CNA Practice Test AZ

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1. A nurse asks a CNA to perform a task the CNA has never been trained to perform. What is the best response?

A. Perform it anyway

B. Ask the nurse for appropriate instruction and clarification before accepting the task

C. Ask another CNA to perform it instead

D. Attempt the task without supervision

Answer: B. Ask the nurse for appropriate instruction and clarification before accepting the task

Ask the nurse for appropriate instruction and clarification before accepting the task.

A CNA should only perform tasks within their training and scope of practice. When asked to do something unfamiliar, the safe and professional response is to speak up, ask the nurse for instruction and clarification, and confirm whether the task is appropriate for a CNA to perform. This protects the resident from harm and protects the CNA from practicing outside their role. Clear communication with the supervising nurse is always the first step.

A) Perform it anyway

Jumping in without training feels like being helpful and cooperative, but performing an unfamiliar task puts the resident at risk of injury or error. Accepting a task you are not trained for can also fall outside the CNA scope of practice, so this choice trades short-term helpfulness for real safety concerns.

C) Ask another CNA to perform it instead

Passing the task to a coworker may seem like a quick way to get it done, but it does not resolve the underlying problem. The other CNA may also lack the training, and the resident still receives care from someone unqualified. The right move is to clarify with the nurse who assigned the task, not to shift it to a peer.

D) Attempt the task without supervision

Trying it alone might feel like a way to learn or show initiative, but without training or supervision the risk of mistakes is high. Unsupervised practice on a resident is unsafe and does not meet the standard of care, so this option should be avoided.

Conclusion

For scope-of-practice questions, remember that the safest answer is honest communication with the supervising nurse. Never perform a task you have not been trained for, and never hand it off to someone else without clarification.

2. Under Arizona nursing assistant rules, which type of delegated task may be appropriate for a CNA or LNA who has demonstrated competence?

A. A task requiring independent nursing judgment

B. A task requiring diagnosis of a resident's condition

C. A task that can be performed using clear, exact, unchanging directions and does not require assessment or decision-making

D. A task involving unpredictable life-threatening consequences

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Answer: C. A task that can be performed using clear, exact, unchanging directions and does not require assessment or decision-making

A CNA or LNA may appropriately perform a delegated task that uses clear, exact, unchanging directions and does not require assessment or decision-making.

Nursing assistants work under the direction and supervision of a licensed nurse. Delegation is safest when the task is routine, follows a set procedure, and the resident's condition is stable and predictable. The nurse keeps responsibility for assessing the resident, making clinical decisions, and evaluating outcomes, while the assistant carries out the hands-on steps within their training and demonstrated competence. This is why tasks with fixed steps and no need for judgment fit within the assistant's scope when properly delegated.

A) A task requiring independent nursing judgment

Independent nursing judgment belongs to the licensed nurse, who is accountable for clinical decisions. This option can seem appealing because experienced assistants often notice changes and act quickly, but noticing and reporting is different from making the nursing judgment itself.

B) A task requiring diagnosis of a resident's condition

Diagnosis is a licensed provider and nursing responsibility that depends on formal assessment and clinical reasoning. It may sound like a natural extension of close daily observation, yet assistants are trained to report findings to the nurse rather than label or diagnose a condition.

D) A task involving unpredictable life-threatening consequences

Tasks with a high risk of sudden, serious harm demand ongoing assessment and rapid clinical decisions, which are outside assistant scope. This option can seem tempting because assistants do respond in emergencies, but their role is to recognize the emergency, call for help, and follow the nurse's direction, not to manage unpredictable high-risk procedures alone.

Conclusion

For CNA exam questions on delegation, choose the task with clear, fixed steps that needs no assessment or decision-making, and remember that judgment, diagnosis, and unpredictable high-risk care stay with the licensed nurse.

3. A CNA is asked to determine whether a resident's new rash requires medical treatment. What should the CNA do?

A. Diagnose the rash

B. Recommend a medication

C. Observe the change and report it to the nurse

D. Tell the resident that all rashes are harmless

Answer: C. Observe the change and report it to the nurse

Observe the change and report it to the nurse.

CNAs are trained to notice changes in a resident's condition and to pass that information along to the licensed nurse, who is responsible for assessment and treatment decisions. A new rash is a change that should be observed carefully, documented in plain terms, and reported promptly so the nurse can evaluate it. This keeps the resident safe and stays within the CNA's scope of practice.

