



Arizona State Board of Nursing

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CHANGES TO NURSING ASSISTANT/MEDICATION ASSISTANT TEST

The following changes were recommended by the Test Advisory Panel, which met on August 23, 2011 and adopted by the Board on September 22, 2011. The effective date of change is February 1, 2012.

Written Exam

Changes in Testing Process

- Institute a Waiting Period for both CNA and CMA written examinations: Following three attempts to pass the written examination, the student must wait 45 days before retesting.
 - *Rationale: This waiting period allows for rotation of items to avoid overexposure.*

Changes in C.N.A. Test Plan

The following changes were recommended regarding the CNA written test plan:

- Reduce personal care items from 12 to 9
- Add 2 items in the safety category increasing it from 4 to 6
- Add 1 item to infection control increasing it from 7 to 8
 - *Rationale: This is more consistent with other states' test plans and aligns more closely with the Board's public protection mission. The test will remain the same length at 75 items.*

Manual Skills Exam

Changes in testing process

- D & S Diversified Technologies will specify a distance to the washroom from the testing area that will be cause less than 30 seconds of time to elapse.
 - *Rationale: The distance between the washroom and testing area at some approved sites is so great that students are at a disadvantage to complete the exam within the specified time.*
- Change effective date to February 1, 2012
 - *Rationale: Many students completing the fall semester in December will be testing in January 2012.*
- Candidates who have failed twice may request to retest with a previous test observer.
 - *Rationale: This option may provide convenience and familiarity to candidates.*

Changes in individual skills

- Mouthcare of Comatose Resident: Eliminate step 13 "Washes face" and step 14 "Dries face" and replace with one step "Wipes resident's mouth"
 - *Rationale: There is no need to wash and dry face when providing mouth care. "Wipes resident's mouth" is a step in Mouth Care individual skill.*

- Isolation Gown and Gloves: Eliminate step 2 “Greets resident by name”
 - *Rationale: This skill does not require interaction with the resident.*

- Transferring a Weight Bearing Non-Ambulatory Resident from Bed to Wheelchair using a Gate Belt: Add Key Step (bolded step) **“Does not attempt to ambulate the resident.”**
 - *Rationale: Students are able to pass this skill despite ambulating (rather than transferring) a non-ambulatory resident.*

- Transferring a Weight Bearing Non-Ambulatory Resident from Wheelchair to Bed using a Gate Belt: Add Key Step (bolded step) **“Does not attempt to ambulate the resident.”**
 - *Rationale: Students are able to pass this skill despite ambulating (rather than transferring) a non-ambulatory resident.*

Effective date of change is February 1, 2012