

Protocol for Students Undertaking Ward Work

All ward clinical activities undertaken by students are to be within the scope of their ability and only after appropriate instruction on how to complete task or under the direct instruction by Nurse or visiting Medical Practitioner.

Scope of responsibility:

1. Answering call buzzers and the finding the appropriate person to liaise with. Some calls the students may be able to deal with... refilling water jugs, 1 x assistance to the toilet, etc
2. Carry out routine observations, insertion of cannulas change wound dressings UNDER INSTRUCTION
3. Completing fluid balance charts
4. Accompanying VMOs on ward rounds if nurses busy and scribing into patient charts. Handing over pertinent information to relevant charge nurse or patient's nurse depending on orders.
5. Feeding patients at meal times that require assistance. This does not include artificial nutrition.
6. Answering ward phones, taking messages or transferring calls to patients as required.
7. Filing pathology, etc in patient charts - once appropriately taught by ward clerks.
8. Pharmacy errands especially for discharges.
9. Escorting patients to discharges ensuring x-rays, medications, phone chargers, etc are collected.
10. Any other tasks requested by ward staff appropriate for the student's scope of practice.

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