

GNA Performance in NNAAP Skills Performance Test

The Board of Nursing has been working closely with the Promissor Testing Service to gather data relative to the NNAAP Skills Performance Test. The Board collaborated with Promissor to examine the skills tested in Maryland. Data reveals that some of the skills tested are more difficult for the candidate to pass than others. It is also found that while a number of candidates fail to perform the critical elements of a particular skill, there are other steps within each skill that a large percentage of candidates are also missing. The following identifies those skills where 20% or more of the candidates fail to perform a step(s) of the skill. It is hoped that with this information that GNA Instructors will be able to evaluate and improve the methods the instructor utilizes to teach the particular skill. It is hoped that with this data the GNA skills test results can be improved.

A. Skill #2 Measures and Records Weights of Ambulatory Client. In addition to failing to perform the critical element, 20% or more of all candidates fail to perform one or both of the following two steps:

- Step #4 - starts with the scale balanced at with zero before weighing client; and
- Step #8 - washes hands as final steps. (please note the evaluator can mark yes to this without the candidate performing this if the candidate indicates that he or she would wash their hands at his point).

B. Skill #3 provides mouth care. In addition to failing to perform the critical element, 20% or more of all candidates fail to perform one or both of the following two steps.

- Step #6 - puts on gloves before cleaning client's mouth
- Step #17 - after completing procedure removes gloves without contaminating self and disposes of gloves appropriately

C. Skill #4 dresses client with affected right arm. In addition to failing to perform the critical element, more than 20% of all candidates fail to perform one or more of the following six steps:

- Step #5 asks client what outfit he/she would like to wear and dresses him/her in an outfit of choice.
- Step #6 removes client's gown without completely exposing client.
- Step #9 before standing client places bed at a safe and appropriate level for the client
- Step #10 before standing client, applies non-skid footwear
- Step #12 finishes with client dressed appropriately (e.g. clothing right side out, zippers/buttons fastened, etc) and seated.
- Step #13 places gown in a soiled linen container.

D. Skill #5 Transfers Client from Bed to Wheelchair. In addition to failing to perform the critical element, 20% or more of all candidates fail to perform one or more of the following 3 steps.

- Step #10 before transferring client puts non-skid footwear on the client and securely fastens
- Step #18 repositions client with hips touching back of wheelchair and removes transfer belt, if used.
- Step #20 Before leaving client places signal device within client's reach.

E. Skill #8 performs passive range of motion (ROM) for one shoulder. 20% or more of all candidates fail to perform the following two steps:

- Step #8 places client flexed elbow of client's shoulder level rotating forearm toward the head of the bed and rotating forearm down toward hip (rotation) (repeats at least three times).
- Step #9 while supporting the limb, move joint gently, slowly, and smoothly through the range of motion to the point of resistance, discontinuing exercise if pain occurs.

F. Skill #11 Assists Client with Use of Bedpan. In addition to failing to perform the critical element, 20% or more of all candidates fail to perform one or more of the following 4 steps.

- Step #7 raises head of the bed after placing the bedpan under the client.
- Step #11 lowers the head of the bed before removing the bedpan.
- Step #14 rinses bedpan, pouring rinse water into toilet, and returns to proper storage.
- Step #16 assists client to wash hands after using bedpan and disposes of soiled washcloths or wipes in a proper container.

G. Skill#12 Provides Perineal Care for Incontinent Client, 20% or more of all candidates fail to perform one or more of the following 7 steps (two are critical elements)

- Step #7 protects client from wet incontinent pad while keeping bed clean and dry (e.g, rolls pad into itself with wet side in/ dry side out or removes pad and uses clean dry pad or protective linen).
- Step # 9 washes entire perineal area with soapy washcloth, moving from front to back while using a clean area of the washcloth or clean washcloth for each stroke, (**critical element**).
- Step #10 Rinses entire perineal area, moving from front to back while using

a clean area of the washcloth or clean washcloth for each stroke, (**critical element**).

- Step #11 dries entire perineal area moving from front to back using a blotting motion with towel.
- Step #13 washes, rinses and dries buttocks in perineal area without contaminating perineal area.
- Step #14 removes wet incontinent pad or protective linen after drying buttocks.
- Step #20 before leaving client, places signaling device within client's reach.

H. Skill #15 Takes and Records Radial Pulse, and Counts and Records Respiration.

It is noted that 20% or more of all candidates fail to perform one of the two required elements.

- Step#6 records pulse rates within + (plus) or – (minus) four beats or evaluator's reading.
- Step#8 records respiration rate within \pm (plus or minus) breaths of the evaluator's reading.

I. Skill #16 Takes and Records Client's Blood Pressure (one step procedure).

More than 20% of all candidates fail to perform the critical element and Step#10.

- Step #10 inflates up to no more than 30 millimeters hg above the point in which pulse is last heard or felt.
- Step #13 records both systolic and diastolic pressures each within +(plus) or – (minus) four millimeters or evaluator's reading, (**critical element**).

J. Skill #18 Puts One Knee – High Elastic Stocking on the Client.

More than 20% of all candidates fail to perform:

- step #5 turn stocking inside out at least to heel area.

K. Skill #20 provides foot care. More than 20% of all candidates testing this skill fail to perform one or more of the following three steps.

- Step #10 puts lotion in hand
- Step #11 warms lotion by rubbing hands together
- Step #12 massages lotion into entire foot (top and bottom), removing excess (if any) with a towel.

L. Skill #22 Feeds Client Who Cannot Feed Self. More than 20% of all candidates fail to perform one or more of the following five steps:

- Step #4 before feeding client, ensure client is in an upright sitting position
- Step #5 before feeding, picks up name card and verifies the client has received the tray prepared for him or her.
- Step #6 before feeding, assist client to put on clothing protector
- Step #7 sits at client's eye level
- Step #13 wipes food from client's mouth and hands as necessary and at the end of the meal.
- Step #14 removes clothing protector and disposes in proper container.

M. Skill #23 positions clients on side. 20% of all candidates fail to perform one or both of the following two steps:

- Step #6 before turning client moves client body toward self.
- Step #8 positions clients in proper body alignment (proper body alignment requires) **critical element:**

- Head supported by pillow
- Shoulder adjusted so client is not lying on arm
- Top arm supported
- Back supported by supported device
- Top knee flex
- Top legs supported by supported device with hip in proper alignment

N. Skill #24 gives Modified Bed Bath (face and one arm, hand and underarm). More than 20% of all candidates fail to perform one or more of the following seven steps.

- Step #5 removes or folds back top bedding, keeping client covered with bath blanket or top sheet
- Step #6 removes clients gown
- Step #8 washes face with wet washcloth (no soap) beginning with eyes use a different area of the washcloth for each eye, washing inner aspect to outer aspect.
- Step #9 dries face with towel, using blotting motion.
- Step #11 places towel underneath arm
- Step #14 puts clean gown on client
- Step #15 removes bath blanket and pulls up bed covers

