

# PSYCHIATRIC NURSING ASSISTANT 1

## GENERAL

This position encompasses personal patient care and related housekeeping duties in a provincial health centre. It involves providing physical support, guidance, escort and care for patients in their daily activities, as well as maintaining their living environment in a clean and orderly fashion. Incumbents report to a ward or nurse supervisor, but follow established procedures and exercise personal initiative in interacting effectively with patients in varying situations. Shift work may be involved.

## TYPICAL DUTIES

- Provides physical support to patients such as lifting, guiding movements in recreation, meal, therapy and other activities, escorting to and from activities, and restraining when appropriate.
- Assists patient with personal hygiene including bathing, toilet, shaving, cleaning teeth, washing hair, dressing and grooming.
- Assists patient with meals including carrying food trays, distributing snacks, feeding patients.
- Maintains patient's living environment in a clean and orderly fashion including bed making, cleaning of unit, wiping up spills.
- Performs basic nursing duties such as back rubs, bed baths, collection of urine specimens, weighing patients, reporting signs of illness or unusual behaviour.
- Performs delivery and messenger services to assist staff and patients such as delivering supplies or laundry, distributing bedpans, driving vehicles.
- Provide aid to staff and patients in cases of accidents, fire drills and other emergencies.
- Performs other related duties as assigned.

## QUALIFICATIONS

### Knowledge, Abilities and Skills

- Knowledge of personal patient care techniques and housekeeping procedures required in a health centre setting.
- Ability to interact positively and effectively with patients and staff.

“This information is available in alternate formats upon request.”

- Ability to follow procedures, and to exercise initiative in handling and reporting unusual situations.

### **Education, Training and Experience**

- Educational and intellectual maturity to relate effectively with physically and mentally ill patients.
- Some related experience in patient care, preferably in a health care centre.

### **Physical Standards**

Physically capable of performing the duties assigned.

## **PSYCHIATRIC NURSING ASSISTANT 2**

### **GENERAL**

Employees in this classification, in addition to performing the duties of a Psychiatric Nursing Assistant 1, may be responsible on a shift basis, for the supervision of clients or residents where direct supervision by a graduate nurse is not immediately available. Alternatively, the incumbent may be responsible for the implementation of specific therapeutic programs as have been planned and assigned by professional personnel. This includes observation of response to treatment, measurement of targeted behaviours and assisting in evaluation of residents' progress.

### **TYPICAL DUTIES**

- Conducts specific therapeutic programs which have been planned and assigned by professional personnel. This includes behaviour therapy, remotivation, re-socialization, retraining, interaction and group techniques.
- May be required to supervise a group of clients or residents in any such programs or on any shift.
- Observes and assesses changes in behaviour in relation to predetermined goals.
- Assists in orientation and instruction of junior staff, volunteers or student nurses assigned to the area.

- Maintains ongoing progress reports of their assigned clients or residents.
- May supervise junior staff.
- Performs other related duties as assigned.

## **QUALIFICATIONS**

### **Knowledge, Abilities and Skills**

- Knowledge of personal patient care techniques and housekeeping procedures required in a health centre setting.
- Ability to interact positively and effectively with patients and staff.
- Ability to follow procedures, and to exercise initiative in handling and reporting unusual situations.

### **Education, Training and Experience**

One year's experience after completion of a recognized in-service Psychiatric Nursing Assistant Training Program plus the advanced training in therapeutic techniques as offered by the Centre (Behaviour Modification Level 2 in Portage School). Educational and intellectual maturity to relate effectively with physically and mentally handicapped persons.

### **Physical Standards**

Physically capable of performing the duties assigned.