

Alpha Clin⁺ CLINICS Inc.

Guideline

Legislation

Registered Nurse and Enrolled Nursing Auxiliary

1. Legislation governing the Registered Nurse and Enrolled Nursing Auxiliary

The Nursing Act, 33 of 2005 and the regulations contain the legally enforceable policies of the South African Nursing Council. The following acts and regulations are of importance in the Nursing Practitioners clinic practice:

- Nursing Act, No 33 of 2005 and relevant regulations
- Scope of Practice, R2598, as amended R 260 February 1991. (Currently under review as it was repealed by the minister of health)
- Rules setting out the Acts or Omissions in respect of which the Council may take disciplinary action, R 767 1 October 2014, previously known as R387, as amended R 2490 October 1990.
- Distinguishing devices and uniforms, R1201 of 31 July 1970
- Conduct of Enrolled Nurse R1649 as amended by R 480
- The Medicines and Related Substances Control Amended Act, No 72 of 2008
- Basic Conditions of Employment Act, 75 of 1997
- National Policy on Testing for HIV, Government Gazette Vol. 414, No. 20710, 10 December 1999. Government notice 1479 of 1999 Department of Health National Policy for Health Act, 1990 (Act No. 116 of 1990). HIV Testing, Consent, Pre and Post Test Counselling
- Child Care Amendment Act, 13, 1999

2. Record Keeping

Wilful or negligent omission to maintain **and keep clear** and **accurate** records of **all actions**, which a nurse performs in connection with a patient/client, can be deemed as a disciplinary offence. (Refer: Acts and Omissions R767 October 2014)

3. Acts and exhibition of Certificates (Refer to Section 1A/B R 2490)

Except in the case of an emergency a nurse may not perform an act:

- which does not pertain to his/her registered profession or which he/she has inadequate training or experience in.

4. Notification of injured or undernourished children

“Every dentist, medical practitioner or nurse who examines or attends any child in circumstances giving rise to the suspicion that that child has been ill-treated, or suffers from any injury, single or multiple, the cause of which probably might have been deliberate, or is undernourished, shall immediately, in the prescribed manner notify the Regional Director of Health and Welfare of the District in which the child happens to be, of those circumstances.” (Child Care Amendment Act, 13, 1999)

5. Compounding and Dispensing and Prescribing of Medicine

Medicine may be administered by Nurses; certified proof of competency must be available.

In private pharmacy, the pharmacist may keep vaccines and the nurse may administer the vaccines.

- Nurses who dispense must be in possession of a dispensing license issued in terms of the Medicine and Related Substance Act 101 of 1965/ The Medicines and Related Substances Control Amended Act, No 72 of 2008

A nursing practitioner may not compound any medication unless licensed to do so.

(Definition of compound: prepare, mix, combine, package and label medicine for dispensing.)

If the nursing practitioner, as part of her nursing intervention decides that a schedule 1 or 2 medication will be appropriate, this is to be discussed with the pharmacist and then initiated by the pharmacist.

Certified copies of registration certificates, permits and licenses (as applicable) must be available at request.

Nurses who prescribe medicine must be authorised in terms of the Nursing Act, Act 33 of 2005 section 56.

According to the Nursing Council nurses in private practice was never intended to prescribe. It is only nurses in Public practice.

6. Enrolled Nurse/Staff Nurse

An enrolled nurse is a nursing practitioner that has undergone 2 years of training and therefore cannot legally, in terms of the enrolled nurses' scope of practice, provide the same functions as a registered professional nursing practitioner.

The enrolled nurse plays an important role in the delivery of health care but it must be understood that he/she must always work under supervision of a registered nursing practitioner, so as to ensure safe patient care. The SA Nursing Council has recognised that "supervision" is not always possible to be direct supervision and therefore has made allowances for "indirect supervision".

SUPERVISION

If at any time an enrolled nursing practitioner is employed in a Pharmacy Clinic the following criteria must be adhered to:

- According to Regulation 1649 as amended by Regulation 480

"1. An enrolled nurse shall carry out such nursing care as his enrolment permits under the direct or indirect supervision or direction of a registered nurse or, where applicable, under the direct or indirect supervision of a medical practitioner or a dentist or on his direction or written or verbal prescription."

- The preference is that enrolled nurses must practice under the direct supervision of a registered nursing practitioner, if at any time this is not possible then,
- The enrolled nurse can practice under indirect supervision. This implies a planned system of guidance and support for nursing actions carried out in the physical absence of a registered nursing practitioner.
- The prerequisite for this type of **supervision** is contact between the enrolled nurse and the registered nursing practitioner by means of:
 - Intermittent direct contact i.e. regular meetings.
 - Nursing procedures.
 - Written protocols.
 - System of communication.

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Registration:

Proof of registration with the South African Nursing Council.

Indemnity:

Proof of indemnity

Document date: September 2019