

Specification for Class

MENTAL HEALTH LICENSED PRACTICAL NURSE 4

**Abolished Effective June 1, 2005**

Definition: As a shift charge within a Division of Mental Health psychiatric treatment facility, directs subordinate Mental Health Technicians in a ward or other designated treatment area; functions as the primary contact for inter-shift communications; participates in staff selection, evaluation, corrective action, and training; provides direct patient care.

Typical Work

Directs the Mental Health Technician (MHT) staff of a ward or treatment unit; plans, oversees and evaluates work; trains and assists staff;

Participates in the assignment of patients to MHT's;

Prepares and cares for patients receiving specialized treatments directed by the physician or the professional nurse; performs selected nursing procedures;

Cares for patients with communicable diseases including necessary sterilization and observation of aseptic techniques; preparation and aftercare of treatment and administration of medications, except I.V. medications;

Attends to the general care of patients, provides for their emotional and physical comfort and safety, and maintains an attractive and comfortable environment; gives assistance and guidance in cleanliness, grooming, rest, activities and nourishment;

Encourages, supervises, and participates with patients in group or individual recreational, social or related activities;

Observes, records, and reports the general condition of patients;

Promotes better understanding of hospital policies in contacts with patients' relatives;

Assigns breaks for MHT staff;

Participates in in-service education program;

Performs other related work as required.

Knowledge and Abilities

Knowledge of: practical nursing principles, practices and methods; institution policies and procedures, ward management, supervision.

Ability to: provide practical nursing care to psychiatric patients; treat individuals with respect, kindness and consideration; follow written and oral instructions.

Minimum Qualifications

Possession of a current Washington State license to practice as a Licensed Practical Nurse.

AND

Three years of experience working as a Licensed Practical Nurse, one year of which was as a Mental Health Licensed Practical Nurse 3.

New class: 5-28-86

Revised minimum qualifications: 9-9-88

Title change (formerly Mental Health Technician 4): 5-15-92

Revised minimum qualifications: 9-9-94