

SCOPE OF PRACTICE OF REGISTERED NURSES

The scope of practice of a registered nurse shall entail the following acts or procedures, which may be performed by scientifically based physical, chemical psychological, social, educational and technological means applicable to health care practice:

1. The diagnosis of a health need and the prescribing, provisions and execution of a nursing regimen to meet the need of a patient or group of patients, or where necessary, by referral to a registered person;
2. The execution of a program of treatment or medication prescribed by a registered person for a patient;
3. The treatment and care of and the administration of medicine to a patient, including the monitoring of the patient's vital signs and of his reaction to disease conditions, trauma, stress, anxiety, medication and treatment;
4. The prevention of disease and promotion of health and family planning by teaching to and counseling with, individuals and groups of persons;
5. The prescribing, promotion or maintenance of hygiene, physical comfort and reassurance of the patient;
6. The promotion of exercise, rest and sleep with a view to healing and rehabilitation of a patient;
7. The facilitation of body mechanics and the prevention of bodily deformities in a patient in the execution of the nursing regimen;
8. The supervision over and maintenance of a supply of oxygen to a patient;
9. The supervision over and maintenance of fluid, electrolyte and acid base balance of a patient;
10. The facilitation of the healing of wounds and fractures, the protection of the skin and the maintenance of sensory functions in the patient;
11. The facilitation of the maintenance of bodily regulatory mechanisms and functions in a patient;
12. The facilitation of the maintenance of nutrition of a patient;
13. The supervision over and maintenance of elimination by a patient;
14. The facilitation of communication by and with a patient in the execution of the nursing regimen;
15. The facilitation of the attainment of optimum health for the individual, the family, groups and the community in the execution of nursing regimen;
16. The establishment and maintenance, in the execution of the nursing regimen, of an environment in which the physical and mental health of a patient is promoted;
17. Preparation for and assistance with operative, diagnostic and therapeutic acts for the patient;
18. The co-ordination of the health care regimens provided for the patient by other categories of health personnel;
19. The provision of effective patient advocacy to enable the patient to obtain the health care he needs;
20. Care of the dying patient and the care of a recently deceased patient within the execution of the nursing regimen.