Unit 1: Delegation
Z-Chapter 14
ONLINE CONTENT (1 H)
Melinda Pickens

Unit Objectives:

- Discuss personal accountability when delegating. (5,7)*
- Explain and apply the five rights of delegation in nursing practice. (3,5,6,7)*

*Course Objectives

Review Chapter 14 in your textbook and read the "National Guidelines for Nursing Delegation" document. Place your answers to the questions below in the Z-Chapter 14 dropbox by 0800 on 1/18/2024.

1. State **each** example provided of when the National Guidelines for Nursing Delegation may be applied? (**HINT**: 3 examples were given in the document)
   - APRNs when delegating to RNS, LPN/VN and assistive personnel (AP)
   - RNs when delegating to LPN/VNs and AP
   - LPN/VNs when delegating to AP

2. When do the National Guidelines for Nursing Delegation **not** apply?
   These guidelines do not apply to the transfer of responsibility for care of a patient between licensed health care providers, which is considered a handoff.

3. In your own words, respond to the following:
   a. Define delegation. – A task that is assigned to usually an AP that has the skills and knowledge that can carry it out and notify the nurse of any changes in the patient's health condition.
   b. Explain how delegation differs from assignment. – Assignment is something that you are expected to do as part of your job requirements and delegation is something that falls within those job requirements but may be needed done at a different time to improve or check on a patient's condition. For example, for AP blood sugars are part of their daily assignment, however if a nurse gets a new admitted patient and are having signs of hypo/hyperglycemia the nurse might delegate the task of asking an AP for a blood sugar check. Then it relies on communication between the two as well as re-evaluating the nurse of the patient's condition whether it improved or not.
   c. Does either delegation or assignment require supervision? If so, by whom?
   -Both delegation and assignment require supervision. Typically, the supervision for AP would be done by the RN to make sure that it was done. Going back to my previous example, patients that are ACHS must have their sugar checked before lunch or other meals, therefor it is the nurse's responsibility to make sure that the AP performed this task and if not delegate it to them or do it themselves. As for

delegation you need to make sure the task that has been delegated has been done and correctly.

4. Discuss the responsibilities of the delegator (licensed nurse) and the delegatee as they relate to delegation. (**HINT**: both the delegator and delegatee have several responsibilities).
   -Delegator responsibilities include determining patient needs and when to delegate, ensuring the availability to delegatee, and evaluating outcomes of and maintaining accountability for delegated responsibilities as well as two-way communication.
   -Delegatee responsibilities include accepting activites based on own competence level, maintaining competence for delegated responsibility, and maintaining accountability for delegated responsibility as well as training and education and two-way communication.

5. List **and** define (in your own words) the five rights of delegation.

   1.) Right task – This is a task that falls within the scope of practice or job description for who the task has been delegated too.
   2.) Right circumstance – If there is any change in the patient's status the person performing the task needs to notify the nurse in charge of them, so the nurse can reassess as needed.
   3.) Right person – Making sure that the task delegated falls within the skills and knowledge of the person the task is delegated too.
   4.) Right directions and communication – The licensed nurse should clarify and provide step by step directions on how and what they want performed for each patient to the delegatee.
   5.) Right supervision and evaluation – It is the nurses responsibility to follow up with the person who they delegated the task to, to assure that it was performed as well as evaluate the patient after and monitoring for any changes.

In order to receive full credit (1 H class time) for this assignment, it must be completed in its entirety by the due date/time assigned. Any assignments not completed in its entirety by the due date and time will result in missed class time and must be completed by the end of the semester to pass the course.