).	2. Protects you from contamination by bodily fluids.
3. Respect the family's religious restrictions regarding the care of the body, if applicable.	3. Residents/families have the right to freedom of religion.
4. Assist roommate to leave the area until body is prepared and removed, if appropriate.	4. Reduces the roommate's stress.
5. Place body in supine position (according to procedure #3).	5. Prepares body for procedure.
6. Place one pillow beneath resident's head.	6. Prevents blood from discoloring the face by settling in it.
7. Close the eyes.	
8. Insert dentures, if this is the facility policy, and close the mouth.	8. It is easier to put dentures in the mouth right away and gives the face a natural appearance.
9. Cleanse body as necessary. Comb hair (according to procedure #29).	9. Prepares the body for viewing by family and friends.
10. Place a pad under the buttocks to collect any drainage.	10. Due to total loss of muscle tone, urine and/or stool may drain from the body even after death.
11. Put a clean hospital gown on resident and place body in a comfortable looking position to allow family and friends to view the body.	
12. Remove gloves (according to procedure #2).	
13. Do final steps.	
14. After the mortuary has removed the body, strip the bed and clean the room according to facility policy.	

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PROSTHESIS CARE	
<u>STEP</u>	<u>RATIONALE</u>
1. Do initial steps.	
2. Prepare affected area according to physician order. Observe affected area for skin breakdown or irritation, redness, or tenderness and notify nurse if present. Continue procedure only if instructed.	2. Allows you to identify early signs of skin breakdown.
3. Apply prosthesis according to manufacturer's directions.	3. Equipment used incorrectly may cause discomfort and injury to the resident.
4. Do final steps.	

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SCABIES TREATMENT

<u>STEP</u>	<u>RATIONALE</u>
1. Do initial steps.	
2. Put on gown.	
3. Put on gloves (according to procedure #2).	3. Use of gown and gloves maintains contact precautions. Scabies is spread by direct contact.
4. Shower resident (according to procedure #32).	4. Ensures resident is clean prior to application of prescribed lotion.
5. While in shower apply prescribed lotion obtained from nurse to entire body except face.	5. Utilizing prescribed lotion will kill the scabies. Lotion may be irritating to sensitive facial skin.
6. Allow the lotion to dry and assist resident to get dressed in clean clothes.	6. Lotion is left on the body thus should dry prior to dressing resident. Dressing the resident in clean clothing assists in the prevention of re-infestation.
7. 12-24 hours later, shower resident with regular soap (according to procedure #32) and dress in clean clothes.	7. Showering with regular soap will remove the medicated lotion. Medicated lotion left on the skin may be irritating. Dressing resident in clean clothes prevents reinfestation.
8. Strip bedclothes and send to laundry.	8. Prevents re-infestation of the resident and decreases risk of transmission to other residents.
9. Do final steps.	

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SHAMPOOING HAIR

<u>STEP</u>	<u>RATIONALE</u>
1. Do initial steps.	
2. Help resident into shower room.	2. Shampooing is usually done during the shower. The majority of long-term care residents are unable to maintain a position that would allow washing hair at the sink.
3. Help resident remove clothing and drape with a bath blanket.	3. Maintains resident's dignity and right to privacy by not exposing body. Keeps resident warm.
4. Turn on water and have resident check water temperature.	4. Resident's sense of touch may be different than yours, therefore, resident is best able to identify a comfortable water temperature.
5. Place cotton in the resident's ears, if he/she desires.	5. Keeps water from entering resident's ears.
6. Give the resident a washcloth to cover his/her eyes during the shampoo, if he/she desires.	6. Prevents soap and water from entering into resident's eyes.
7. Assist resident into the shower.	
8. Wet the resident's hair.	
9. Put a small amount of shampoo into the palm of your hand and work it into the resident's hair and scalp using your fingertips.	9. Utilizing fingertips massages the scalp and decreases the risk of scratching the resident.
10. Rinse the resident's hair thoroughly.	10. Leaving soap in the hair can cause excess dry scalp.
11. Use a conditioner if the resident desires you to do so, following steps 9 & 10.	
12. Shower resident (according to procedure #32).	
13. Turn off the water.	
14. Remove cotton balls from the resident's ears, if utilized.	
15. Dry the resident's neck and ears.	

SHOWERING A RESIDENT USING A SHOWER BED

<u>STEP</u>	<u>RATIONALE</u>
1. Do initial steps.	
2. Assist/transfer resident to shower bed and transport to shower room.	
3. Undress the resident.	
4. Turn on water and have resident check water temperature.	4. Resident's sense of touch may be different than yours, therefore, resident is best able to identify a comfortable water temperature.
5. Shampoo and rinse resident's hair, if necessary.	
6. Let resident wash as much as possible, starting with face.	6. Encourages resident to be independent.
7. Turn off the water.	
8. Pat dry the resident and cover him/her with a bath blanket.	8. Patting dry prevents skin tears and reduces chaffing. Covering with a bath blanket maintains resident's dignity and right to privacy by not exposing body and keeps resident warm.
9. Transport back to room and transfer back to bed.	
10. Dress resident (according to procedure #20) and comb resident's hair (according to procedure #29).	
11. Do final steps.	

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SPLINTING DEVICES	
<u>STEP</u>	<u>RATIONALE</u>
1. Do initial steps.	
2. Check affected joints. If swelling, redness, or warmth is present or if resident complains of pain, notify nurse. Continue procedure only if instructed.	2. Indicates inflammation in joint which can be worsened if splint is applied.
3. Apply splint according to therapy recommendations and physician's order.	3. Application of splint not in accordance with therapy recommendation could cause injury or discomfort to resident.
4. Remove splint after designated period of time again assessing for swelling, redness, warmth, or complaint of pain and notifying the nurse if present.	4. Indicates inflammation in joint. Notifying nurse provides him/her with information to assess resident's condition and needs.
5. Do final steps.	

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THICKENED LIQUIDS	
<u>STEP</u>	<u>RATIONALE</u>
1. Do initial steps.	
2. Obtain thickener and measuring spoon.	2. Measuring spoon is required to ensure proper amount of thickener is utilized to obtain desired thickness.
3. Thicken liquids to desired consistency following manufacturer's instructions.	3. Physician will specify thickness. Various brands of thickener require different amounts of product be added.
4. Offer fluids to resident.	4. Decreases risk of resident becoming dehydrated.
5. Ensure that water pitcher has been removed from the bedside unless facility policy states otherwise.	5. Resident may attempt to drink liquids that have not been thickened which will increase risk of choking.
6. Do final steps.	

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