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