

HOSPICE AIDE COMPETENCY EVALUATION

Name: _____ **Date:** _____

Score: Section 1: _____ **2:** _____ **3:** _____ **4:** _____ **5:** _____ **6:** _____ **7:** _____

I. Observation and Reporting

1. ***Mr. Jones pulse rate is usually 64-70. When you take it today it is 52. You should:***
 - a. Wait 30 minutes and recheck it.
 - b. Tell the patient to go to the doctor.
 - c. Call the nurse or supervisor immediately.

2. ***Mr. Smith tells you he feels as if he is going to vomit after taking his new medicine the doctor ordered so he is not taking it. You should:***
 - a. Tell his wife to make him take it.
 - b. Tell him to take it with 7-Up.
 - c. Tell him you will call the supervisor about what he should do.
 - d. Tell him he must take it if he wants to get well.

3. ***While bathing the patient the Hospice Aide has an opportunity to:***
 - a. Talk about your personal life.
 - b. Think about your personal life.
 - c. Visit with the family.
 - d. Observe the skin condition, mobility and movement of the patient.

4. ***When reporting a change in your patient's pulse, temperature or respiration, you need to specify all of the following except:***
 - a. Method of measuring body temperature (oral, rectal, auxiliary).
 - b. The exact time the temperature, pulse and respirations were taken.
 - c. Any other complaints the patient may be expressing (pain, stress, etc.).
 - d. Why you were late getting to the patient's home.

5. ***When reporting or recording information it is important to:***
 - a. Report and record exactly how you feel about the situation.
 - b. Report and record exactly what you see.
 - c. Report and record what the family feels is wrong.
 - d. Report and record what the nurse feels is wrong.

II. Infection Control

1. *Good handwashing technique is important because:*

- a. It prevents the spread of germs.
- b. It is required by the health department.
- c. Its good for the patients morale.

2. *The perineal area is washed:*

- a. From front to back
- b. From back to front.
- c. It doesn't matter.

3. *Wearing disposable gloves while giving personal care:*

- a. Means your patient has an incurable disease.
- b. Protects both you and the patient from the spread of germs.
- c. Is never necessary unless the patient has AIDs.

4. *When handling dirty linens and clothing it is best to:*

- a. Put the dirty linens and clothing on the floor.
- b. Shake linens and clothing before washing them.
- c. Place dirty linens and clothing in clothes hamper or plastic bag until they can be washed.

5. *When considering the Hospice Aide's role in reducing the spread of germs, the Hospice Aide would do all of the following but:*

- a. Cover nose and mouth when sneezing or coughing.
- b. Go to work even when you are ill.
- c. Wash hands after handling soiled items such as linens, clothing, garbage, etc.
- d. To protect self, clean and cover cuts and breaks in the skin.

III. Basic Elements in Body Functioning and Abnormalities Reported to RN

1. ***A five (5) pound weight gain in two days:***
 - a. Is normal and nothing to be worried about.
 - b. Shows that the patient has been eating too many sweets.
 - c. Should be reported to the nurse.

2. ***Mrs. Smith's catheter bag contains a very large amount of dark red urine. You should:***
 - a. Encourage her to drink more fluids.
 - b. Empty the bag.
 - c. Call your supervising nurse as soon as possible.

3. ***A red spot over the patient's hip joint:***
 - a. Might develop into a bedsore.
 - b. Is a normal sign of old age.
 - c. Should be treated with a heat lamp.

4. ***When observing the patient's bowel habits, the following should be reported to the nurse immediately:***
 - a. Symptoms of pain, abdominal swelling, or cramping.
 - b. Patient not passing gas.
 - c. Bowel movements occurring every other day.

5. ***Ms. Whit, who lives alone, is usually talkative during her bath. Today she says very little, appears anxious and worried and has difficulty speaking. When would you report Ms. Whit's change of condition to your supervisor?***
 - a. At the next case conference.
 - b. At the end of the day.
 - c. As soon as possible after making the observation.

IV. Maintenance of a Clean, Safe and Healthy Environment

1. ***Before transferring a patient from the bed to a wheelchair, it is always necessary to:***
 - a. Put a pillow in the seat.
 - b. Put a blanket over the seat and back.
 - c. Lock the wheelchair brakes.
 - d. Unlock the wheelchair brakes.

2. ***Prior to assisting the patient into the tub or shower, as a safety factor, you should check for:***
 - a. A rubber mat for the tub or shower.
 - b. Lotion for his/her skin.
 - c. Comfortable water temperature.
 - d. Both a. & c.

3. ***Regardless of the type of bath given to the elderly, the temperature of the water is important because:***
 - a. You can not get them clean unless it is hot enough.
 - b. You have to follow the procedure manual.
 - c. Elderly skin is more delicate and burns easily.
 - d. We have to keep the family happy.

4. ***Wrinkles in the patient's bed linens may cause:***
 - a. No problems.
 - b. The linens to wear out.
 - c. Contractures.
 - d. Bedsores.

5. ***Which one of the following statements is not true:***
 - a. Puddles of water or other liquids should be mopped up immediately to avoid falls.
 - b. Always be sure electrical cords are not lying in open walk areas.
 - c. If someone in a house uses a cane or a walker, it is a good idea to cushion the floor by using lots of throw rugs.
 - d. Cleaning supplies and other dangerous substances should be kept in a safe, secure cabinet or area.

V. Recognizing Emergencies and Knowledge of Emergency Procedures

1. ***Mr. Jones lives alone and never goes out of the house. When you arrive at his home, the door is locked and although it is in the middle of the day, you can see the lights turned on in the living room. When you knock, you can hear a low moan coming from somewhere in the house, you should:***
 - a. Come back later.
 - b. Get to the nearest telephone and call your Hospice agency.
 - c. Break a window and climb in.
 - d. Keep knocking until he opens the door.

