

CENTRAL MONTANA MEDICAL CENTER
Lewistown, Montana

Orig. Effec. Date: <u>4/16</u>
Approved By: <u>C. Birdwell RN</u>
Revised:
Approved By: _____

POLICY NO. ER-073
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SUBJECT: EMS SUPPORT IN THE ER

DEPARTMENT: ER

AFFECTED DEPARTMENTS: ER, EMS

POLICY

The ER can be extremely busy and extra help is required. During busy times the EMT who is covering 911 call will be required to assist in the Emergency Room. The EMT is considered a UAP. The UAP working in a facility's emergency department may receive delegation of advanced nursing tasks identified in the board of nursing rule 24.159.1636.

Criteria for delegation of nursing tasks rule 24.159.1611 board of nursing

A licensed nurse may only delegate nursing tasks to UAPs in accordance with these rules. Delegation of a nursing task to a UAP shall be based solely on the determination of the patient's nurse, who has personally assessed the patient's condition, and determined that delegation can be performed without jeopardizing the patient's welfare. Delegation shall be task-specific, patient-specific and UAP specific.

PURPOSE

Patient load in the Emergency Department can vary greatly. The EMT who is on call for 911 has the skill set required to assist the RN in the Emergency Room. The board of Nursing supports this as stated in the above rule.

PROCEDURE

1. The delegation is made in the Emergency Department
2. The delegation is for a patient seeking emergency health care services and the UAP
 - a. Is under the immediate supervision of the delegating nurse
 - b. Possesses current national registry of emergency medical technicians
 - c. Is competent to perform the advanced nursing tasks identified in this rule.
3. The delegating nurse must personally make a nursing assessment of the patient's care needs before delegating.
4. The delegating nurse must verify the UAPs competency to perform the specific task for the specific patient and provide instruction as necessary followed by re-verification of competency before delegating.
5. Inform the patient of the decision to delegate
6. The nursing task to be delegated must be:
 - a. Within the area of responsibility, scope of practice and competency of the nurse delegating the task
 - b. One which does not require complex observations, critical decision-making, exercise of nursing judgement or repeated nursing assessments
 - c. One which is frequently performed and is generally considered technical in nature.
 - d. One for which results are reasonably predictable and which has minimal potential for risks
 - e. One which can be safely performed according to exact unchanging directions.

7. A UAP working in the facility's emergency department may receive delegation of the following nursing tasks:
 - a. Insertion of peripheral IV catheters
 - b. Hanging without additives initial IV fluids including:
 - i. Lactated Ringers
 - ii. Normal Saline
 - iii. 5 percent dextrose in sterile water (D5W)
 - iv. 5 percent dextrose in normal saline (D5NS)
 - v. 5 percent dextrose in .45 percent saline (D5 ½ NS)
 - vi. 5 percent dextrose in Lactated Ringers (D5LR)
 - c. Airway management per skill set

DOCUMENTATION

The UAP will only document on the E-form titled EMS flowsheet

This will include:

1. Vital signs with no interpretation
2. Placing monitor leads with no interpretation
3. EKG
4. IV site, gauge, fluids hung
5. Chief complaint
6. Intake and Output
7. O2 Sat, application of O2 and method

General nursing functions that cannot be delegated (rule 24.159.1625)

The following nursing functions require nursing knowledge, judgement and skill and may not be delegated.

1. Nursing assessment
2. Med administration of any kind
3. Development of the nursing diagnosis
4. Establishment of the nursing care goal
5. Development of the nursing care plan
6. Evaluation of the patient's progress or lack of progress toward goal achievement
- 7.

A nurse may not delegate to a UAP the authority to receive verbal orders from providers.

A nurse may not delegate to a UAP the task of teaching or counseling patients or patient's family relating to nursing and nursing services.