



Guidance for the Supervision and Assessment of NMC Nursing Proficiencies for Students of Nursing

This document provides guidance in relation to the introduction of new NMC [standards of proficiency for nurses \(2018\)](#). The NMC require students to develop range of proficiencies over the course of their programme. Registered Health Care professionals are required to facilitate achievement through supervision and assessment. Details of provision of theory and opportunity for simulated introduction to the proficiencies plus assessment record of achievement are outlined in the students' on line Practice Assessment Documentation –EPAD.

It is also important that students are properly **prepared and assessed** as being proficient in order to graduate and register with the NMC.

Ongoing supervision for any medicines administration will be required until they are registered.

For other proficiencies direct or indirect supervision will be at the discretion of the accountable **Registered Nurse** or **Registered Nursing Associate**.

Students are required to undertake the appropriate **related training packages** whilst on placement with you. If they commence a skills package in one placement, they are to continue to complete the package and be supervised/assessed in subsequent placements.

Employers are reviewing policies that may have previously excluded them from undertaking specific proficiencies.

FAQ: Can students administer medication prescribed via a Patient Group Directive (PGD)?

Answer: Only if they have completed the full PGD training and are **named** as an administrator with the placement provider. Under direct supervision of a **Registered Nurse/ Nursing Associate**. However they would be required to be listed with the placement as having completed preparation, which would be unlikely during the course of a placement.

FAQ: Are students allowed to administer immunisations?

Immunisations, such as the flu vaccine, are frequently administered via a Patient Group Directive (PGD). Where this is the case students are not allowed to administer the vaccine (see previous FAQ). However, where a vaccine is prescribed on an individual patient prescription sheet then the student can, after they have completed the relevant training and deemed proficient under direct supervision of a **Registered Nurse** or **Nursing Associate**

FAQ: Are students allowed to administer controlled drugs?

Answer: Yes, under direct supervision of a **Registered Nurse**.

FAQ: Can student nurses check the stock of control drugs?

Answer: Yes, students can act as a second checker under direct supervision of **Registered Nurse**.

FAQ: Can students visit patients unaccompanied while on a community placement?

Answer: Yes, 2nd/3rd or 4th year students can visit patients without direct supervision once they have been on placement for a minimum of two weeks. The student must be accompanied by the Registered nurse/ Registered Nursing Associate on the first patient visit, be assessed as being competent and the patient must consent to subsequent visits being made by the student only. The patient should also be re-assessed by the Registered nurse on a minimum of a weekly basis. Patients who require the administration of oral, injected or enteral medication cannot be visited without the presence of a Registered Nurse.

Students must also have contact /mobile phone numbers so that they can access support if needed and must give a report and evaluation of the care given to the Registered nurse on the same day. Further guidance on lone working can be found at <https://www.plymouth.ac.uk/student-life/your-studies/academic-services/placements-and-workbased-learning/poppi/health>

FAQ: Can students see patients in a primary care setting/clinic, such as a GP surgery, without direct supervision?

Answer: Yes, 2nd/3rd or 4th year students can see patients under indirect supervision once they have been on placement for a minimum of two weeks and have been deemed competent/proficient by the Registered nurse. The Registered nurse must also be available for consultation and support within the immediate care setting. The Registered nurse should discuss the patient list with the student prior to the clinic and they must only review routine/follow up patients. Immediately following the clinic the student must meet with and give a report and evaluation of care to the Registered nurse