

Nursing Services Case
Home Health Agency Learning Activity

Item	Description
Objective:	Given a scenario, the surveyor will identify areas of concern, potential citations, and related regulatory requirements.
Prior to Class:	Print copies of the scenario. Have the home health regulations available. Have flip charts and markers available.
Total Time for Activity:	60 minutes (The time given is approximate.)
Set-Up:	Set class up for small groups as needed.*

Step:	Preceptor Instructions:	Activity Time:
1.	Divide the class into small groups.*	5 min.
2.	Each group should select someone to take notes on the flip charts and be prepared to report to class. Groups must answer the questions provided.	5 min.
3.	Give the teams time to read and discuss the scenario.	25 min.
4.	As the groups are completing this task, walk around the room and listen to the conversations. Provide direction where appropriate. Warn the class when the time available is down to last the last five minutes.	
5.	Debrief each scenario by discussing key points contained in the Preceptor Answer Sheet.	25 min.

*For individual assignment, provide the worksheet and support where appropriate during the completion of the activity. Once completed, review answers against the answer sheet, and discuss the key points together from the scenario.

Surveyor:

Date:

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Directions: Read the scenario and if able, work as a team (if able), to document your answers on the flip chart provided.

Adventures in Wound Care Scenario

You are on a home health survey accompanying the nurse on a home visit. The patient, a 75-year-old male, Mr. Jones, is being treated at home for a pressure ulcer on the base of the right foot. The Plan of Care (POC) details the ordered wound care and you observe the Registered Nurse (RN) perform the following:

Mr. Jones was sitting in a chair with his legs hanging down. The nurse gathered her supplies and sat on the wooden floor. The floor was noted to be dirty and dusty with pet hair from the family's pet dog. With bare hands, the nurse removed Mr. Jones's shoe, sock, and the old dressing. She washed her hands, sat back on the floor, and opened the patient's dressing supplies. She then placed each opened paper package directly on the floor and poured normal saline on the gauze sponges in the open packages, resulting in saline leaking through the sponge, paper backing, and to the floor. She then picked up the wet sponges and cleaned the patient's wound. The nurse opened another package of 4x4 gauze pads and dried off the wound. She opened a package of cotton swabs, again laying the packaging on the floor, and used them to apply medication to the wound. She then finished wrapping the wound. The entire procedure was carried out without the use of gloves.

Survey Team Questions:

1. What areas of concern do you have? (Document on the flip chart provided.)
2. If you noticed any areas, would you stop the nurse and point these out? (Document on the flip chart provided.)

Surveyor:

Date:

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3. How would you continue to investigate your concerns? (Document on the flip chart provided.)

4. Do you think there will be deficiencies cited? Defend your answer. (Document on the flip chart provided.)

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Preceptor Answer Sheet

1. What areas of concern do you have?

New surveyors should be able to articulate the infection control breaches as the major concern.

2. If you noticed any areas of concern, would you stop the nurse and point these out?

Procedures (with few exceptions) should not be stopped while observing so that the full extent of deficient practice may be determined.

3. How would you continue to investigate your concerns?

After this observation, further investigation is warranted to support findings, including interviewing the nurse in question and reviewing medical records, personnel training records, wound care policies, procedures for orienting and training new nurses, and competency assessments.

4. Do you think there will be deficiencies cited? Defend your answer.

Deficiency would be cited under Skilled Nursing Services (G168 is the potential condition citation, and G174 and G121 may be cited at the standard level) and may rise to condition level due to the lack of capable nursing care when performing wound care.