Scope and Standards of Home Health Nursing Practice

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Why should you care?

ANA “Scope & Standards of Nursing Practice”:
- Define, direct and guide the practice of home health nurses
- Used by policy makers, litigators, home health agencies, home health nurses & the public
- What you don’t know – or have a voice in – can affect you!
American Nurses Association

- Started developing *Scope & Standards for Nursing* in late 1960s.
- Published first *Standards of Home Health Nursing* in 1986
- Revising now (2013) to reflect current and future *S&S* over next 5 years.

Revising the Scope & Standards

- Call for Volunteers, July 2011
- Work Group & first Reviewers identified, 2012
- Work Group convened, April 2013
- Work Group completes work, Oct 2013
- First Reviewers provide comment, Oct 2013
- Public comment, November 2013
Call for Volunteers, July 2011

- ANA website
- State Nurses Associations

“PSNA seeks members interested in working with ANA to complete the review and revision of three specialty nursing scope and standards publications: Correction Nursing, Informatics Nursing, and Home Health Nursing.

Each workgroup member is expected to meet at least monthly for a two-hour conference call, participate in additional small group telephone discussion sessions as needed and possibly complete small writing assignments. The work effort includes significant thoughtful discussions and is projected to last from 12-18 months. Please forward your name and resume to communications@panurses.org. Thank you.”

- Harris, M.D. (2013). We need your input…this is your opportunity to have a voice in the future of your profession. *Home Healthcare Nurse*, 31(4), 177

Scope & Standards Work Group

- 2 hour teleconferences, 7 pm – 9 pm
- Two times per month
- April – October
- Review of literature and trends
- Sub-workgroups
- Off-line revisions
- Review of revisions
- More revisions

2013
Foundation of Nursing

Nursing’s Social Policy Statement

Nursing is...
- the protection, promotion, and optimization of health and abilities,
- prevention of illness and injury, and alleviation of suffering,
- through the diagnosis and treatment of human responses and advocacy,
- in the care of individuals, families, communities, and population.
Code of Ethics for Nurses

- 9 Provisions
- Multiple topics

- Relationships with patients, colleagues and others
- Primacy of patient’s interests
- Professional boundaries
- Addressing impaired or questionable practice
- Accountability & delegation
- Values and integrity
- Responsibilities to public
- Social reform
- Many other topics & issues


- Revisions vs. Editions
- Scope
  - Describes & Discusses
  - Delineates & Defines
  - Identifies Issues & Trends
- 16 Professional Nursing Practice Standards
  - 6 Standards of Practice
  - 10 Standards of Professional Performance
The Template

SCOPE Addresses Multiple Topics

For instance:
- The Nursing Process
- Tenets of nursing practice
- Health work environments
- Professional practice regulations
- Professional competence
- Licensure and education
- Research & evidence-based practice
- Specialty practice
- Advanced practice nursing roles
- Advocacy & society
- IOM influences
- Science and art of nursing practice
Scope of Practice

1. Evolution of HHN
2. Definition of HHN
3. Distinguishing Characteristics
4. Nursing Process in HHN
5. Education of HHNs
6. Certification of HHNs
7. Roles & Responsibilities of HHNs
8. Trends, Issues & Opportunities

HHN Scope of Practice

- Highlights
  - 140,000 HHN, HH will outpace all other care settings
  - Primary goal: keeping patients in homes
  - Accomplished via evidence-based practice

- Issues
  - Is this document for only US nurses, or all nurses?
  - What is the primary goal?
    - Keeping in homes?
    - Teaching self-care & independence?
    - Chronic care?  End-of-life care?
Definition of HHN

- Highlights
  - New definition - 3 sentences
  - Used “home health nurse” & “patient”

- Issues
  - What should we be called?
    - Home care nurse?
    - Home healthcare nurse?
  - Who do we take care of?
    - Clients? Healthcare consumers?
    - Patients/families/caregivers?
  - Where do we provide care?
    - Where ever people live?
    - In the community?

