

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 1/13/2025.

1. State **each** example provided of when the National Guidelines for Nursing Delegation may be applied?
These guidelines are applied when APRNs delegate to RNs, LPNs, and APs, when RNs delegate to LPNs and APs, and when LPNs delegate to APs.
2. When do the National Guidelines for Nursing Delegation **not** apply?
These guidelines do not apply to the transfer of responsibility of care of patients between licensed care providers. This is considered handoff.
3. In your own words, respond to the following:
 - a. Define delegation. Delegation is the act of asking another individual to complete a task on your behalf. It can be considered asking for help.
 - b. Explain how delegation differs from assignment. An assignment is given to a licensed care provider, and that provider maintains primary responsibility of those patients. Delegation is a nursing activity or skill that is transferred from a licensed care provider to a delegatee. The provider still assumes primary responsibility.
 - c. Does either delegation or assignment require supervision? If so, by whom?
Delegation requires supervision from the licensed provider. It is the responsibility of the provider to ensure that the task was finished. An assignment does not require the same amount of supervision as delegation, however, a charge nurse may supervise a unit to ensure that patients are cared for in an appropriate and timely manner.
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 delegator must determine the patient’s needs and know when it is appropriate to delegate. They must ensure that a delegatee is available and able to do the task. Lastly, they must evaluate the completion of the task; they assume accountability. The delegatee must only accept tasks based on their competency level. They have a responsibility to follow up with the delegator the results or any complications of the task.
5. List **and** define (in your own words) the five rights of delegation.

Right Task: It is important to only delegate tasks to individuals that are permitted to complete those tasks.

Right Circumstance: Delegate tasks to a UAP only if the patient is in a stable condition.

Right person: Confirm that the task that you are delegating to this person is within their scope of practice and they are knowledgeable of the task.

Right Directions and Communication: When delegating a task, be sure to explain clearly what you are asking of the individual.

Right Supervision and Evaluation: As the delegator, it is your responsibility to follow up with the individual that the task was completed and charted.

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.