



**Job Code:** 1941  
**Grade:** FA  
**HCWR:** N

**Job Title**  
Clinical Nurse I

**Department**  
Nursing (Dialysis)

**Job Summary**

The Clinical Nurse I is a professional care provider on the Dialysis Unit who is responsible and accountable for coordinating and providing safe, effective individualized nursing care for patients and supportive care to significant others, assists other professionals in implementing plans of care. Nursing care involves application of the nursing process and professional skills as appropriate to the standards of care and skills as a Hemodialysis nurse for patient care delivery. These activities require nursing judgment based on application of scientific principles of nursing, problem solving and teaching/ learning.

**Typical Duties**

- Clinically provides individualized nursing care through the use of the nursing process
- Performs a physical assessment prior to and following dialysis; particular care is given to the heart, lungs, abdomen, catheter site, general condition of the skin and the presence or absence of pitting edema
- Develops a plan of care which is based on the patient's identified problems and needs with outcomes as well as short- and long-term goals
- Reviews the plan of care to ensure compliance with the ESRD regulatory agencies.
- Participates in the dialysis Multidisciplinary Team care Conference
- Provides safe and effective dialysis treatments within policy and procedural guidelines including those for Infection Control
- Obtains, reviews and implements Medical Orders for the treatment of patents according to hospital, department, and unit policy and procedures
- Recognizes and takes action in anticipated or actual life-threatening emergencies which may arise as consequence of dialysis
- Teaches patient and significant others facts concerning renal disease, prescribed treatments, medications and their impact on the patients state of well-being, documenting this teaching is required by policy and regulatory agencies
- Maintain flow of hemodialysis patients
- Checks log books for compliance
- Creates assignment for incoming nurses prior to arrival
- Arrives early to set-up unit for plan of care for patients
- Notifies / follows-up with physicians for physician orders for inpatients no later than 12 noon
- Evaluates the patient's response to dialytic and other interventions on a continuing basis collaborating with others in the health care team to resolve and identify problems, revising the plan of care, goals and outcomes
- Reviews and evaluates the laboratory findings for the dialysis patient
- Participates in the Quality Improvement activities of the unit to ensure the quality and appropriateness of the care that is given
- Assists in the maintenance of the patient schedule, making adjustments as may be necessary after consultation with the Charge Nurse and / or Nurse Coordinator



**Typical Duties**

- Assumes responsibility for clinical competency and continuing education as it relates to this specialty field
- Attends hospital sponsored programs as well as outside seminars relating to their field of practice
- Shares information learned at seminars with the rest of the staff on the unit
- Cooperates and participates in research projects for the hospital or agencies regulating ESRD Care Facilities
- Assists in the monitoring evaluation, establishment of levels, and the procurement of supplies necessary to dialyze the load of anticipated patients
- Collaborates with the Charge Nurse / Nurse Coordinator or independently as required to resolve issues which may impact patient care or the efficient operation of the unit
- Acts as a preceptor/ mentor to new employees on the unit during and following their orientation
- Supervises new hires in the absence of the Nurse Clinician
- Provides clear, concise documentation of the assessment, pre and post dialysis for each patient on the appropriate form
- Reviews and countersigns all observations and subjective findings done by LPN's assigned to the team
- Maintains a clear concise legible record of each treatment given to a patient on the appropriate form
- Document all significant changes in the patient condition during the course of dialysis on the Progress Notes including the physician that such changes were reported

**Minimum Qualifications**

- Must be licensed as a Registered Professional Nurse in the State of Illinois
- Current Basic Life Support certification (BLS)
- Minimum one (1) year of acute care dialysis experience within the last three (3) years

**Preferred Qualifications**

- Bilingual

**Knowledge, Skills, Abilities and Other Characteristics**

- Knowledge of using medical/surgical equipment
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills necessary to communicate with all levels of staff and a patient population composed of diverse cultures and age groups
- Emergency response skills
- Accurate mathematical skills to calculate medications levels using weight, age, etc.
- Ability to apply the nursing process and utilize technical skills for patient care delivery
- Ability to make decisions under pressure
- Ability to see and hear clearly (including with correction)
- Ability to distinguish regular/high pitched sounds; discriminate source of sound
- Ability to demonstrate rapid physical/mental coordination
- Ability to use both legs, hands, and fingers
- Demonstrate attention to detail, accuracy and precision



**Knowledge, Skills, Abilities and Other Characteristics**

- Demonstrates knowledge of and rationale for the safe use of equipment
- Demonstrates an ability to effectively utilize the nursing process as a basis for delivery of patient care
- Demonstrates knowledge in the current use of all forms and reports required in the day-to-day operation of the unit
- Demonstrates responsibility for professional growth and development in maintaining competency in nursing practice

**Physical and Environmental Demands**

This position is functioning within a healthcare environment. The incumbent is responsible for adherence to all hospital and department specific safety requirements. This includes but is not limited to the following policies and procedures: complying with Personal Protective Equipment requirements, hand washing and sanitizing practices, complying with department specific engineering and work practice controls and any other work area safety precautions as specified by hospital wide policy and departmental procedures.

**The above statements are intended to describe the general nature and level of work being performed by people assigned to this classification. They are not intended to be construed as an exhaustive list of all responsibilities, duties and skills required of the personnel so classified.**

**For purposes of the American with Disabilities Act, “Typical Duties” are essential job functions.**