2. ***Fire safety instruction is important because:***
 - a. The supervisor says it is.
 - b. The patient will think you are great.
 - c. It prepares you to know proper emergency action in case of fire.
 - d. It will look good on your visit record.

3. ***Upon arriving at your patient's home, she tells you that she spilled boiling water on her hand while trying to cook. You should:***
 - a. Cover the area with Vaseline.
 - b. Apply cold water or ice to the area if there is no break in the skin and notify the supervisor.
 - c. Scold the patient for being in the kitchen.

4. ***Your patient, who is awake and alert, begins to complain of heaviness in the chest and nausea. You should:***
 - a. Run to the neighbors for help.
 - b. Begin CPR.
 - c. Call your supervisor immediately and follow the instructions given by the supervisor.
 - d. Give him some heart medicine you know he used to take for chest pain.

5. ***If your patient falls while you are in the home, you should not do which of the following:***
 - a. If excessive bleeding occurs, apply a pressure dressing with a clean cloth or sterile gauze.
 - b. Move the patient to the bed to make him more comfortable.
 - c. Watch for symptoms of shock - paleness, skin cold and clammy, weakness, nausea, etc.
 - d. Call you supervisor immediately.

VI. Physical, Emotional and Developmental Needs - Respect for Privacy and Property

- 1. *Mr. Dodd is eating lunch when you arrive at his home. Your assignment is to take his vital signs and assist him in and out of the bathtub. Which of the following answers is correct?***
 - a. Tell him to finish his lunch later because you have three more patients to see today.
 - b. Allow him to finish his lunch, then do the bath and take his vitals signs last.
 - c. Allow him to finish his lunch, rest for at least ten (10) minutes take the vital signs and then do the bath.

- 2. *When performing any procedure in which a body part is exposed, keep the patient covered with a blanket as much as possible.***
 - a. This is important because the patient has the right to dignity and privacy.
 - b. It is not necessary to do this because it is easier to give care without having blankets get in the way.
 - c. It is better to just turn up the heat to keep the patient warm.

- 3. *A patient, Miss Green, tells you she is very upset with you and demands you to tell her the supervisor's name so she can call and report you. The correct action is:***
 - a. Tell her you are doing the best you can.
 - b. Leave her home and go to the next patient.
 - c. Refuse to see her again.
 - d. Give her the supervisor's name and phone number.

- 4. *Your patient asks you what his diagnosis is and if he is going to die. You should:***
 - a. Ignore the question.
 - b. Tell him that you do not know the answer, but that you will have your nursing supervisor come talk to him.
 - c. Tell him to call his doctor.

- 5. *When caring for a patient who is from another culture than yours, remember that:***
 - a. The patient lives in Missouri now and should change their way to conform to Missouri culture.
 - b. The patient's response to grief and pain should be the same as yours.
 - c. Family habits and religious practices will affect the way the patient responds to the care you provide.

VII. Adequate Nutrition and Fluid Intake

1. ***Elderly patients may not eat a well-balanced diet due to:***
 - a. Loss of the ability to taste food well.
 - b. Weakness and fatigue.
 - c. All of the above.

2. ***Fiber or roughage in the diet:***
 - a. Has no effect on the digestive tract.
 - b. Helps food move through the digestive tract.
 - c. Helps people to chew food better.
 - d. Add lots of cholesterol to the diet.

3. ***Very good sources of protein are:***
 - a. Beans, peanut butter and eggs.
 - b. Green salads and cooked greens.
 - c. Potatoes and noodles.
 - d. Apples and oranges.

4. ***Which one of the following statements is correct:***
 - a. Always feed a patient - never let him feed himself.
 - b. All food served to the patient should be lukewarm.
 - c. Before serving the meal, it is important to be sure the patient is clean and comfortable.

5. ***When the plan of care requires you to increase fluids, which food would not be encouraged:***
 - a. Milkshakes.
 - b. Gelatin.
 - c. Potato chips.
 - d. Broth.

Scored By: _____

Score by section. No more than one question may be missed per section.

WRITTEN EXAM KEY

Four [4] of the five [5] questions in each section must be answered correctly to pass the written exam.

Section I

1. *c*
2. *c*
3. *d*
4. *d*
5. *b*

Section II

1. *a*
2. *a*
3. *b*
4. *c*
5. *b*

Section III

1. *c*
2. *c*
3. *a*
4. *a*
5. *c*

Section IV

1. *c*
2. *d*
3. *c*
4. *d*
5. *c*

Section V

1. *b*
2. *c*
3. *b*
4. *c*
5. *b*

Section VI

1. *c*
2. *a*
3. *d*
4. *b*
5. *c*

Section VII

1. *c*
2. *b*
3. *a*
4. *c*
5. *c*

Name: _____

Date: _____

HOSPICE AIDE SKILLS COMPETENCY CHECKLIST

Task	Date	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	RN Signature
I. Temperature, Pulse, Respiration, Blood Pressure				
A. Temperature [only one type required] - Oral - Rectal - Axillary				
B. Pulse [only one required] - Radial - Apical - Other _____				
C. Respirations				
D. Blood Pressure				
II. Bed Bath Comments:				
III. Other Bath [All required] A. Sponge B. Tub C. Shower Comments:				
IV. Shampoo [All required] A. Sink B. Tub C. Bed Comments:				
V. Nail and Skin Care Comments:				
VI. Oral Hygiene Comments:				
VII. Toileting and Elimination Comments:				

