**Basic Nursing Skills**

**Competency**

Leader’ Guide

**Basic Nursing Skills**

**Leader’s Guide**

Today’s healthcare environment has been influenced by the public, the government, and the care providers. The public’s demand for high quality, affordable health care ultimately led the government to pass legislation such as the Affordable Care Act, the IMPACT Act, and PAMA. Now, and into the future, these laws affect the way providers provide care. Basic nursing skill competency is essential.

Consideration of basic nursing skill competencies, other than those required of certification/licensure, includes, but not limited to:

* Basic Cares
* Observational Skills
* Taking and Recording Vital Signs
* Measuring and Recording Height and Weight
* Caring for the Residents Environment
* Reporting Change of Condition
* Reporting Abnormal Changes in Body Function
* Notification and Reporting
* Bedmaking and Comfort Measures
* Admission and Discharge
* Dining/Meals
* Nutrition/Hydration
* Bathing
* Activities of Daily Living
* Mobility
* Transfers, Positioning
* Grooming
* Dressing
* Oral Hygiene
* Incontinence Care
* Catheter Care
* Toileting
* Intake and Output
* Skin Care
* Adaptive Equipment

Organizational leaders will need to ensure competency of all staff members employed in the facility. Adequate resources for the program will need to be evaluated using information from the Facility-Wide Resource Assessment including:

* Staff Resources
  + Registered Nurses
  + Licensed Practical/Vocational Nurses
  + CNAs
* Documentation Considerations
  + Paper vs. Electronic
  + Assessment/Evaluation forms
  + Care planning
* Education
  + Communication – internal and external
  + Assessment/Basic Nursing Skills
* Evaluation and Monitoring
* Supplies and Equipment, Etc.