

Handout 1: The Home Health Aide and Care Team

Identify the role of each healthcare team member.

Matching – for each of the following terms, write the letter of the correct definition from the list below:

1. _____ Supervisor or Case Manager
 2. _____ Home Health Aide (HHA)
 3. _____ Medical Social Worker
 4. _____ Occupational Therapist (OT)
 5. _____ Physical Therapist (PT)
 6. _____ Physician (MD)
 7. _____ Registered Dietitian (RDT)
 8. _____ Registered Nurse (RN)
 9. _____ Speech/Language Pathologist (SLP)
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- a. Works with patients to restore function and prevent disability after a disease, injury, or loss of a body part
 - b. Assesses, provides intervention, evaluates, educates the patient and family (examples of care include wound care, diabetic education, lab draws)
 - c. Diagnoses disease or disability and is authorized to prescribe treatment or medications
 - d. The person who develops and supervises each patient’s care plan and can make changes to the care plan when necessary
 - e. Assists individuals and families with social and/or psychological issues as well as coordinating community resources
 - f. Performs assigned tasks, such as taking vital signs, and provides personal care
 - g. Teaches patients and their families about diet/nutrition
 - h. Treats patients with speech disorders or helps to improve speech impediments
 - i. Teaches patients how to complete essential daily living tasks (self-care education and ADL’s)

Handout 1: The Home Health Aide and Care Team

ANSWER SHEET

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1. d Supervisor or Case Manager
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 3. e Medical Social Worker (MSW)
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 5. a Physical Therapist (PT)
 6. c Physician (MD)
 7. g Registered Dietitian (RDT)
 8. b Registered Nurse (RN)
 9. h Speech/Language Pathologist (SLP)
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HANDOUT #2: Case Scenario Activity

Mr. Smith has just recently suffered from a stroke. He has left sided weakness, his speech is slurred, and he is now on a medicine that makes his blood thin. He lives with his elderly wife who is trying her best to care for him. He can walk slowly with a 4-prong cane and needs assistance with his personal hygiene.

Could this patient benefit from home care?

What services could he benefit from?

Place an X mark beside the services that you think could assist him and provide an explanation of why you think these services would be helpful.

_____ RN: _____

_____ PT: _____

_____ OT: _____

_____ Home Care Aide: _____

_____ Speech Therapy: _____

_____ Chaplin: _____

_____ Social Worker: _____

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ANSWER SHEET

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Place an X mark beside the services that you think could assist him and provide an explanation of why you think these services would be helpful.

 X RN: Assessment of overall condition, blood draws to monitor how thin the blood is, patient and family education

 X PT: Exercises, home evaluation for safety and equipment, lower extremity strengthening, teaching use of home equipment

 X OT: Same as PT but upper extremity and focus on ADL's

 X Home Care Aide: Personal care, respite for wife, some IADL's

 X Speech Therapy: Assess swallowing – is thickener needed, assess aspiration risk, assess and provide intervention for communication issues

 X Chaplin: For patient and wife – coping, spiritual support

 X Social Worker: Long-term planning, advanced care directives, community resources and planning

Handout 3: Competency/Skills Validation

The following is a list of what a nurse aide supervisor may look for when validating an employee’s skills. This can be checked annually, initially (first day on site), or to validate a new task that has been assigned.

A nurse aide provides direct patient care according to the individualized plan under the direction and supervision of the registered nurse	The nurse aide complies with patient safety policies and procedures and uses proper body mechanics and assistive devices safely and appropriately when moving patients
Bathing: bed, sponge, tub, shower partial, total	Transfer: bed to chair, wheelchair, slide board
Mouth Care: dentures, teeth, oral swab	Mechanical Lift
Skin Care: lotion, back rub, massage	Walking Assist: standby, cane, walker, crutch, prosthesis
Shave: electric, disposable	Gait Belt
Hair Care	Turn patient every 2 hours
Nail Care (file only)	Range of motion exercises: passive, active
Bed Making: occupied, unoccupied	Uses proper precautions
Dress: total, assist	Aspiration
Assists with patient’s nutritional needs	Falls
Prepare Meal: regular, low salt, low fat, diabetic, soft, other special diet	Skin
Assist patient with dining: assist, complete	Oxygen
Provides for patient’s elimination needs	Diabetic
Bedpan, urinal, bedside commode, bathroom	Bleeding
Adult brief, incontinence pads, perineal care	Shopping and Errands
Catheter Care: empty bag, perineal care, condom catheter	Uniform/Nametag
Procedures	Complies with policies related to code procedures
TED hose application	Oxygen
Prepared medication reminder	Incorporates principles of infection control in patient care, utilizing standard precautions on all patients
Weight	Complies with current hand hygiene guidelines
Glucose monitoring	Monitors patient for signs and symptoms of infection and reports these to the RN
Provides basic home management tasks	Monitors patient safety
Floor Care: sweep, vacuum, mop	Garbage disposal
Linen change, bed making	The nurse aide complies with agency’s ethical standards
Dusting furniture	Patient Rights and Responsibilities
Bathroom Maintenance: tub, sink, toilet	Confidentiality/HIPAA
Understands limitations of home management tasks – No Heavy Lifting	Age specific competency checklist
Meal Preparation	Cultural competencies
Provides kitchen maintenance	Emergency preparedness
Use of appliances	Explains procedures to follow in the event of a disaster
Proper food storage/handling	The nurse aide communicates relevant patient information
Dishwashing	Interactions with patient, family, supervisor
Clean countertops	Reports patient response to care to RN
The nurse aide organizes nursing care for a group of patients	
Completes assignments within allotted time frame	

Please note – there is not a separate skills competency testing for listing on the Nurse Aide I Registry as a Home Care Aide. These are skills that may be required by the employer and are helpful in the role of the Home Care Aide.