

## Madison County Public Health

<b>POLICY:</b> GNF 27	<b>ISSUED:</b> 1/4/2011
<b>SUBJECT:</b> SKILLED NURSING SERVICES	<b>REVISED:</b>
	<b>REVIEWED:</b> 1/2012

**SCOPE OF PRACTICE:** Registered Nurses

**PURPOSE:** To assure continuity of care for clients going from hospital to home, along with meeting all regulatory guidelines for skilled admissions.

**POLICY:** The agency will provide skilled nursing therapeutic services to clients in their home as appropriate with the Iowa Nurse Practice Act.

**PROCEDURE:**

1. Skilled nursing services are provided under the direction and supervision of an agency registered nurse and in accordance with the plan of treatment established with the client's attending physician.
2. Duties of the registered nurse include but are not limited to the following:
  - a. Makes initial evaluation visit to apply admission criteria and determine client needs, and obtains necessary orders for treatment.
  - b. Notifies attending physician of evaluation visit findings and obtains his/her input to plan of care.
  - c. Regularly re-evaluates the client's nursing needs.
  - d. Initiates the plan of treatment and necessary revisions.
  - e. Provides appropriate preventive and rehabilitative nursing procedures.
  - f. Prepares clinical and progress notes.
  - g. Coordinates all services.
  - h. Reviews client plan of treatment and assures physician re-certification of services at least every sixty-two days.
  - i. Counsels the client and family in meeting nursing and related needs.
  - j. Obtains a discharge summary or history and physical from facility providing prior care to assure continuity of care and medications in the home setting.
  - k. When a need for health education and supervision has been established, nursing visits may be made without a physician's order for the purpose of providing instruction and health supervision. Instruction may include but not limited to disease prevention measures, rest and exercise, diet and nutrition, good hygiene practices, elimination and recreational activities.
  - l. Participates in staff education programs.
  - m. Supervises and teaches other personnel (nursing, CNA's, CMA and secretarial) the care services provided.
  - n. Coordinates and initiates discharge planning. In the event of client discharge

to another health care institution or agency, supervising RN will send a transfer form summarizing care received from agency.

- o. Supervises and coordinates all services provided to the client through the agency.