

DACUM Competency Profile for Home Health Care Attendant

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The Home Healthcare Attendant is a member of the health care team who provides physical and mental care by assisting with personal care, daily living activities, and companionship to the client which has limited abilities to maintain a safe home environment.

Duties		Tasks			
A	Provide/Assist with Activities of Daily Living	A-1 Assist with/or provide grooming	A-2 Assist with/or give patient's bath	A-3 Assist with/or provide oral care	A-4 Assist with/or dress patient
		A-5 Assist with elimination	A-6 Provide skin care	A-7 Provide foot care	A-8 Position client
B	Assist with Nutritional Needs	B-1 Assist patient with diet selection	B-2 Assist/provide patient grocery shopping	B-3 Assist with/or prepare patients meals	B-4 Assist with/or feed patient
		B-5 Maintain current inventory of food			
C	Assist with Mobility	C-1 Provide Range of Motion	C-2 Assist with ambulation	C-3 Assist with transfer of client	C-4 Provide/assist with transportation
		C-5 Assist with prescriptions			
D	Provide Household Chores	D-1 Vacuum floors	D-2 Wash dishes	D-3 Care for laundry	D-4 Sanitize bathroom
		D-5 Make bed	D-6 Dust furniture	D-7 Provide/assist with light gardening	D-8 Provide/assist with care of animals
		D-9 Remove trash			
E	Monitor/Manage Health Status	E-1 Measure intake and output	E-2 Observe skin integrity	E-3 Measure temperature pulse and respiration	E-4 Measure blood pressure
		E-5 Measure weight	E-6 Observe and describe urine/stool	E-7 Monitor tubes/drains	E-8 Assist with blood glucose monitoring
		E-9 Assist with administration of medications	E-10 Provide wound care	E-11 Document observations and care as required	

F

Provide Secure/ Safe Environment

F-1 Manage assistive devices	F-2 Maintain safe environment	F-3 Provide infection control	F-4 Provide fall prevention
F-5 Secure clients home			

G

Manage/ Organize Client's Time

G-1 Schedule health care appointments	G-2 Schedule personal appointments	G-3 Schedule activities of daily living	G-4 Assist with bill payments
G-5 Assist with mail	G-6 Run errands		

H

Provide Client Education

H-1 Clarify roles of the Home Health Care Attendant	H-2 Restore independence of client	H-3 Orient family to client needs	H-4 Orient client to time, place, and name
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Future Trends & Issues

- Clients/Patients rights
 - Delivery of service
 - Enter into practice for a more advanced position
 - Environmental concerns
 - Focus on wellness
 - Health care reform
 - Higher skills
 - Higher technology of equipment
 - Increased accountability for maintaining standard care
 - Increased in pay
 - Increased liability
 - Increased nurse patient ratios
 - Increased regulations
 - Increasing responsibilities
 - Limited Resources
 - More demands for Benefits
 - Shift toward ambulatory care/Home care
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- Uncertainty over future of health care

General Knowledge and Skills

- Attendants rights/responsibilities knowledge
- Basic anatomy & physiology knowledge
- Basic human psychology knowledge
- Basic math knowledge
- Body mechanics comprehension
- Business skills
- C.P.R. certification
- Charting skills
- Communication skills
- Critical Thinking skills
- Cultural awareness
- Equipment knowledge
- First aid skills
- Infection control awareness
- Interpersonal skills
- Licensed to drive a car
- Nutrition knowledge
- Patient's rights knowledge
- Problem solving skills
- Reading skills
- Safety precautions awareness
- Social needs awareness
- State/Federal policies understanding
- Stress management skills

Tools, Equipment, Supplies and Materials

- Bed pan
- Bedside commode
- Blood glucose machine
- Blood pressure machine
- Cane
- Crutches

- Egg crate mattress
- Feeding pump
- Hospital Bed
- Household Cleaning Equipment
- I.V. pole
- Oxygen Mask/Nasal Cannula/Nebulizer

- Portable Sitz bath
- Prosthesis
- Shower bench
- Shower chair
- Stethoscope
- Thermometer
- Toilet extender
- Trapeze traction equipment
- Urinal Braces
- Waler
- Wheelchair

Worker Traits/Behaviors

- Assertive
- Companionship
- Emotionally stable
- Energetic
- Flexible
- Follows instructions
- Good mental health
- Humorous/Friendly
- Non-judgmental
- Patient's rights knowledge
- Personal hygiene
- Positive attitude
- Problem Solving
- Reliable
- Respectful
- Responsible
- Self confident
- Self motivated
- Takes initiative
- Team player
- Tolerant

