



Intermountain Guidelines for Nursing Student Skills

March 2024

Beyond the student's syllabus, Intermountain has developed the following guidelines for what nursing students cannot do and may only observe:

- Log into the automated medication dispensing machine (ADM) or remove medications.
- Waste controlled substances or act as a witness to the wasting of controlled substances.
- Set up or change patient-controlled analgesia (PCA) settings.
- Administer chemotherapy
- Act as a second verifier on high-risk medications or blood products.
- Administer high-risk medications that require a dual sign-off (i.e., IV heparin, IV Insulin drips).
- Manipulation of generator of external pacer wires
- Central lines care and access

Pediatric Patients: Central lines- drawing blood* or removing central lines.

- CAN perform dressing changes and needleless connector (NC) changes.

NICU Patients: CANNOT perform any central line task

The following skills can be performed by nursing students under the direct supervision of the RN.

Documentation should include the skill was performed by the student nurse under direct supervision of the RN.

- Administer and prepare medications (exceptions listed under "cannot do" list).
- Administer and prepare narcotics and other controlled substances.
- Foley Catheter Insertion:
 - Students must have completed skill at school (simulation).
 - Please follow our current policy by utilizing two trained nurses,

- 1st RN to coach the student nurse through insertion
 - 2nd RN to observe sterile technique and proper insertion
- Central line dressing change and change of NC:
 - Students must have completed skill at school (simulation).
 - Please follow our current policy by utilizing two trained nurses
 - 1st RN to coach the student nurse through the dressing change
 - 2nd RN to observe sterile technique and proper process is followed

Nurse apprentice & capstone students

- May draw blood and administer medications in adult patients from a central line under direct supervision of RN
- Perform dressing change for external pacer

Thank you for supporting our student nurses as they transition into professional nursing roles.