

REGISTERED NURSE , ADVANCED PRACTICE

KIND OF WORK

Certified advanced practice professional nursing work, with authorization to prescribe in the State of Minnesota.

NATURE AND PURPOSE

Under administrative direction, performs comprehensive assessment, evaluation and treatment management of common acute and chronic health issues. Incumbents provide direct client care and are afforded with latitude in providing in-depth nursing care.

This classification differs from the Registered Nurse, Principal in that incumbents have authority to prescribe and administer drugs and therapeutic devices; independence in assessment, diagnosis and treatment; and specific certification.

EXAMPLES OF WORK (A position may not include all the work examples given, nor does the list include all that may be assigned.)

Assesses clients for physical and psychosocial conditions by obtaining a comprehensive health history, performing a physical exam, and ordering diagnostic tests (e.g., laboratory tests and x-rays) if indicated.

Interprets health data to determine client's need for nursing/medical intervention by identifying wellness issues, risk factors, and variations from norms, and diagnosing common diseases.

Constructs and implements a nursing/medical plan of care for common acute health problems such as infections and minor injuries, psychiatric disorders, and chronic diseases such as diabetes, high blood pressure, and depression, by prescribing treatments including medication, nutrition, exercise and common nursing/medical interventions.

Provides direct client care when complex treatments are required by performing tasks such as suturing, colposcopies, nerve blocks, and minor surgery, such as biopsies.

Provides ongoing evaluation of client's nursing/medical plan of care by evaluating objective and subjective data, determining resolution of symptoms, and changing or modifying the treatment plan as needed.

Consults and collaborates with attending physician when the resident's condition exceeds the nurse practitioner's scope of practice.

Assesses educational needs of facility staff and provides learning opportunities by coordinating or teaching inservices relating to health issues and practices.

Provides health education to clients to promote awareness of and informed decisions about health care and lifestyle choices, and self-care skills.

KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ABILITIES REQUIRED

Knowledge of:

Current advanced nursing practices and medical practices sufficient to assess, evaluate and treat clients with the nurse practitioner's scope of practice.

Pharmaceuticals and therapeutic devices sufficient to prescribe, dispense and administer.

Preventive health care sufficient to teach and encourage informed decisions about health care and lifestyle choices, and self-care skills.

Related laws and regulations, e.g., Nurse Practice Act, Vulnerable Adults, Right to Know.

Skill in:

Human relations sufficient to establish rapport with clients and their families and work collaboratively with staff and other health professionals.

Ability to:

Listen, interpret and evaluate clients' concerns sufficient to determine their nursing/medical needs.

Integrate and assess medical data sufficient to develop a nursing/medical plan of care.

Teach others about good health practices.

Motivate others to follow medical advice and make healthy lifestyle decisions.

Communicate verbally and in writing.

Document medical/legal information.

LEGAL OR LICENSURE REQUIREMENTS

Incumbents must:

Possess Minnesota licensure and current registration as a registered nurse;

Have graduated from a program of study designed to prepare that individual for advanced practice as a nurse practitioner or clinical nurse specialist;

Be certified with a national professional nursing organization as a nurse practitioner, clinical nurse specialist, nurse anesthetist or nurse midwife; and

Have current authorization from the Minnesota Board of Nursing to prescribe drugs and therapeutic devices.

NOTE: All of the positions in this class are placed in an option reflecting its specific specialization and certification.

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Ckd.: 06/2002, 04/1998

T.C.: 3-10-2003
Former Title(s): Registered Nurse
Practitioner