

THE SIX PRINCIPLES OF CARE

Each skill demonstration MUST include ALL *Six Principles of Care*. Memorizing the first six (6) letters in the word “Discipline” may be helpful to remember these principles.

1. **D** Dignity
2. **I** Infection Control
3. **S** Safety
4. **C** Communication
5. **I** Independence
6. **P** Privacy

Dignity

- Use respectful interaction with the resident at all times
- Maintain face-to-face contact whenever possible (speak directly to resident)
- Address the resident by his/her last name: (LEE, Mary H.) = “Mrs. Lee”

Infection Control

- Wash and/or sanitize hands before and after skill demonstration (repeat as needed)
- Wear gloves and PPE when necessary; use table barriers, trash & linen bags
- Carry linen/supplies away from uniform; keep linen off of floor

PPE - personal protective equipment

Safety

- Validate/check ID-band; greet resident using the actual name on the band
- Use correct body mechanics; lock brakes; use side-rails if necessary, ↑↓ Bed
- Place call-light; provide comfort (be gentle, check alignment at FOB, use pillows)
- Be observant regarding supplies -- use correctly

FOB - foot of bed

Communication

- Introduce yourself with your name and your correct title
- Use good interpersonal skills (conversation, interaction, give clear directions)
- Explain the procedure (using non-medical terms); report and record

Independence

- Ask permission to perform the skill (using non-medical terms)
- Encourage resident to make choices
- Encourage resident to manage as much of care as possible

Privacy

- Knock on door before entering
- Pull the curtain; shut the door
- Drape the resident when necessary; do not over/unnecessarily expose resident’s body