What’s New: Duties expanded to RN populations beyond CM and CID RNs

In the event of Surge staffing, there are responsibilities that our Nursing Clinical Care Team could delegate to ancillary RN team members returning temporarily from retirement, returning temporarily from furlough, working in Case Management and Clinical Documentation Improvement, or to any RN who has validated basic nursing skills. Please see below. Take into consideration daily routines that can go to every other day or so (example bathing) and the stewardship of PPE. Basic principles of communication stand, including the use of SBAR communication style in order to hand over any of the following responsibilities. RNs who hand off basic nursing responsibilities to another RN should maintain open and frequent communications with this group of RNs to ensure they are able to perform the assigned tasks in what may be an unfamiliar environment.

Patient Care Activities that May Be Delegated:

1. Bathing
2. 1:1 Feeding
3. Mobility – Sitting, Walking, Pivot, etc.
4. Outputs – I&O
5. Vital Sign Checks
6. Floor Stock – Assessment and Restocking of Patient Care Materials
7. Patient Turns
8. Answering Unit Telephones
9. Transportation of Patient to and from Testing/Procedural Areas
10. Responding to Call Lights
11. Toileting Assistance
12. Oversight and Review of Lab Results
13. Physician Communication and Order Obtainment (ONLY if Ancillary RN has access to enter order directly into the EHR)
14. Admission/Discharge Assistance
15. Patient/Family Education

Possible reduction of documentation during the declared emergency period:

Documentation of patient education, care plans, and interventions not required for clinical decision making (e.g. hygiene, turns, etc.).