



Nurse Extern Program

Quick Reference for Preceptors

Purpose

The Extern Program Guide Nurse Preceptors with UVA specific information for the Nurse Extern Program. It outlines the program expectations for both Nurse Extern and Nurse Preceptor.

Nurse Extern Scope of Practice

Examples of duties that Externs may include, but are not limited to:

- All task within the scope of a CNA/PCT
- Participate in patient assessments and activities of daily living.
- Contribute to care planning and evaluation.
- Provide assistance with lifting, turning, transferring, transporting and ambulating.
- Provide measures to ensure skin integrity and reduce pressure injuries
- Assist with comfort measures and patient safety by ensuring the environment is clean and tidy and free of hazards
- Communicate care (documentation/report).
- Engage in additional skills via delegation as approved by unit leadership and as applicable.
- Provide assigned care that they have the knowledge, skill, and judgement to do safely.
- Point of Care Testing (POCT)
- Supervised Tasks
 - Intermittent urinary catheterization
 - Indwelling urinary catheterization
 - Venipuncture/IV Insertion (preceptor must have competency)
 - Oxygen therapy (excludes high flow administration of oxygen).
 - Tracheostomy care and suctioning
 - Ostomy Care
 - Discharge Teaching
 - Invasive Line Care
 - Enteral Feeding
 - Wound Care

Externs should not:

- Administer any medications.
- Witness medication administration

- Act as a witness, under any circumstances, for any purpose.
- Be left in sole charge of the unit or any patient under any circumstances.
- Provide independent double checks.
- Take verbal/telephone orders or provide telephone advice.
- Independently perform advanced nursing task/procedures that require competencies assessment.

It is the responsibility of Externs to:

- Request assistance with assigned duties whenever in need,
- Participate as a team member
- Maintain dignity and self-esteem of patients and families in delivery of care
- Practice patient privacy and confidentiality
- Practice behaviors consistent with the mission, vision and values of UVA Health.

Preceptor Roles and Responsibilities

Overview of Role:

Extern Mentor/Coordinators support the planning, education, and integration of Externs.

Roles and Responsibilities:

- Support integration of Externs at the organizational and unit level
- Contribute to Extern onboarding
- Create, adapt and deliver orientation and learning resources
- Aid in integration of team processes and role clarity
- Assist Externs to become familiar with the work in their new area of practice
- Support unit teams to collaborate with Externs to provide required patient care
- Maintain regular unit presence to support ongoing education needs and tracking of required skills attainment
- Provide ongoing monitoring and evaluations of Extern role
- Promote Extern staff wellness and team well-being
- Serve as a liaison and conduit between unit leadership