

NC Department of Health and Human Services
NC Home Care Aide Curriculum

Module 8 – Providing Care for the Patient’s Environment
 July 2021

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Objectives

1. Describe the role of the home care aide in caring for the patient environment
2. Explain why a clean home is important to the overall health and well-being of the patient
3. Identify basic guidelines for cleaning and home management tasks
4. Describe how to develop a cleaning routine/schedule

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Importance of Home Management Tasks (1)


- Home care aides play a significant part in keeping a patient’s home in order.
- Light home management tasks are important to the patient’s well-being.
- In addition to decreasing a patient’s stress level, completing home management tasks can also be an issue of health:
 - COPD (Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease)
 - CHF (Congestive Heart Failure)
 - Cancer patient undergoing chemotherapy

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Importance of Home Management Tasks (2)

- It is possible that some patients have never learned sanitary, safety, or even grocery shopping techniques.
- The home care aide can model healthy habits to the patient.




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HOME MANAGEMENT TASKS

- Heavy cleaning versus light cleaning
- When the home aide is in the home, he or she is expected to provide care for the assigned patient only.
- Even if the patient has other family members living in the same home, the home care aide is there to assist the patient only, and is not there to provide these tasks for the whole family.




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ACTIVITY #1

Case Scenarios




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DEVELOPING A ROUTINE

- The home care aide's supervisor will assign home management tasks on the patient's plan of care.
- Writing out daily or weekly plans with the patient will help in setting up a routine, and will help the home care aide to clearly see the tasks assigned and a scheduled way of completing them.




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Frequency of Home Management Tasks

- The home care aide's supervisor will assign home management tasks on the patient's plan of care.
- Writing out daily or weekly plans with the patient will help in setting up a routine and will help the home care aide to clearly see the tasks assigned and a scheduled way of completing them.




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ACTIVITY #2

Cleaning Schedule and Classroom Activity



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CLEANING SUPPLIES AND EQUIPMENT

- Cleaning materials and equipment
- Storage or placement
- Cleaning supplies are chemicals
- **NEVER** mix any cleaning products
- Refer to SDS manual




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KITCHEN MAINTENANCE

- It is essential to keep the kitchen clean.
- Many diseases can be transmitted by food, contaminated surfaces or dishes.




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HANDOUT #1

Cleaning the Patient's Bathroom



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HANDOUT #2
Laundry



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HANDOUT #3
Proper Body Mechanics




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MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Home management assignments may not be the home care aide's favorite tasks; however, they are essential to the patient's overall health and well-being. A clean and organized home will ease your patient's stress and could have beneficial health outcomes.



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