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Care of the Student with a Tracheostomy in the School

Care Coordination and Delegation
Geri Johnson, MSN, RN, NCSN



Disclosures

Geri Johnson has no disclosures to note.





How do we make this happen?

- Plan, Communicate, Meet
- Models of Care May Include:
 - * Delegation of School Staff
 - * Private Duty Nursing Services
 - * District/Program May Hire for Student



CO NPA vs Delegation Decision Grid

CO Nurse Practice Act

The delegating nurse shall be solely responsible for determining the required degree of supervision the delegatee will need, after an evaluation of the appropriate factors which shall include but not be limited to the following:

- (a) The stability of the condition of the patient;
- (b) The training and ability of the delegatee;
- (c) The nature of the nursing task being delegated; and
- (d) Whether the delegated task has a predictable outcome.

CDE Delegation Decision Grid

- Client level of stability
- Level of UAP competence
- Level of Professional Nurse Competence
- Potential for harm
- Frequency
- Level of decision-making
- Ability for Self-Care
- EMS Response Time



Delegation: What can we do?

- Emergency Tracheostomy Changes- **Yes**
- Manual Resuscitation with Bag- **Yes**
- Tracheal Suctioning- **Yes**
- Bulb or Yankour Suctioning- **Yes**
- General Tracheostomy Care- **Yes (Rarely done during the School Day)**
- Ventilator Management- **No**



Delegation – How do we begin?

1

Meet
with the
school
team

2

Identify
staff
and
back-up

3

Plan
times to
delegate
by task



Delegation Tips

- Determine level of comfort with learning process with delegatee staff
- Choose one procedure at a time i.e. suctioning during one session and emergency trach change another session
- Review procedure guidelines
- Set a schedule for training and delegation



More Delegation Tips

- Demonstrate the procedure as many times as needed
- Utilize training tools such as a trach training doll
- When delegatee is ready, return demonstrate
- Remember as the delegating RN you do not have to complete the delegation until you feel the delegtee has demonstrated competency!



And Now About Supervision??

- As the delegating RN, you decide how often supervised visits should occur
- This may vary depending on the competency and confidence (and the stability of the student)
- Weekly, Bi-weekly, Monthly
- May want to schedule periodic trainings for the entire delegatee group using training tools.



Time and Patience

- Tracheostomy training and delegation takes time
- Remember to share this with staff and family in preparing for the return to school
- Even if PDN involved be prepared to back up delegate staff
- Remember the Transportation Department!!



What About COVID?

- Student May Have Mask Exemption
- Masks, Face Shields, Smocks or Wipeable Aprons, Gloves
- Move to Separate Area When Suctioning
- Follow CDPHE and District/Program Guidelines Related to Quarantine and Isolation



Resources and Thank You

Pam Brunner Nii BSN, RN, NCSN, AF-C

For assistance with delegation information

Delegation Grid - CDE website

Supporting Students with Special Healthcare
Needs - Guidelines and Procedures for Schools
3rd Edition

