

ACE Recommendation for Limitations to Clinical Practice for Nursing Students

The following parameters are based upon state and federal guidelines for clinical learning. During clinical rotations students may NOT participate in the following clinical responsibilities:

1. Witness any consent forms.
2. Delegate tasks independently to facility personnel.
3. Give any intravenous medications (IV push) without direct supervision by a registered nurse.*
4. Perform any task that requires certification or advanced instruction. Examples of this are ACLS or PALS interventions, arterial blood gas puncture (ABGs), chemotherapy, central line removal (including PICC lines), participation in seclusion and restraint episodes and the intubation/extubation of patients.
5. Take, transcribe or verify physician orders either verbal or by phone.
6. Access medications (including controlled medications) independently from the medication dispensing system unless otherwise authorized by the clinical site.
7. Administer any drugs to patients without appropriate supervision. **
8. Be responsible to count end of shift controlled drug count or carry controlled drug keys in their possession.
9. Verify or hang blood administration or witness blood administration forms.
10. Perform any invasive procedure that is restricted by the facility.
11. Perform any skill or procedure that the student has not been instructed and evaluated in doing by the school or agency. It is the students' responsibility to communicate their clinical readiness to their Clinical Instructor or Preceptor.
12. Perform any task outside the nursing scope of practice or participate in any action that the facility restricts in their policies or procedures.
13. Provide care for patients that require specialized PPE.
14. Recommend OTC drugs, treatments or therapies not prescribed or ordered by someone with prescriptive authority to patients.
15. Verify settings or work with PCAs, epidural pumps or other intravenous drips independently.
16. Care for or make decisions independently concerning decompensating or critically ill patients.
17. Package or label drug supplies for any individual.
18. Chart independently of facility RN or Clinical Instructor/Scholar.

*Direct Supervision – The skill or procedure is visually witnessed by facility RN, Preceptor or Clinical Instructor/Scholar.

**Appropriate supervision is defined by the level of student, the policies/guidelines of the clinical site and Colorado State Board of Nursing Chapter 2 rules.