WHY WOUND CARE
ADVANCED MODULE

SAFEGUARDING
YOUR WOUND CARE NURSE PRACTICE
2018

Diane L. Krasner PhD, RN, FAAN
SAFEGUARDING YOUR WOUND CARE NURSE PRACTICE 2018

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Why Wound Care? Advanced Module
www.whywoundcare.com
Objectives

• Identify at least two aspects of a wound care nurse’s “usual and customary” practice

• Specify two Scope of Practice and Standard of Practice safeguards for a Wound Care Nurse’s Practice

• Identify two Standard of Care safeguards for a Wound Care Nurse’s Practice

Important Points Marked with Pearls
I, Diane L. Krasner, certify that, to the best of my knowledge, no affiliation or relationship of a financial nature with a commercial interest or organization has significantly affected my views on the subject on which I am presenting.
Diane L. Krasner  PhD RN  FAAN

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Co-Editor, Chronic Wound Care: The Essentials e-Book (2018)
Co-Chair, Why Wound Care?  www.whywoundcare.com
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DIANE L. KRASNER PHD RN FAAN
EXPERT WITNESS SINCE 1989

- In the last 12 years, over 200 wound cases reviewed for both Defense and Plaintiffs
- 21 Depositions
- 7 Trials
- Dozens of Expert Reports
INTRODUCING MY LEGAL NURSE CONSULTANT (LNC) MENTOR

Pat Iyer RN, MS, LNC

Find yourself a mentor!
The Path to Legal Nurse Consulting:
The Collective Wisdom of Successful
Legal Nurse Consultants

Pat Iyer MSN, RN, LNCC
Available from Amazon
AS A WOUND NURSE …

Your most likely interaction with “things legal” will be as a Fact Witness in a Deposition. The following slides discuss the most important things to know.
BEFORE A DEPOSITION:

Be certain that you have been adequately prepared by the retaining counsel (usually a defense attorney)
TO BEGIN, LET’S REFLECT ON . . . .

A Wound Care Nurse’s “Usual and Customary” Practice
EXAMPLE: DOCUMENTATION

I always document my assessments after seeing a patient, not before.
I refer to other members of the interprofessional team (dietary, therapies, etc.) whenever possible.
AS A WOUND CARE NURSE, YOU WILL NEED TO KNOW YOUR USUAL & CUSTOMARY PRACTICES
SCOPE OF PRACTICE

AMERICAN NURSES ASSOCIATION (ANA), SCOPE & STANDARDS OF PRACTICE, 3ND EDITION, 2015

Order from ANA Bookstore or Amazon

- Nurse Practice Acts
- LPN, RN, APN
SCOPE OF PRACTICE

WOUND, OSTOMY, AND CONTINENCE NURSING (WOCN) SCOPE AND STANDARDS OF PRACTICE, 2ND EDITION, 2018

Order from WOCN Bookstore, www.wocn.org

- Specialty Scope of Practice: Wound Ostomy and Continence Nursing (WOCN)
SCOPE OF PRACTICE
SAFEGUARDS
EXAMPLE:
DEBRIDEMENT VS. SURGERY
Know how your state nurse practice act limits debridement for wound care nurses.
EXAMPLE:
NPWT ORDERS (DEVICE ORDERS)
Know what you can and cannot order as a wound care nurse (vs. MD, NP, PA)
BE SURE TO SAFEGUARD YOUR WOUND CARE NURSE PRACTICE BY STAYING WITHIN YOUR SCOPE OF PRACTICE.
STANDARDS OF PRACTICE
AMERICAN NURSES ASSOCIATION (ANA),
SCOPE & STANDARDS
OF PRACTICE, 3ND EDITION, 2015

- Care Planning
- Communication
- Consults
- Documentation
- Ethics
STANDARDS OF PRACTICE SAFEGUARDS
EXAMPLE: COVERAGE

24/7 Coverage for Wound Services
BE SURE TO SAFEGUARD YOUR WOUND CARE NURSE PRACTICE BY MEETING STANDARDS OF PRACTICE FOR:

CARE PLANNING COMMUNICATION CONSULTS DOCUMENTATION ETHICS
STANDARD OF CARE

What a reasonably prudent nurse would do with a similar patient in similar circumstances in a similar setting.

• The legal bar
• Not best practices, not guideline recommendations
STANDARD OF CARE 
SAFE GUARD S
EXAMPLE:
PRESSURE RELIEVING DEVICES

Develop a Support Surface Algorithm for your facility (or use The Wound Ostomy Continence Nurses Society Algorithm www.wocn.org)
EXAMPLE: PRESSURE ULCER PREVENTION GUIDELINES

Develop a Turning & Repositioning Protocol
(Evidence-based; Care Planned; Documented)

The Devil's in the Detail
Use checklists to safeguard your wound care nurse practice

Atul Gawande
The Checklist Manifesto
2009
BE SURE TO SAFEGUARD YOUR WOUND CARE NURSE PRACTICE BY FOLLOWING STANDARDS OF CARE.
Take Home Message #1

When you become a wound care nurse, regularly reflect on your Usual and Customary practices and be sure you can explain them.
Take Home Message #2

When you become a wound care nurse, critically think about whether your job/role meets Standards of Practice.
Take Home Message #3

When you become a wound care nurse, regularly evaluate your facility’s guidelines to make sure that they meet the Standard of Care.
SELECTED REFERENCES


Thank You!

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