

**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) APRN’s when delegating to RNs, LPN/VNs and assistive personnel (AP). RNs when delegating to LPN/VNs and AP. LPN/VNs when delegating to APs (as allowed by state/jurisdiction).
2. When do the National Guidelines for Nursing Delegation **not** apply?  
The guidelines do not apply during the transfer of responsibility of patient care between licensed health care providers. This is known as a handoff.
3. In your own words, respond to the following:
  - a. Define delegation. Delegation is entrusting a qualified individual with a selected task to enhance patient needs.
  - b. Explain how delegation differs from assignment. Delegation differs from assignment in that assignment is a task or activity that is completed regularly, and a delegation is a task that is passed on to a competent staff member that does not traditionally complete said delegated task.
  - c. Does either delegation or assignment require supervision? If so, by whom? Yes, it is the licensed nurse responsibility as she/he continues to maintain overall accountability regardless of delegating the task, and when assigning responsibilities to an individual effective communication and collaboration by the licensed nurse is imperative for supportive patient directed care.
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). The responsibility of the delegator is to know what can be delegated in their state, be cognizant of the condition of the patient to which you are delegating the task, ensure that the delegatee has the competency level to perform the task, and supervise (communicate, surveil, evaluate, feedback) the task. The delegatee’s

responsibility is identifying strengths and weaknesses related to their assigned task, competency to perform the responsibility, and the task is within their scope of practice.

5. List **and** define (in your own words) the five rights of delegation. Right task: Delegatee must have the skillset to perform task, be within the parameters of policies/procedures of the facility and be within their job description. Right Circumstance: The reason for the delegation must be appropriate and the patient must be in stable condition. Right person: The task of delegation should be assigned to the appropriate person with the skills and knowledge to complete the activity. Right directions and communication: The delegatee must be able to understand what is being asked of them, communicate effectively, and not deviate from the activity without speaking the delegator. Right supervision and evaluation: The delegator is responsible for the patient. With that, the nurse is responsible for monitoring completion, documenting the task and being available to the delegatee.

***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.***