

Supporting the Professional Registered Nurse as the School Nurse

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TSNO School Health Issues Chair



Texas School Nurse Organization

Objectives

- Recognize Texas Board of Nursing definitions of the Vocational Nurse and the Professional Nurse.
- Identify 5 health care professionals who may provide supervision for LVN's
- Discriminate the difference in Standards of Practice for LVN's vs. RN's
- Recognize limitations placed on nursing delegation by the TX BON.
- Identify three additional TX BON documents which support the professional register nurse as the school nurse.
- Recognize the implications of Texas Health & Safety Code, Chapter 168: Care of the Student with Diabetes on the practice of school nursing.
- Discuss strategies for Supporting the Professional Nurse as the School Nurse



Credit Due

- Barbara Sommer
- Sandi Peek
- Susan Luethold
- Melinda Hester
- Anita Wheeler
- Cathy Marsh
- TSNO Executive Board
- TSNO School Health Issues Committee
- DSHS RN/LVN working group



TX Nurse Practice Act 301.002

Definitions

Professional Nursing

- Specialized judgment and skill
- Based on knowledge and application of the principles of biological, physical, and social science
- Acquired by a completed course in an approved school of **professional** nursing.
- Does not include acts of medical diagnosis or the prescription of therapeutic or corrective measures

Vocational Nursing

- **Directed scope of nursing practice**
- Specialized judgment and skill
- Based on knowledge and application of the principles of biological, physical, and social science
- Acquired by a completed course in an approved school of **vocational** nursing.
- Does not include acts of medical diagnosis or the prescription of therapeutic or corrective measures.

- [NPA-Chapter 301](#)



TX Nurse Practice Act 301.002

Definitions

Professional Nursing

- Observe, assess, intervene, evaluate, rehabilitate, care and counsel, or health teachings
- **Health maintenance/illness prevention**
- **Development** of nursing care plan
- Administer medication or treatment as ordered by MD, DOPM, DDS
- Supervision/teaching of nursing
- Administration, supervision, and evaluation of nursing practices, policies, and procedures
- Performance of an act delegated by a physician

Vocational Nursing

- Collect data
- **Participating** in the development and modification of the nursing care plan
- **Participating** in health teaching and counseling
- **Assisting** in the evaluation of response to nursing intervention and the identification of an individual's needs
- **NPA-Chapter 301**



BON Scope of Practice: RN's and LVN's

- **LVN**

- Directed practice
- Predictable needs
- Focused assessment
- Assist with nursing process
- Assign tasks
- Professional accountability

- **RN**

- Independent practice
- Predictable and unpredictable needs
- Comprehensive assessment
- Direct nursing process
- Assign and delegate
- Professional accountability

BON Rule 217.11



Delegation Defined

- “...transferring to a competent individual the authority to perform a selected nursing task in a selected situation while maintaining accountability for the performance of the delegated task.”
(NCSBN, 2005)



TX BON Rules 224 & 225

Delegation

- RN is responsible for delegation
- RN may not delegate nursing process
- LVN may assign tasks, but cannot delegate
 - Assigning tasks may flow from those tasks assigned to the LVN by the supervisor
 - LVN accountable for maintaining standard of care

[Delegation Resource](#)



Focused vs. Comprehensive Assessments

- **Focused**

- Individuals
- Current situation

- **Comprehensive**

- Individuals, families, groups, communities
- Anticipatory planning
- Emergent changes
- Alterations to previous conditions
- Holistic assessment
- Independent decision
- Nursing diagnosis

LVN Scope of Practice



LVN Supervision

- Vocational nursing performed under supervision of
 - Registered nurse
 - Physician
 - Physician assistant
 - Podiatrist
 - Dentist

FAQ - LVNs Supervision of Practice.



BON Position Statement 15.13

– Role of LVN's and RN's as School Nurses

- **School Nursing is a RN Specialty**
- **Requires Comprehensive assessment**
- **Care Plan development, implementation and evaluation**
- **LVN's can function in structured health setting and with clients who have predictable outcomes**
- **School is not a structured setting**

BON Position 15.13: Role of LVN's & RN's as a School Nurse



Differentiated Essential Competencies (DEC)

- **LVN's function in environment where policies, procedures and protocols are established**
- **LVN must have access to assistance & support of nursing expertise**
- **LVN not educationally prepared for competency in complex independent judgment & decision making**



TX BON Position Statement 15.10 Limitations for Expanding Scope of Practice Through Continuing Education

- **Transition from one level of nursing practice to the next requires the completion of a formal program of education**

Position 15.10: Limitations of Continuing Education



Texas Health & Safety Code Chapter 168: Care of the Student with Diabetes

HEALTH AND SAFETY CODE CHAPTER 168. CARE OF STUDENTS WITH DIABETES

- Code specifies that the professional registered nurse is responsible for the plan of care



Resources in Support of Registered Nurses as School Nurses

- **Texas School Nurse Organization Toolkit**

www.txsn.org

- **National Association of School Nurses Issue Briefs and Positions Statements**

- www.nasn.org

- **American Academy of Pediatrics**


- <http://aappolicy.aappublications.org/cgi/reprint/pediatrics;121/5/1052.pdf>





- **American Nurses Association**


<http://www.nursingworld.org/FunctionalMenuCategories/MediaResources/PressReleases/2007/schoolnurse.aspx>



								
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-  [TSNO Nominees Needed for Treasurer, Nominations Coordinator & President Elect For information contact Lisa Sicilio](#)
-  [Supporting R.N.s as School Nurses toolkit](#)
-  [Voices of Meningitis National Campaign Media Alert letter Letter to the Editor](#)



 **ASK A SCHOOL NURSE**



You do it for all the right reasons and TSNO can help

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National Association of School Nurses

Wednesday, September 01, 2010

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POSITION STATEMENT

School Nursing Management of Students with Chronic Health Conditions

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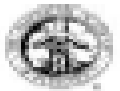


Left Panel

Individualized health care planning, a professional school nursing function that cannot be delegated (National Council State Boards of Nursing, 2005), is necessary for the successful management of students with chronic health conditions to enable them to fully access their educational programs, to prevent the development of serious and life-threatening complications and emergencies, and to prolong life. The registered professional school nurse is responsible and accountable for creating the individualized health care plan (IHP), for management of activities of the plan and for the outcomes of the plan, even when implementation of the plan requires delegation to UAP.



