

NORTHWOOD TECHNICAL COLLEGE  
ASSOCIATE DEGREE NURSING  
STUDENT POLICIES

## **SUPERVISION OF NURSING SKILLS**

The definitions of nursing skills were adapted from terminology in the Wisconsin Administrative Code, Chapter 4, N6. They were devised to guide the student in obtaining the appropriate type of supervision in the clinical setting. Prior to practicing any skill in a clinical setting, the student must demonstrate competency in pre- or co-requisite nursing skills coursework, e.g., 10-543-102 Nursing Skills or 10-543-112 Advanced Nursing Skills.

**Direct supervision** means that the instructor is immediately available to advise, direct, and inspect the practice of the student nurse. An example of when direct supervision is appropriate would be for the first time the student performs a procedure.

**General supervision** means the instructor is not immediately present but is aware of the student nurse's activities and regularly advises, directs, and inspects the practice of the student nurse. An example of when general supervision is appropriate would be when the student is nearing graduation, caring for a group of stable clients, and performing basic skills that have had direct supervision on a previous clinical occasion and demonstrated competency.

The student is expected to clarify with the clinical instructor the type of supervision required before performing skills.