

Board of Nursing Rule IDAPA 23.01.01.400: Delegation

**02. Deciding to Delegate.** When delegating nursing care, the licensed nurse retains accountability for the delegated acts and the consequences of delegation. Before delegating any task the nurse shall: (5-3-03) **a.** Determine that the acts to be delegated are not expressly prohibited by the Nursing Practice Act or Board rules and that the activities are consistent with job descriptions or policies of the practice setting; (7-1-96) **b.** Assess the client's status and health care needs prior to delegation, taking into consideration the complexity of assessments, monitoring required and the degree of physiological or psychological instability;(7-1-96) **c.** Exercise professional judgment to determine the safety of the delegated activities, to whom the acts may be delegated, and the potential for harm; (5-3-03) **d.** Consider the nature of the act, the complexity of the care needed, the degree of critical thinking required and the predictability of the outcome of the act to be performed; (5-3-03) **e.** Consider the impact of timeliness of care, continuity of care, and the level of interaction required with the patient and family; (5-3-03) **f.** Consider the type of technology employed in providing care and the knowledge and skills required to effectively use the technology, including relevant infection control and safety issues; (7-1-96) **g.** Determine that the person to whom the act is being delegated has documented education or training to perform the activity and is currently competent to perform the act; and (7-1-96) **h.** Provide appropriate instruction for performance of the act. (5-3-03) **03. Monitoring Delegation.** Subsequent to delegation, the licensed nurse shall: (5-3-03) **a.** Evaluate the patient's response and the outcome of the delegated act, and take such further action as necessary; and (5-3-03) **b.** Determine the degree of supervision required and evaluate whether the activity is completed in a manner that meets acceptable outcomes. The degree of supervision shall be based upon the health status and stability of the patient, the complexity of the care and the knowledge and competence of the individual to whom the activity is delegated. (5-3-03)