

**NEVADA STATE BOARD OF NURSING
ADVISORY OPINION**

**REQUIREMENTS FOR CERTIFIED NURSING ASSISTANTS
ACCOMPANYING RESIDENTS FROM SKILLED/LONG TERM CARE FACILITIES
WHEN ON TRANSPORT**

It is the opinion of the Nevada State Board of Nursing that a person who is certified as a nursing assistant in Nevada may accompany skilled/long term care facility residents on transport under the following parameters.

The director of nursing at a skilled/long term care facility shall have written policies and procedures, and documented competence in place that addresses the following:

1. A registered nurse will assess the resident and determine if the transport with a CNA:
 - Is considered safe and routine for the specific client,
 - Poses little potential hazard for the client,
 - Can be performed with a predictable outcome,
 - Does not require assessment, interpretation or decision-making while being performed,
 - Involves a limited degree of potential client discomfort or risk,
 - Does not require a substantial amount of scientific knowledge and technical skill, and
 - Does not include tasks or equipment that require a nursing license to perform.

2. The roles and responsibilities of the CNA while accompanying a resident include:
 - Patient safety,
 - Nutrition,
 - Emergency planning,
 - Critical communication between the CNA, resident, and the RN supervisor,
 - Professional boundaries,
 - Resident rights,
 - Contingency planning,
 - Limitations and restrictions regarding the role and duties of the CNA during transport.

3. Prior to the transport, a registered nurse will ensure the CNA has the following available:
 - A working means of communication, such as a cell phone, provided by the facility,
 - The name and contact information for the supervising RN during the transport,
 - A plan of care for the resident,
 - Appropriate supplies and equipment necessary for the transport, and
 - A qualified driver who is not the CNA and an appropriate means of transportation.

Rationale:

When assigning a CNA the task of accompanying a resident on transport, the RN always maintains accountability for the overall provision of nursing care and is responsible for the ongoing supervision and evaluation of the assigned task following the accepted standard of care which would be provided by a reasonable and prudent nurse. Nursing assistants are certified by the Nevada State Board of Nursing and perform specific tasks and skills consistent with their training and documented competency. CNA practice is under the regulatory authority and oversight of the Board to ensure public protection and safety. By performing an assessment of a resident, a registered nurse may determine the skill level of the personnel required for accompanying a resident on transport. With the appropriate documented training and facility support, a CNA can safely accompany a resident on transport to ensure the personal care needs of the resident that are within the CNA scope of practice are met.

References:

Registered Nurses

NAC 632.212 Duties included; competency required.

NAC 632.222 Delegation and supervision of nursing care.

NAC 632.224 Supervision of others; duties of chief nurse;

CNA Skills Guidelines

Approved by the Nevada State Board of Nursing:

July 26, 2011