

CHAPTER 6
NURSING PRACTICE FOR
REGISTERED NURSES/LICENSED PRACTICAL NURSES

655—6.5(152) Additional acts which may be performed by licensed practical nurses.

6.5(1) A licensed practical nurse shall be permitted to supervise unlicensed assistive personnel under the provisions of Iowa Code section 152.1(5) “b.”

a. Supervision, among other things, includes any or all of the following:

- (1) Direct observation of a function or activity.
- (2) Delegation of nursing tasks while retaining accountability.
- (3) Determination that nursing care being provided is adequate and delivered appropriately.

b. Supervision shall be in accordance with the following:

(1) A licensed practical nurse working under the supervision of a registered nurse shall be permitted to supervise in an intermediate care facility for persons with an intellectual disability or in a residential health care setting.

(2) A licensed practical nurse working under the supervision of a registered nurse may direct the activities of other licensed practical nurses and unlicensed assistive personnel in an acute care setting in giving care to individuals assigned to the licensed practical nurse. The registered nurse must be in the proximate area.

(3) A licensed practical nurse working under the supervision of a registered nurse may supervise in a nursing facility if the licensed practical nurse completes the National Healthcare Institute’s Supervisory Course for Iowa’s Licensed Practical Nurses within 90 days of employment in a supervisory role. Documentation of the completion of the course shall be maintained by the licensed practical nurse. A licensed practical nurse shall be entitled to supervise without completing the course if the licensed practical nurse was performing in a supervisory role on or before October 6, 1982. A licensed practical nurse who is currently enrolled as a full-time student in a registered nurse program and is scheduled to graduate within one year is not required to complete the course. If the licensed practical nurse does not obtain a registered nurse license within one year, the licensed practical nurse must take the course to continue supervisory duties.

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