A) Diagnose the rash

Diagnosing a skin condition requires clinical training and licensure that CNAs do not have. It can feel tempting to name what the rash looks like, but identifying a condition is the nurse's or provider's job. The CNA's role is to describe what is seen, not to decide what it is.

B) Recommend a medication

Suggesting or recommending medication goes beyond the CNA's role and could cause harm if the resident follows the advice. CNAs may assist with medications only as allowed by state rules and facility policy, and only under nurse direction. Reporting the rash lets the nurse decide on any treatment.

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D) Tell the resident that all rashes are harmless

This statement is inaccurate and could delay needed care. Some rashes signal infection, allergy, or another serious problem. Reassuring a resident without nurse input risks giving false information and missing a change that needs attention.

Conclusion

For scope-of-practice questions, remember that CNAs observe, report, and document, while the nurse assesses and decides on treatment. Choosing to observe and report the rash keeps the resident safe and stays within the CNA's role.

4. According to Arizona Board of Nursing requirements, at least how many hours of instructor-supervised clinical experience are required in the nursing assistant training program?

A. 20 hours

B. 30 hours

C. 40 hours

D. 60 hours

Answer: C. 40 hours

Arizona requires at least 40 hours of instructor-supervised clinical experience in the nursing assistant training program.

The Arizona Board of Nursing sets minimum training standards for nursing assistants to make sure they are competent and safe before providing direct care. Clinical experience must be supervised by an instructor so students can practice real skills, such as bathing, feeding, positioning, and taking vital signs, with guidance and correction. The 40-hour requirement reflects the Board's judgment that this amount of hands-on, supervised practice is needed to build safe, entry-level skills. Remembering the number 40 as the clinical minimum helps you answer this type of regulation question confidently.

A) 20 hours

This number falls short of the Board's minimum and would not give students enough supervised practice to meet the clinical requirement. It may seem tempting because shorter training times are sometimes mentioned in other contexts, but it does not match the Arizona standard.

B) 30 hours

Although closer to the required amount, this still does not meet the Board's minimum for supervised clinical experience. It can be tempting to pick a middle number, but the regulation specifically sets the minimum higher.

D) 60 hours

This exceeds the minimum requirement, so it is not the correct answer to a question asking for the least number of hours required. It may seem appealing because more hours sound safer, but the question asks for the minimum, not a higher total.

Conclusion

Focus on the exact minimum numbers set by your state's Board of Nursing, since scope-of-practice questions often test specific regulatory figures. For Arizona, remember that at least 40 hours of instructor-supervised clinical experience are required.

5. An applicant wants to qualify for Arizona nursing assistant certification by examination after completing an approved Arizona program. Which education requirement applies?

A. Completion of a minimum 120-hour approved nursing assistant program

B. Completion of a 10-hour orientation

C. Completion of a medication assistant course only

D. Completion of an RN program

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Answer: A. Completion of a minimum 120-hour approved nursing assistant program

To qualify for Arizona nursing assistant certification by examination after an approved Arizona program, the applicant must complete a minimum 120-hour approved nursing assistant program.

Arizona requires nursing assistant candidates to finish an approved program that includes at least 120 hours of training, covering both classroom instruction and supervised clinical practice. This hour requirement ensures the applicant has enough foundational education and hands-on experience to safely provide basic nursing care before taking the certification exam. Verifying the program meets the state minimum is part of confirming eligibility.

B) 10-hour orientation

A short orientation introduces workplace policies and basic expectations but does not provide the substantial classroom and clinical training required for certification. It may sound appealing as a quick path, yet it falls far short of the state's education standard.

C) Medication assistant course only

A medication assistant course focuses on a specialized task and builds on existing nursing assistant knowledge rather than replacing the core training program. Choosing this option confuses a supplemental role with the entry-level education needed for certification.

D) RN program

Registered nurse education is a separate, more advanced pathway and is not the requirement for nursing assistant certification. This option may seem impressive, but the CNA credential has its own distinct educational standard.

Conclusion

Remember that Arizona nursing assistant certification requires completion of an approved program with a minimum of 120 hours, so focus on the state's specific hour requirement when answering scope-of-practice questions.

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