

59A-18.0081 Certified Nursing Assistant and Home Health Aide.

The certified nursing assistant (C.N.A.) and the home health aide shall:

- (1) Be limited to assisting a patient in accordance with Section 400.506(10)(b), F.S.;
- (2) Be responsible for documenting services provided to the patient or client and for filing said documentation with the nurse registry on a regular basis. These service logs will be stored by the nurse registry in the client's file. The service logs shall include the name of the patient or client and a listing of the services provided;
- (3) Be responsible for observing appearance and gross behavioral changes in the patient and reporting these changes to the caregiver and the nurse registry or the registered nurse responsible for assessing the case when giving care in the home or to the responsible facility employee if staffing in a facility;
- (4) Be responsible to maintain a clean, safe and healthy environment, which may include light cleaning and straightening of the bathroom, straightening the sleeping and living areas, washing the patient's dishes or laundry, and such tasks to maintain cleanliness and safety for the patient;
- (5) Perform other activities as taught and documented by a registered nurse, concerning activities for a specific patient and restricted to the following:
 - (a) Assisting with the change of a colostomy bag, reinforcement of dressing;
 - (b) Assisting with the use of devices for aid to daily living such as a wheelchair or walker;
 - (c) Assisting with prescribed range of motion exercises;
 - (d) Assisting with prescribed ice cap or collar;
 - (e) Doing simple urine tests for sugar, acetone or albumin;
 - (f) Measuring and preparing special diets;
 - (g) Measuring intake and output of fluids; and
 - (h) Measuring temperature, pulse, respiration or blood pressure.
- (6) Be prohibited from changing sterile dressings, irrigating body cavities such as giving an enema, irrigating a colostomy or wound, performing gastric irrigation or enteral feeding, catheterizing a patient, administering medications, applying heat by any method, or caring for a tracheotomy tube.
- (7) For every CNA, a nurse registry shall have on file a copy of the person's State of Florida certification.
- (8) For every home health aide, a nurse registry shall have on file documentation of successful completion of at least forty hours of training, pursuant to Section 400.506(10)(a), F.S., in the following subject areas:
 - (a) Communication skills;
 - (b) Observation, reporting and documentation of patient status and the care or services provided;
 - (c) Reading and recording temperature, pulse and respiration;
 - (d) Basic infection control procedures;
 - (e) Basic elements of body functions that must be reported to the patient's registered nurse or physician;
 - (f) Maintenance of a clean, safe, and healthy environment;
 - (g) Recognition of emergencies and knowledge of emergency procedures;
 - (h) Physical, emotional, and developmental characteristics of the populations served by the registry, including the need for respect for the patient, his privacy, and his property;
 - (i) Appropriate and safe techniques in personal hygiene and grooming, including bed bath, sponge, tub, or shower bath; shampoo, sink, tub, or bed; nail and skin care; oral hygiene;
 - (j) Safe transfer techniques and ambulation;
 - (k) Normal range of motion and positioning;
 - (l) Adequate nutrition and fluid intake;
 - (m) The role of the aide in the home;
 - (n) Differences in families;
 - (o) Food and household management; and
 - (p) Other health-related topics pertinent to home health aide services offered in the home.
- (9) Individuals who earn their CNA certificate in another state must contact the Florida Certified Nursing Assistant office at the Department of Health to inquire about taking the written examination prior to working as a CNA in Florida, pursuant to Part II of Chapter 464, F.S.

(10) Home health aides who complete their training in another state must provide a copy of the course work and a copy of their training documentation to the nurse registry. If the course work is equivalent to Florida's requirements, the nurse registry may refer the home health aide for contract. If the home health aide's course work does not meet Florida's requirements, the home health aide must receive training in a school approved by the Department of Education to the extent necessary to bring the training into compliance with subsection 59A-18.0081(8), F.A.C., prior to being referred for contract.

(11) CNAs and home health aides referred by nurse registries must maintain a current CPR certification;

(12) C.N.A.s and home health aides referred by nurse registries may assist with self-administration of medication as described in Section 400.488, F.S.

(a) Home health aides and C.N.A.s assisting with self-administered medication, as described in Section 400.488, F.S., shall have received a minimum of 2 hours of training covering the following content:

1. Training shall cover state law and rule requirements with respect to the assistance with self-administration of medications in the home, procedures for assisting the resident with self-administration of medication, common medications, recognition of side effects and adverse reactions and procedures to follow when patients appear to be experiencing side effects and adverse reactions. Training must include verification that each C.N.A. and home health aide can read the prescription label and any instructions.

2. Individuals who cannot read shall not be permitted to assist with prescription medications.

(b) Documentation of training on assistance with self-administered medication from one of the following sources is acceptable:

1. Documentation of 2 hours of training in compliance with subsection 59A-8.0095(5), F.A.C., from a home health agency if the home health aide or C.N.A. previously worked for the home health agency;

2. A training certificate for 4 hours of training for assisted living facility staff in compliance with subsection 58A-5.0191(5), F.A.C.

3. A training certificate for at least 2 hours of training from a career education school licensed pursuant to Chapter 1005, F.S., and Chapter 6E, F.A.C., by the Department of Education, Commission for Independent Education.

(c) Documentation of the training must be maintained in the file of each home health aide and C.N.A. who assists patients with self-administered medication.

(d) In cases where a home health aide or a C.N.A. will provide assistance with self-administered medications as described in Section 400.488, F.S., and paragraph (e) below, a review of the medications for which assistance is to be provided shall be conducted by a registered nurse or licensed practical nurse to ensure the C.N.A. and home health aide are able to assist in accordance with their training and with the medication prescription. The patient or the patient's surrogate, guardian, or attorney in fact must give written consent for a home health aide or C.N.A. to provide assistance with self-administered medications, as required in Section 400.488(2), F.S.

(e) The trained home health aide and C.N.A. may also provide the following assistance with self-administered medication, as needed by the patient and as described in Section 400.488, F.S.:

1. Prepare necessary items such as juice, water, cups, or spoons to assist the patient in the self-administration of medication;

2. Open and close the medication container or tear the foil of prepackaged medications;

3. Assist the resident in the self-administration process. Examples of such assistance include the steadying of the arm, hand, or other parts of the patient's body so as to allow the self-administration of medication;

4. Assist the patient by placing unused doses of solid medication back into the medication container.

Specific Authority 400.497, 400.506 FS. Law Implemented 400.488, 400.497, 400.506 FS. History--New 1-27-94, Amended 12-24-00, 8-10-06, 3-15-07.