

Alzheimer's Community Care, Inc.

Position: Program Nurse – Per Diem
Supervisor: Program Manager
Department: Specialized Day Services
Status: Non-exempt
Effective Date: March, 2008

Position Description: The Per Diem Program Nurse provides coordination and supervision of the basic health services and needs of the patients in the Specialized Alzheimer's Day Center (SADC). The nurse is responsible for the administration of patient medication, as directed by prescription label, physician orders, and accepted nursing practices. The Per Diem Program Nurse assumes the responsibilities and duties of the regular Program Nurse in his/her absence. The Per Diem position is on call and on a per need basis to cover for absent staff.

Position Responsibilities:

1. Supervises and assesses each patient's health needs. Assumes primary responsibility for the development of individual care plans. Identifies recurrent patient problems, symptoms, and behavior changes in written progress notes and alters care plan to meet changing patient and family needs. Maintains appropriate records of patient care.
 2. Administers medications to patients according to state and local guidelines and accepted nursing practices. Ensures accurate, appropriate, and timely documentation of administration of medication. Maintains safe and locked storage of all patient medication following guidelines set in the Program Policies and Procedures Manual.
 3. Interacts with patient physicians, when needed and/or patient conditions change.
 4. Assists in the adherence to state and local licensing guidelines, rules and regulations. Provides information to assist in the maintenance of an accurate and updated SADC Quality Assurance Manual.
 5. Identifies problems and variables affecting plans incorporated within an Alzheimer Health Care System. Coordinates or ensures the coordination of appropriate community services and resources for patients and families. Confers with the Program Manager, nursing staff (where applicable), per diem nursing staff, Case Managers, Family Consultants, and other relevant staff/volunteers concerning these needs.
 6. Participates as requested in the registration process for all program inquiries. Assists in accurately collecting data and transferring to source documents for file completion.
 7. Assists with and supervises the help given for patient's personal care needs. This includes, but is not limited to, toileting, bathing, grooming, dressing, eating, and ambulating.
 8. Provides/coordinates emergency care when necessary. Oversees and provides patient personal care and maintains patient safety.
 9. Ensures required reports and documentation are accurately completed and submitted in a timely basis and according to ACC policies and procedures.
 10. Assists in the acquisition of appropriate program materials, as requested by the Program Manager. Follows all of ACC policies and procedures regarding program expenditures.
 11. Maintains positive relations with other adult day care programs, health and human service agencies, SDCC host site administration, and cooperative resources.
 12. Participates in meetings with SDCC staff and meetings with volunteers and Senior Companions regarding changing patient care needs.
 13. Travels to other day care to assist in their location when requested by Program Manager.
 14. Maintains appropriate activity as required in ACC's hurricane/disaster plan.
 15. Performs other duties as assigned.
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Supervisory Responsibilities: In the absence of the Program Nurse, assumes his/her responsibilities inclusive of supervision of the program staff, volunteers, and Senior Companions, should the Manager be absent simultaneously.

Supervision Received: Close frequent contact with the Program Manager, communicating mainly verbally and in writing.

Other Position Relationships:

Staff & Volunteers: Works closely with SADC staff members and volunteers as a team.

Governing Structure: None

Government: None.

Public: Moderate public contact with caregivers, patients, physicians, and committed agencies and vendors.

Work conditions may include but are not limited to:

1. Walks or stands 50% of the time, sits the other 50%.
2. Lifts or assists with lifting in patient transfers from wheelchair to chair, wheelchair to toilet, vehicle to wheelchair, etc.
3. Assists with personal care needs from 0 to 60 times per day.
4. Works in shared group space with moderate to high noise level.
5. Works with frequent interruptions.
6. Works with a Department team of up to 20 people and may interact with up to 60 people daily.
7. During emergency conditions, may be exposed to long working hours and/or heat, rain, wind, or cold.
8. During working hours, may be exposed to offensive odors.
9. During working hours, may be exposed to bodily fluids and is required to implement universal precautions procedures.

Position Requirements:

Education: Licensed as a Practical Nurse with a current Florida license with no restrictions on nursing practice. Must possess current CPR certification. Must have AED certification if SADC site contains an automated external defibrillator.

Experience: Minimum of three years experience working with older patients, psycho tropic medications, and patients with Alzheimer's disease and/or other dementing illnesses.

Essential Job Requirements of Position:

1. Must be free of communicable diseases. Required to update physical and TB testing annually.
2. May require work in excess of scheduled work hours from time to time.
3. Must possess effective supervisory skills for paid and volunteer personnel.
4. Must possess the ability to lift 50 lbs. maximum with frequent lifting and carrying of objects weighing up to 25 lbs.
5. Must possess the ability to frequently stand, walk, speak clearly, hear patients' communications, stoop, kneel, crouch, reach, and handle program supplies/equipment.
6. Must be able to work indoors or outdoors based on patient needs.
7. Must possess safe Florida Driver's License and travel to other day care to assist in their location when requested by Program Manager.
8. The Per Diem position is on call and on a per need basis to cover for absent staff.

