

Delegating and Prioritizing Exercise Medical/Surgical Patient

Today you have the following team members working with you: an LPN/LVN and a CNA.

Step 1:

Obtain the following information on three patients. You might use information from the shift report, cardex, and medication administration record.

Name:

Medical Diagnosis:

Nursing care for today:

Activity:

Assistance needed with activity:

Diet:

Assistance or special needs related to diet:

Pain rating:

Medications ordered for pain:

Side effects of analgesics:

Safety issues:

IV fluids:

Medications: Fill out the information on the attached sheet for each medication.

State of fluid balance:

Labs scheduled for today:

How the labs relate to nursing care:

Diagnostics studies scheduled for today:

How the studies relate to nursing care:

Dressing changes:

Suctioning:

Enema:

Other treatments:

On another sheet of paper, fill in the following information for each medication to be administered while you are caring for this patient.

Name of medication:

1. Classification of the medication.
2. Reason why the medication was ordered.
3. When it will be administered.
4. Teaching that needs to be done relative to the medication.
5. Any special instructions regarding administration of this medication.

Which medication for each patient is most important to give on time?

Which medication can be given toward the end of the window of time and still be given "at the right time" without adverse effects?

Medications administered at other times:

What other medications are prescribed for the patient that were administered on the previous shift or will be administered on the next shift?

How will those medications affect the patient assessments and the care you will be giving this shift?

Step 2:

Visit each patient and perform a quick, two-minute assessment of both the patient and the patient's environment.

Step 3:

1. Prioritize which patient you should care for first, second, and third. Why?
2. What are the primary assessments/data collection that should be completed first for each patient? Why?
3. What nursing interventions need to be carried out for each patient?
4. What interventions will you do first?
5. Which of the above interventions can be delegated and to whom? Why?
6. What information will be given to the person to whom the task is delegated and what information will be collected after the task is finished?