

SKILL OBSERVATION GROUND RULES

These guidelines apply whenever you are asked to observe a peer demonstrate competency in a particular skill.

- In an area away from the patient, verbally have them review the skill with you prior to entering the room. This helps build confidence and protects the patient!
- Check to make sure they have the necessary supplies to fulfill the task.
- Actively observe them perform the skill—be in the room with them!
- Allow them to be as independent as possible in performing the skill.
- Encourage critical thinking—give them scenarios of “what if’s?”
- After performing the skill, privately discuss what they did correctly and how they can improve their performance. Be as objective as possible!
- Appropriately document on their validation sheets.
- Sign off only those skills deemed competent—
REMEMBER THAT YOUR LOVED ONE COULD BE THE NEXT PERSON THEY PERFORM THE SKILL ON!
- Check the box at the bottom of the page if a skill cannot be validated and should be repeated; explain that they will feel more confident if given the opportunity to do it again