Texas School Nurse Organization



POLICY STATEMENT

Role of the School Nurse in Providing School Health Services

Council on School Health

Organizational Principles to Guide and Define the Child Health Care System and/or Improve the Health of All Children

ABSTRACT

The school nurse has a crucial role in the seamless provision of comprehensive health services to children and youth. Increasing numbers of students enter schools with chronic health conditions that require management during the school day. This policy statement describes for pediatricians the role of the school nurse in serving as a team member in providing preventive services, early identification of problems, interventions, and referrals to foster health and educational success. To optimally care for children, preparation, ongoing education, and appropriate staffing levels of school nurses are important factors for success. Recommendations are offered to facilitate the working relationship between the school nurse and the child's medical home. This statement has been endorsed by the National Association of School Nurses.

www.pediatrics.org/cgi/doi/10.1542/peds.2008-0382

doi:10.1542/peds.2008-0382

All policy statements from the American Academy of Pediatrics automatically expire 5 years after publication unless reaffirmed, revised, or retired at or before that time.

Key Words

school nursing, school nurse, school health services

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SCHOOL NURSE DEFINITION

The National Association of School Nurses defines school nursing as:

A specialized practice of professional nursing that advances the well-being, academic success, and lifelong achievement of students. To that end, school nurses facilitate positive student responses to normal development; promote health and safety; intervene with actual and potential health problems; provide case management services; and actively collaborate with others to build student and family capacity for adaptation, self-management, self-advocacy, and learning.¹



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ANA Advocates for Daily Availability of School Nurses for Nation's Children (5/3)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 3, 2007

CONTACT:
[Mary McNamara](#), 301-628-5198
[Mary Stewart](#), 301-628-5038

The American Nurses Association Advocates for Daily Availability of School Nurses for Nation's Children

On any given weekday, as much as 20% of the combined US population of children and adults can be found in schools. ANA strongly believes that public policy must guarantee a central health care professional - educated, knowledgeable and with up-to-date skills - to be available daily to students in the educational setting, to best protect the fundamental public health and educational priority our nation's children represent. That professional is the registered school nurse.

For more information about ANA's position on school nurses and children's health and safety in schools, please go to www.nursingworld.org/readroom/position/practice/AssuringSafeHealthCarePreK.pdf.



DSHS Working Group: RN / LVN



Texas School Nurse Organization

Strategies: Key Areas of Focus

- **Financial considerations**
- **Safety Issues**
- **Role of LVN/Scope of Practice**
- **Collecting Data-Making the Case**
- **Involving Parents**
- **Development of Ratio Models**



Financial Considerations

- **Develop ready data set**
- **Know “best practices”**
- **Compare school clinic visits to local hospital or MD office visits**
- **SHARS billing differential**
- **ADA – lost, weighted funding**



RN/LVN Cost Analysis

Cathy Marsh: Burleson ISD

- Compare RN vs. LVN Salary
 - 15 RN
 - 3 RN + 15 LVN
 - Reduction in SHARS when billed by LVN
 - Impact on ADA
 - 1 RN/ campus = 94.8%
 - LVN model = 93.9% or 0.89% reduction in ADA
- \$720,000
 - \$564,000
 - \$156,000 saved
 - (\$14,700)
 - \$141,300
 - (\$356,000)
 - (\$214,000)



RN/LVN Cost Analysis

- Impact on ADA
 - 1 RN/ campus = 94.8%
 - LVN model = 93.9% or 0.89% reduction in ADA
- \$141,300
- (\$356,000)
- (\$214,000) overall loss to ISD

- Impact on ADA
 - 1 RN/campus = 94.8%
 - 1 RN/multiple campuses = 92.8% - 2% ADA reduction
- \$141,300
- (\$800,000)
- (\$658,000) overall loss to ISD



Practice & Safety Issues

- **Initial assessment**
- **Comprehensive assessment**
- **Emergent issues**
- **LVN Supervision by RN with campus caseload**
- **Disaster and public health emergency management**



Collecting Data-Making the Case

- **Nursing Responsibilities in the School Clinic**
 - Medications administered
 - Referrals for further evaluation and follow-up
 - Return to class ratio
 - H1N1 activities this past year
 - Other significant information that shows the full scope of nursing services provided and by whom
- **ADA rate per student**
- **WADA rate**
- **SHARS- RN/LVN rates for reimbursement (comparison)**
- **Medication errors**



Comparison of SHARS- RN/LVN/UAP Reimbursement Rates*

- **Individual care**
 - RN \$12.75
 - LVN \$4.99
 - UAP \$2.92
- **Medication Admin**
 - RN \$8.50
 - LVN \$3.33
 - UAP \$2.92

* Sample ISD



Involving Parents

- **Looking for parents to tell their school nurse story**
- **Parent fact sheet about nursing services**
- **TOOT the Horn!**



Ratio Considerations

- **Acuity of students on the campus**
 - **NASN Position: Caseload Assignments**
- **Proximity of the RN to the LVN**
- **Experience of the RN in supervision and management**
- **Experience of the LVN in the school setting**



Questions/Discussion



Texas School Nurse Organization