

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 1/12/2026.

1. State **each** example provided of when the National Guidelines for Nursing Delegation may be applied?

It may be applied when discrete task or data retrieval based on patients' condition and planned outcome. Another is task that the delegate is competent to do and is allowed to do according to your state regulations and organizational job descriptions and skills checklist. Lastly, task that the competent delegate has also agreed to do and understands preferred outcome, parameters, and how and when to report to the delegating RN.

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

It does not apply to professional nursing judgment, clinical reasoning, and critical decision making. Another reason is the nursing process, comprehensive assessment, nursing diagnosis, care planning, evaluation and care coordination. Lastly, patient education like education planning and comprehensive patient education are generally reserved for RN's.

3. In your own words, respond to the following:

- a. Define delegation. Delegation is when a certain role is in charge of the task but can be performed by another staff member and it is given to the other staff to provide equal task to certain personnel.
- b. Explain how delegation differs from assignment. Assignment is when a task is assigned to a certain personnel. Delegation is when an assignment can be passed onto another personnel that is qualified in their practice.
- c. Does either delegation or assignment require supervision? If so, by whom? Delegation requires supervision but for assignment it is a part of the role, so it does not need supervision. Supervision for delegation will be done by the person who delegated the task because it is their assignment and they are in charge of the outcome.

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 determine what and when to delegate tasks based on patients' needs and conditions, the state/jurisdiction's provisions

for delegation, and the employer policies and procedures. Must communicate with the delegatee who will be assisting in providing patient care. Also, must be available to the delegatee for guidance and questions. They must be able to follow up with the delegatee and the patient after the task is completed. Lastly, the nurse must provide feedback information about the delegated process and any issues that occurred. The responsibility of the delegatee is they must accept only the delegated responsibilities that he or she is appropriately trained and educated to perform and feels comfortable doing. Another one is they must maintain competency for the delegated task. Also they must communicate with the RN in charge of the patient. Lastly, they must verify acceptance of the delegated task to completely in a timely manner, document accurately and take responsibility for it getting done.

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

The five rights of delegation is the right task meaning the personnel with the delegated task performs the correct task needed and following the correct step to complete the task. Another right is under the right circumstance which mean it is under the right situation and the patient is stable and in decent condition. Next, it is to the right person meaning the personnel it is delegated to they have to be qualified to perform that task. Another is with the right directions and communication meaning description of the task is needed and the result that need to be reported. The last one is under the right supervision and evaluation meaning supervision needs to be done by the person responsible for the task being completed and make sure the evaluate the patient as well.

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.