Nursing Roles in a Point of Dispensing Station

Satellite Conference and Live Webcast
Tuesday, February 26, 2013
9:30 – 11:30 a.m. Central Time

Produced by the Alabama Department of Public Health
Video Communications and Distance Learning Division

Objectives

• List the roles of a nurse during a Point of Dispensing (POD)
• List the duties of each nursing role in a POD

Nurse in Charge

• Qualifications
  – Registered Nurse (RN)
  – Strategic National Stockpile (SNS) Training required
  – The first SNS trained RN to arrive on the scene prior to the beginning of operations will be designated the Nurse in Charge

• Duties
  – Coordinates with POD Facility Manager and EMA to determine POD layout and operations
  – Orients staff on patient assessment methods and makes staff assignments

Faculty

Marilyn Knight, MSN, RN
Nurse Educator
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Nurse in Charge

– Manages flow of patient assessment operations
– Assesses, communicates, and manages staffing and supply needs
Nurse in Charge
– Serves as a technical resource to the nursing staff conducting intake assessments
– Functions as an intake assessor when needed

Symptomatic Intake Triage Nurse
• Qualifications
  – Registered Nurse
  – SNS training preferred but not mandated
    • Just in time training acceptable

Symptomatic Intake Triage Nurse
• Duties
  – Assesses patients for signs and symptoms of potential disease processes prior to entrance into the POD

Intake Triage Nurse
• Qualifications
  – Registered Nurse
  – SNS Training preferred, but not mandated
    • Just in time training acceptable

Intake Triage Nurse
• Duties
  – Reviews the patient intake form for completeness, medication history, and allergies
  – Confirms form responses are correct
**Intake Triage Nurse**
- Chooses the most appropriate medication therapy based on form responses
- Directs the patient to the appropriate dispensing station

**Station 3 Triage Nurse**
- Qualifications
  - Registered Nurse
  - SNS Training preferred, but not mandated
    - Just in time training acceptable

**Station 3 Triage Nurse**
- Duties
  - Works as a member of a three person (physician, nurse, pharmacist) team to determine if treatment is possible based on the patient's complex medical conditions

**Dispensing Nurse**
- Qualification
  - Registered Nurse
  - SNS POD training preferred but not mandated
    - Just in time training acceptable

**Dispensing Nurse**
- Duties
  - Reviews presented prescriptions from the patient intake form
  - Reviews the patient medication history, allergies, contraindications, and determines if chosen medication therapy is correct
Dispensing Nurse

- Provides abbreviated counseling regarding the chosen medication therapy including the importance of completing the entire medication regimen to the patient
- Provides drug information sheets for the medication dispensed

Dispensing Nurse

- Provides appropriate medication
- Provides Notification to Primary Care Provider Forms to patients receiving medication
- Provides Referral Forms to patients that will require a medical evaluation before medications can be provided

First Aid Nurse

- Qualifications
  - Registered Nurse
  - Advance specialization or registered nurse practitioner preferred
  - SNS training preferred, but not mandated
  - Just in time training acceptable

First Aid Nurse

- Good physical and observational assessment skills, as well as interpersonal communication skills

First Aid Nurse

- Duties
  - Assists patients that become ill or that may have suffered an injury while in the POD
  - Questions patient regarding their current physical status
  - Employs observational skills to assess physical status of the patient

First Aid Nurse

- Documents assessment findings on patient assessment form
- Provides appropriate intervention, up to and including referral to hospital