Distinguishing Characteristics

- Highlights
  - Homes, inc. non-conventional residences
  - Primary, secondary, tertiary care
  - Pre-natal to post death care
  - Intermittent to 24 hours/day
  - Holistic – physical/functional, psychosocial, spiritual,
  - Expertise in assessment, clinical-decision-making,
    clinical practice, patient education/counseling
  - Manage resources & financial costs
Nursing Process in HHN

1. Assessment
2. Diagnosis
3. Outcomes Identification
4. Planning
5. Implementation
   - Coordination of Care
   - Health Teaching & Health Promotion
   - Consultation
   - Prescriptive Authority & Treatment
6. Evaluation

Educational Preparation of HHNs

- Highlights
  - BSN is appropriate entry degree
  - Extensive orientation
  - Structured preceptor/preceptee program

- Issues
  - BSN with nursing shortage?
Certification in HHN

- Highlights
  - No HHN certification at present
  - Value of other nursing certifications

- Issues
  - Can ANA support HHN certification?
  - Is an industry/regulatory certification a nursing certification?

Roles & Responsibilities

- Highlights
  - HHN Generalist
    - Multiple competencies
    - Minimum qualifications
    - Agency obligation to professional development

  - Graduate-Prepared HHNs
    - DNP/MSNs with Admin & Education, MBAs, MHAs
    - APRNs
      - CNS’s
      - NPs

- Care Managers
- Educators
- Advocates
Roles & Responsibilities

- Administrative Focus
  - Administrators
    - Specifies 12 responsibilities
  - Clinical Supervisors
    - Specifies 12 responsibilities
  - Performance Improvement Nurse
  - Professional Development Specialist
  - Informatics Liaison

Trends, Issues & Opportunities

- Topics
  - Practice Environment
  - Ethics
  - Research
  - Information Technology
  - Finances & Payment

- See the opportunities in the trends & issues
Standards of Practice

1. Assessment
2. Diagnosis
3. Outcomes Identification
4. Planning
5. Implementation
   A. Coordination of Care
   B. Health Teaching & Promotion
   C. Consultation
   D. Prescriptive Authority & Treatment
6. Evaluation

Standards of Professional Performance

7. Ethics
8. Education
9. Evidence-Based Practice & Research
10. Quality of Practice
11. Communication
12. Leadership
13. Collaboration
14. Professional Practice Evaluation
15. Resource Utilization
16. Environmental Health
ANA Scope and Standards

Nursing, 2010
- 16 Standards
  - List of competencies for each standard:
    - Generalist
    - APRN

Home Health Nursing, 2013
- 16 Standards
  - List of competencies for each standard:
    - Generalist
    - APRN

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ANA Scope and Standards

Nursing, 2010
- Standard 1. Assessment
  - The registered nurse collects comprehensive data pertinent to the healthcare consumer’s health and/or the situation.

Home Health Nursing, 2013
- Standard 1. Assessment
  - The home health nurse collects comprehensive data pertinent to the patient’s health and/or the situation.
Standard of Practice – 1
Assessment

The home health registered nurse collects comprehensive data pertinent to the patient's health &/or situation.

14 Generalist & 4 APRN Competencies, including:

- Collects comprehensive data including but not limited to physical, functional, psychosocial, emotional, cognitive, sexual, cultural, age-related, environmental, spiritual/transpersonal, and economic assessments in a systematic and ongoing process while honoring the uniqueness of the person.
- Identifies deficits and barriers to effective performance of self-care management skills/behaviors.
- Synthesizes available data, information, and knowledge relevant to the situation to identify patterns and variances.

Standard of Practice – 2
Diagnosis

The home health registered nurse analyzes the assessment data to determine the diagnoses or the issues.

8 Generalist + 3 APRN Competencies, including:

- Derives the diagnoses or issues from assessment data.
- Validates the diagnoses or issues with the patient, family, and other healthcare providers.
- Uses standardized classification systems and clinical decision support tools, in identifying diagnoses.
- Documents diagnoses or issues in a manner that facilitates the determination of the expected outcomes and plan.
Standard of Practice – 3
Outcomes Identification

The home health registered nurse identifies expected outcomes for a plan individualized to the patient, family and care giving situation.

