

REGISTERED PROFESSIONAL NURSE

DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS: Performs professional nursing services as required in the care of physically or mentally ill patients. The work is performed in accordance with professional practices, special orders from physicians, and established rules and regulations. General assignments are usually received from a registered professional nurse responsible for assigning and supervising the work of the professional nursing staff. Assignments concerning patient care are usually given directly by a physician. Work is supervised and reviewed in a general way. Registered professional nurses are expected to perform routine duties without detailed instructions. Supervision may be exercised over licensed practical nurses, hospital aides and student nurses. Does related work as required.

TYPICAL WORK ACTIVITIES: (Illustrative Only) Prepares and applies dressings, and gives medication and nursing treatment as prescribed by physicians; Is responsible for the care of patients and their quarters, including making beds, changing linens, keeping order, preparing and serving trays, lifting and moving patients, giving baths and rubs, and caring for personal effects; Is responsible for observing symptoms and carrying out diagnostic procedures ordered by the physician; Carries out therapeutic treatments as ordered by the physician, including the giving of medications; Instructs patient or members of patient's family in regard to patient's diet, health habits, the carrying out of treatments at home, and rehabilitative measures as authorized by the physician; Makes contacts with appropriate welfare or health agencies as necessary to assure the patient needed service or follow-up care; Performs related services for patients in the prevention of illness and the attainment of maximum health.

FULL PERFORMANCE KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, ABILITIES AND PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS: Good knowledge of nursing principles and techniques and their relation to medical and surgical practices; good knowledge of materia medica, sanitation, personal hygiene and dietetics; skill in the application of nursing techniques and practices; ability to follow technical oral and written instruction; ability to keep records and reports; ability to get along well with patients, physicians, and others; good observation; mental alertness; firmness; cheerfulness; patience; emotional stability; sympathetic attitude toward the sick; good moral character; excellent physical and mental health, ability to carry out successfully the therapeutic measures prescribed.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS: (1) Graduation from a school of nursing registered by the State Education Department from a course approved by such department as qualifying for registered professional nurse, and (2) graduation from high school; or (3) any equivalent combination of experience training.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS: Eligibility for a license issued by the State of New York to practice as a registered professional nurse.

Reviewed 6/16/04