

**Minnesota Board of Nursing**  
**Nurse Practice Act - Minnesota Statute Section 148.171**

The Minnesota Nurse Practice Act was amended in 2013 to revise the definitions of professional and practical nursing. Definitions of the terms used within the scope of practice definitions are listed below, followed by the scope statements shown in a side-by-side format to assist in comparing and contrasting the respective scopes of practice. The subdivision numbers refer to the location of the terms within Minn. Stat. sec. 148.171. These amendments became effective on August 1, 2013. The full text of the Nurse Practice Act is available on the website of the Office of the Revisor: <https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/?id=148.171>

**"Assignment"** means the designation of nursing tasks or activities to be performed by another nurse or unlicensed assistive person. (Subd. 3a.)

**"Delegation"** 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. (Subd. 7a.)

**"Intervention"** means any act or action, based upon clinical judgment and knowledge that a nurse performs to enhance the health outcome of a patient. (Subd. 7b.)

**"Monitoring"** means the periodic inspection by a registered nurse or licensed practical nurse of a delegated or assigned nursing task or activity and includes: (1) watching during the performance of the task or activity; (2) periodic checking and tracking of the progress of the task or activity being performed; (3) updating a supervisor on the progress or completion of the task or activity performed; and (4) contacting a supervisor as needed for direction and consultation. (Subd. 8a.)

**"Patient"** means a recipient of nursing care, including an individual, family, group, or community. (Subd. 12a.)

**"Supervision"** means the guidance by a registered nurse in the accomplishment of a nursing task or activity. Supervision consists of monitoring, as well as establishing, the initial direction, delegating, setting expectations, directing activities and courses of action, evaluating, and changing a course of action. (Subd. 23.)

**"Unlicensed assistive personnel"** (UAP) means any unlicensed person to whom nursing tasks or activities may be delegated or assigned, as approved by the board. (Subd. 24)

**Minnesota Board of Nursing  
Nurse Practice Act - Minnesota Statute Section 148.171**

**Effective August 1, 2013  
Practice of Practical and Professional Nursing**

LPN Scope of Practice	RN Scope of Practice
<p><b>Subd. 14. Practice of practical nursing.</b> The "practice of practical nursing" means the performance, with or without compensation of those services that incorporates caring for individual patients in all settings through nursing standards recognized by the board at the direction of a registered nurse, advanced practice registered nurse, or other licensed health care provider and includes, but is not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) conducting a focused assessment of the health status of an individual patient through the collection and comparison of data to normal findings and the individual patient's current health status, and reporting changes and responses to interventions in an ongoing manner to a registered nurse or the appropriate licensed health care provider for delegated or assigned tasks or activities;</li> <li>(2) participating with other health care providers in the development and modification of a plan of care;</li> <li>(3) determining and implementing appropriate interventions within a nursing plan of care or when delegated or assigned by a registered nurse;</li> <li>(4) implementing interventions that are delegated, ordered, or prescribed by a licensed health care provider;</li> <li>(5) assigning nursing activities or tasks to other licensed practical nurses (LPNs);</li> </ul>	<p><b>Subd. 15. Practice of professional nursing.</b> The "practice of professional nursing" means the performance, with or without compensation of those services that incorporates caring for all patients in all settings through nursing standards recognized by the board and includes, but is not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) providing a comprehensive assessment of the health status of a patient through the collection, analysis, and synthesis of data used to establish a health status baseline and plan of care, and address changes in a patient's condition;</li> <li>(2) collaborating with the health care team to develop and coordinate an integrated plan of care;</li> <li>(3) developing nursing interventions to be integrated with the plan of care;</li> <li>(4) implementing nursing care through the execution of independent nursing interventions;</li> <li>(5) implementing interventions that are delegated, ordered, or prescribed by a licensed health care provider;</li> <li>(6) delegating nursing tasks or assigning nursing activities to implement the plan of care;</li> </ul>

<p>(6) assigning and monitoring nursing tasks or activities to unlicensed assistive personnel;</p> <p>(7) providing safe and effective nursing care delivery;</p> <p>(8) promoting a safe and therapeutic environment;</p> <p>(9) advocating for the best interests of individual patients;</p> <p>(10) assisting in the evaluation of responses to interventions;</p> <p>(11) collaborating and communicating with other health care providers;</p> <p>(12) providing health care information to individual patients;</p> <p>(13) providing input into the development of policies and procedures; and</p> <p>(14) accountability for the quality of care delivered, recognizing the limits of knowledge and experience; addressing situations beyond the nurse's competency; and performing to the level of education, knowledge, and skill ordinarily expected of an individual who has completed an approved practical nursing education program described in section 148.211, subdivision 1.</p>	<p>(7) providing safe and effective nursing care;</p> <p>(8) promoting a safe and therapeutic environment;</p> <p>(9) advocating for the best interests of individual patients;</p> <p>(10) evaluating responses to interventions and the effectiveness of the plan of care;</p> <p>(11) collaborating and coordinating with other health care professionals in the management and implementation of care within and across care settings and communities;</p> <p>(12) providing health promotion, disease prevention, care coordination, and case finding;</p> <p>(13) designing and implementing teaching plans based on patient need, and evaluating their effectiveness;</p> <p>(14) participating in the development of health care policies, procedures, and systems;</p> <p>(15) managing, supervising, and evaluating the practice of nursing;</p> <p>(16) teaching the theory and practice of nursing; and</p> <p>(17) accountability for the quality of care delivered, recognizing the limits of knowledge and experience; addressing situations beyond the nurse's competency; and performing to the level of education, knowledge, and skill ordinarily expected of an individual who has completed an approved professional nursing education program as described in section 148.211, subdivision 1.</p>
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