16 Generalist + 4 APRN Competencies, including:

- Derives physical, psychosocial, and culturally appropriate expected outcomes from the diagnoses.
- Involves the patient, family, caregivers, healthcare team members, and others in formulating expected outcomes.
- Defines expected outcomes in terms of the patient’s culture, values, and ethical beliefs.
- Develops expected outcomes that support continuity of care.

Standard of Practice – 4
Planning

The home health registered nurse develops a plan that prescribes strategies and alternatives to attain expected outcomes.

13 Generalist + 5 APRN Competencies, including:

- Collaborates with the patient to develop an individualized plan in partnership with the patient, family, caregivers, healthcare providers, and other stakeholders, that is adapted to the patient’s unique needs and preferences, including, but not limited to:
  - Physical needs, co-morbidities, and functional status
  - Psycho-social needs, developmental level, health literacy, coping style, finances, and environment
  - Spiritual and culture values, beliefs and health practices, environment, and available technology.
Standard of Practice – 5
Implementation

The home health registered nurse implements the individualized patient plan of care.

5A: Coordination of Care  5B: Health Teaching & Promotion
5C: Consultation  5D: Prescriptive Authority

31 Generalist + 25 APRN Competencies, including:

- Employs strategies to optimize patient engagement.
- Promotes patient disease self-management.
- Demonstrates caring behaviors toward patients, family, and other caregivers.
- Uses technology to measure, record, and retrieve patient data, implement the nursing process, and enhance nursing practice.

Standard of Practice - 6
Evaluation

The home health registered nurse evaluates progress toward attainment of outcomes.

8 Generalist + 4 APRN Competencies, including:

- Conducts a systematic, ongoing, and criterion-based evaluation of the outcomes in relation to the structures and processes prescribed by the plan of care and the indicated timeline.
- Collaborates with the patient and others involved in the care or situation in the evaluation process.
- Uses ongoing assessment data to revise the diagnoses, outcomes, the plan, and the implementation as needed.
Standard of Professional Performance – 7

Ethics

The home health registered nurse practices ethically.

12 Generalist + 3 APRN Competencies, including:

- Uses the *Code of Ethics for Nurses with Interpretive Statements* (ANA, 2001) to guide practice.
- Delivers care in a manner that preserves and protects patient autonomy, dignity, rights, values, and beliefs.
- Recognizes the centrality of the patient and family as core members of any healthcare team.
- Assists patients in self determination and informed decision-making.
- Speaks up when appropriate to question healthcare practice when necessary for safety and quality improvement.

Standard of Professional Performance – 8

Education

The HH registered nurse attains knowledge and competence that reflects current nursing practice.

10 Generalist + 2 APRN Competencies, including:

- Participates in ongoing educational activities related to appropriate knowledge bases and professional issues.
- Demonstrates a commitment to lifelong learning through self-reflection and inquiry to address learning and personal growth needs.
- Seeks relevant educational experiences that reflect current practice needs to maintain current knowledge, skills, abilities, and judgment in clinical practice or role performance.
Standard of Professional Performance – 9
Evidence-Based Practice & Research

The home health registered nurse integrates evidence and research findings into practice.

4 Generalist + 3 APRN Competencies, including:

- Uses current evidence-based nursing knowledge, including research findings, to guide practice.
- Incorporates evidence when initiating changes in nursing practice.
- Participates, as appropriate to education level and position, in the formulation of evidence-based practice through research.
- Shares personal or third-party research findings with colleagues and peers.

Standard of Professional Performance -10
Quality of Practice

The home health registered nurse contributes to quality nursing practice.

16 Generalist + 6 APRN Competencies, including:

- Demonstrates quality by documenting the application of the nursing process in a responsible, accountable, and ethical manner.
- Uses best practices, creativity, and innovation to enhance the quality of care and improve patient outcomes.
- Participates in quality improvement initiatives in home health nursing and interprofessional practice.
Standard of Professional Performance – 11
Communication

The HH registered nurse communicates effectively in a variety of formats in all areas of practice.

