

**481—53.9(135J) Nursing services.** Nursing services shall be planned and provided or supervised by a registered nurse who has a current Iowa license to practice nursing. The service shall be available 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

**53.9(1)** A registered nurse shall assess patient and family nursing needs and develop a nursing plan of care to meet these needs.

**53.9(2)** The nursing service staff shall:

- a.* Participate in IDT meetings to develop and amend the plan of care;
- b.* Provide nursing service in accordance with the overall plan of care developed by the IDT;
- c.* Consult with the patient and family regarding how to meet nursing and nursing-related needs of the patient;
- d.* Document nursing care given and observations made regarding patient, family reactions and status;
- e.* Consult with other care providers and the family to enhance continuity of care;
- f.* Develop and implement nursing service objectives, policies and procedures;
- g.* Develop job descriptions for all nursing personnel;
- h.* Establish staff schedules to meet patient and family needs and ensure 24-hour service;
- i.* Develop and implement orientation and training programs;
- j.* Develop and implement performance evaluation for the nursing staff;
- k.* Assign duties to nurses consistent with their education and experience; and
- l.* Facilitate periodic meetings of the professional nursing staff to evaluate the nursing care provided by hospice personnel.

**53.9(3)** Persons who are employed by, volunteer with or work under contract to a licensed hospice organization may administer medications only if they are also a licensed nurse, a licensed physician or a certified medication aide.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code section 135J.3(2).