

**655—6.2 (152) Minimum standards of nursing practice for registered nurses.**

**6.2(1)** The registered nurse shall recognize and understand the legal implications within the scope of nursing practice. The scope of nursing practice considered to be minimum standards of nursing practice shall not be interpreted to include those practices currently ascribed to the advanced registered nurse practitioner.

**6.2(2)** The registered nurse shall utilize the nursing process in the practice of nursing, consistent with accepted and prevailing practice. The nursing process is ongoing and includes:

- a.* Nursing assessments about the health status of an individual or group.
- b.* Formulation of a nursing diagnosis based on analysis of the data from the nursing assessment.
- c.* Planning of nursing care which includes determining goals and priorities for actions which are based on the nursing diagnosis.
- d.* Nursing interventions implementing the plan of care.
- e.* Evaluation of the individual's or group's status in relation to established goals and the plan of care.

**6.2(3)** The registered nurse shall conduct nursing practice by respecting the rights of an individual or group.

**6.2(4)** The registered nurse shall conduct nursing practice by respecting the confidentiality of an individual or group, unless obligated to disclose under proper authorization or legal compulsion.

**6.2(5)** The registered nurse shall recognize and understand the legal implications of accountability. Accountability includes but need not be limited to the following:

- a.* Performing or supervising those activities and functions which require the knowledge and skill level currently ascribed to the registered nurse and seeking assistance when activities and functions are beyond the licensee's scope of preparation.
- b.* Assigning and supervising persons performing those activities and functions which do not require the knowledge and skill level currently ascribed to the registered nurse.
- c.* Using professional judgment in assigning and delegating activities and functions to unlicensed assistive personnel. Activities and functions which are beyond the scope of practice of the licensed practical nurse may not be delegated to unlicensed assistive personnel. For the purposes of this paragraph, "unlicensed assistive personnel" does not include certified emergency medical services personnel authorized under Iowa Code chapter 147A performing nonlifesaving procedures for which those individuals have been certified and which are designated in a written job description, after the patient is observed by a registered nurse.
- d.* Supervising, among other things, includes any or all of the following:
  - (1) Direct observation of a function or activity.
  - (2) Assumption of overall responsibility for assessing, planning, implementing, and evaluating nursing care.
  - (3) Delegation of nursing tasks while retaining accountability.
  - (4) Determination that nursing care being provided is adequate and delivered appropriately.

*e.* Executing the regimen prescribed by a physician. In executing the medical regimen as prescribed by the physician, the registered nurse shall exercise professional judgment in accordance with minimum standards of nursing practice as defined in these rules. If the medical regimen prescribed by the physician is not carried out, based on the registered nurse's professional judgment, accountability shall include but need not be limited to the following:

- (1) Timely notification of the physician who prescribed the medical regimen that the order(s) was not executed and reason(s) for same.
- (2) Documentation on the medical record that the physician was notified and reason(s) for not executing the order(s).

*f.* Wearing identification which clearly identifies the nurse as a registered nurse when providing direct patient care unless wearing identification creates a safety or health risk for either the nurse or the patient.