

WAC 246-840-920 Definitions. The following definitions apply to WAC 246-840-910 through 246-840-970.

(1) "Authorized representative" means a person allowed to provide written consent for health care on behalf of a patient who is not competent to consent. Such person shall be a member of one of the classes of persons as directed in RCW 7.70.065.

(2) "Coercion" means to force or compel another, by authority, to do something that he/she would not otherwise choose to do.

(3) "Complex task" means that a nursing task may become more complicated because of:

(a) The patient's condition;

(b) The setting;

(c) The nursing care task(s) and involved risks; and

(d) The skill level required to perform the task.

The registered nurse delegator identifies and facilitates additional training of the nursing assistant or home care aide prior to delegation in these situations. The registered nurse delegator decides if the task is not delegable. In no case, may administration of medications by injection with the exception of insulin injections, sterile procedures and central line maintenance be delegated.

(4) "Direct supervision" means the registered nurse delegator on the premises, quickly and easily available and the patient assessment by the registered nurse delegator occurs prior to the delegation of the duties to any care giver.

(5) "Home care aide" means a person certified under chapter 18.88B RCW.

(6) "Immediate supervision" means the registered nurse delegator is on the premises, within audible and visual range of the patient and the patient assessment by the registered nurse delegator occurs prior to the delegation of duties to any care giver.

(7) "Indirect supervision" means the registered nurse delegator is not on the premises. The registered nurse delegator previously provided written instructions for the care and treatment of the patient. The registered nurse delegator documents in the patient record the instruction to the nursing assistant or home care aide, observation of the delegated task, and confirmation of the nursing assistant's or home care aide's understanding the directions.

(8) "Medication assistance" as defined in chapter 246-888 WAC does not require delegation by a licensed nurse.

(9) "Nursing assistant" means a nursing assistant-registered under chapter 18.88A RCW or a nursing assistant-certified under chapter 18.88A RCW, providing support and care to individuals served by certified community residential programs for the developmentally disabled, to individuals residing in licensed adult family homes, to in-home care and to individuals residing in assisted living facilities.

(10) "Outcome" means the end result or consequence of an action after following a plan of care.

(11) "Patient" means the individual receiving nursing care tasks. In the community residential settings, the patient may be a client, consumer, or resident.

(12) "Personal care services" as defined in WAC 388-106-0010 do not require delegation by a licensed nurse.

(13) "Procedure" means a series of steps with a desired result; a particular course of action or way of doing something.

(14) "Registered nurse delegation" means the registered nurse transfers the performance of selected nursing tasks to competent nursing assistants or home care aides in selected situations. The regis-

tered nurse delegating the task retains the responsibility and accountability for the nursing care of the patient.

(15) "Stable and predictable condition" means the registered nurse delegator determines the patient's clinical and behavioral status is nonfluctuating and consistent. Stable and predictable may include a terminally ill patient whose deteriorating condition is expected. Stable and predictable may include a patient with sliding scale insulin orders. The registered nurse delegator determines the patient does not require frequent nursing presence and evaluation.

(16) "Supervision" means the guidance and evaluation by a registered nurse delegator for the accomplishment of a nursing task or activity, including the initial direction of the task or activity; periodic inspection at least every ninety days of the actual act of accomplishing the task or activity; and the authority to require corrective action.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 18.79.110, 18.79.260, 2012 c 164, and 2012 c 10. WSR 13-15-063, § 246-840-920, filed 7/15/13, effective 8/15/13. Statutory Authority: RCW 18.79.110, 18.79.260, 18.88A060 [18.88A.060], and 18.88A.210. WSR 09-06-006, § 246-840-920, filed 2/18/09, effective 3/21/09. Statutory Authority: Chapters 18.79 and 18.88A RCW. WSR 02-02-047, § 246-840-920, filed 12/27/01, effective 1/27/02. Statutory Authority: Chapter 18.79 RCW. WSR 96-05-060, § 246-840-920, filed 2/19/96, effective 3/21/96.]