

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

**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)

The first example of when these guidelines may be applied is to APRNs when delegating to RNs, LPN/VNs, and AP. Another example is when RNs delegate to LPN/VNs, or AP. Lastly, when LPN/VNs delegate to AP.

2. When do the National Guidelines for Nursing Delegation **not** apply?

The National Guidelines for Nursing Delegation do not apply to the transfer of responsibility for the care of a patient between licensed HCPs such as RN to RN or LPN/VN to another LPN/VN, which is categorized as a handoff.

3. In your own words, respond to the following:
  - a. Define delegation.

Delegation is when an LPN/VN assigns tasks to an AP or when an RN assigns tasks to an AP, or LPN/VN that they are able to perform safely under their scope of practice.

- b. Explain how delegation differs from assignment.

Delegation differs from assignment in an assignment is the routine care and or procedures that can be practiced under the scope of an RN or LPN/VN. In delegation, licensed nurses are still responsible for the tasks that they have delegated to LPN/VNs or AP.

- c. Does either delegation or assignment require supervision? If so, by whom?

Delegation requires supervision in that the correct practices are being conducted properly and safely and to ensure that the delegated task is completed.

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).

Responsibilities of the delegator include ensuring the task at hand can be delegated. Next, the delegator must select the correct, competent individual to carry out the task. The delegator must evaluate the progress of the task being delegated. In addition, the licensed nurse needs to recognize patient needs and when to delegate. The licensed nurse is accountable for all tasks delegated. The delegatee is responsible for accepting tasks that they are competent in carrying out. They too are accountable/responsible for the delegated task.

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

The first right is the right task. This means being aware of whether or not the task you are delegating to an individual is appropriate and is covered under their scope of practice. It is important to know your facility's policies and procedures. The next right is the right circumstance. Only stable patients are to be delegated, if the condition of the patient were to change, it is imperative that the delegatee communicates this with the licensed nurse. At this time, the licensed nurse would reassess the patient and task. The right person is a group effort of nurse, facility, and delegatee ensuring that the person performing the task has the proper knowledge and skills to conduct the task. Right directions and communication consist of the delegator providing thorough directions and the delegatee asking and clarifying questions. The delegatee must accept the task and understand that they are not permitted to make any adjustments to the activity without first speaking with the nurse. Right supervision and evaluation means the nurse must oversee the task ensuring it is completed, and done correctly. If the delegate were to need anything, the nurse should be available. Once the activity is completed, the nurse should check that documentation has been completed.

***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.***