9 Generalist Competencies, including:
- Assesses her or his own communication skills in encounters with patients, families, and colleagues.
- Seeks continuous improvement of her or his own communication and conflict resolution skills.
- Questions the rationale supporting care processes and decisions when they do not appear to be in the best interest of the patient.
- Discloses observations or concerns related to hazards and errors in care or the practice environment to the appropriate level.

Standard of Professional Performance – 12
Leadership

The HH registered nurse demonstrates leadership in the professional practice setting and the profession.

18 Generalist + 7 APRN Competencies, including:
- Treats colleagues respectfully and courteously, while trusting them to be accountable for the care and services they provide.
- Inspires quality care while coordinating patient care given by caregivers, paraprofessionals and other team members.
- Participates in the home health agency’s committees and quality teams to enhance home health policies, standards and practices.
- Precepts nurses and other clinicians new to home care to promote excellent home health care practice.
Standard of Professional Performance – 13
Collaboration

The HH registered nurse evaluates one’s own nursing practice in relation to professional practice standards and guidelines, relevant statutes, rules, and regulations.

8 Generalist + 4 APRN Competencies, including:
- Communicates collaborates with the patient, family, caregivers, and healthcare team members regarding home health care and the home health nurse’s role in the provision of that care.
- Promotes patient engagement.
- Engages in teamwork and team-building processes.
- Promotes patient engagement.
- Leads the communication and cooperative efforts in creating an interprofessional plan of care focused on outcomes.

Standard of Professional Performance – 14
Professional Practice Evaluation

The HH registered nurse evaluates one’s own nursing practice in relation to professional practice standards & guidelines, relevant statutes, rules, & regulations.

9 Generalist + 1 APRN Competencies, including:
- Provides age-appropriate and developmentally appropriate care in a culturally and ethnically sensitive manner.
- Engages in self-evaluation of practice on a regular basis, identifying areas of strength as well as areas in which professional growth would be beneficial.
- Obtains informal feedback regarding one’s own practice from patients, families, caregivers, peers, professional colleagues, and others.
Standard of Professional Performance – 15
Resource Utilization

The registered nurse utilizes appropriate resources to plan and provide nursing services that are safe, effective, and financially responsible.

9 Generalist + 4 APRN Competencies, including:

- Assesses patient, family, and caregiver needs and resources available to implement the care plan and to achieve desired outcomes.
- Identifies patient care needs, potential for harm, complexity of the task, and desired outcome when considering resource allocation.
- Assists the patient and family in factoring costs, risks, and benefits in decisions about treatment and care at home.

Standard of Professional Performance – 16
Environmental Health

The home health registered nurse practices in an environmentally safe and healthy manner.

7 Generalist + 9 APRN Competencies, including:

- Attains knowledge of about how environmental health concepts and strategies are applied in the home setting, especially as related to infection control and sharps, drug and waste disposal.
- Assesses the patient’s home and community for safety-risk factors, such as unsafe homes and neighborhoods, unsanitary conditions and animals and pests that could threaten the health of patients, families, caregivers or home health agency staff.
- Promotes a practice environment that reduces environmental health risks for patients, caregivers, home health team members and the community.
Questions? Comments?

- Public Comment Period: November
- [http://www.nursingworld.org/MainMenuCategories/ThePracticeofProfessionalNursing/Call-for-Public-Comment](http://www.nursingworld.org/MainMenuCategories/ThePracticeofProfessionalNursing/Call-for-Public-Comment)
- All State Nursing Associations notified
- Notice in *Home Healthcare Nurse*
- Notice through the International Home Care Nurses Organization ([www.ihcno.org](http://www.ihcno.org)) website and Linked-in
- Notice on VNAA Linked-in Group

References

- Harris, M.D. (2013). We Need Your Input...This Is Your Opportunity to have a voice in the future of your profession. *Home Healthcare Nurse*, 31(4), 177.
ANA Contact Information

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