**NURSE DELEGATION:**

**INSTRUCTIONS FOR GENERAL NURSING TASK**

General delegated tasks are those tasks that the Nurse identifies as general in nature and once learned can be performed for all resident. The CAREGIVER to whom the task is delegated must demonstrate the ability to perform the task as instructed by the Nurse. By signing this delegation form, the CAREGIVER being delegated agrees to perform the task as taught. The Nurse will review the CAREGIVER performance annually or as needed to assure continued competency in performance of the task.

**General Task: Nail care (non diabetic residents)**

**Supplies needed**

* Manicure set (nail clippers, orange stick, emery board or file)
* Plastic sheeting or bath mat
* Lotion
* Warm water, basin, washcloths and towels
* Disposable non-sterile gloves and plastic trash bag
* Hand-washing solution

**Procedures/Steps to follow to perform the task**

1. Explain the procedure to the resident
2. Assemble the equipment at the bedside or at a convenient work area
3. Set the basin on the plastic sheeting
4. Put on disposable gloves
5. Place the resident’s hands and/or feet in a basin(s) half-filled with warm water
6. Soak the resident’s fingernails and/or toenails for 10 min
7. Remove the hand or foot from basin and place it on towel (soak the opposite hand/foot while manicuring) Dry the hand or foot
8. Gently clean under the nails with an orange stick
9. Trim the nails straight across the tops of the fingers to form a smooth edge. File the corners of the fingernails. Do not file the corners of the toenails.
10. Gently push the cuticle back with and orange stick
11. Apply lotion to nail area
12. Provide the resident comfort measures
13. Clean and replace equipment. Bag up towel in a laundry bag. Discard disposable items in a plastic trash bag.
14. Remove gloves and discard in plastic trash bag
15. Wash hands with hand-washing solution

**Outcomes**

Resident will have clean mails and personal hygiene will be promoted

Infection from dirty nails will be prevented

**Potential risks/Side effects and appropriate actions to deal with them (include what to observe for and report, what to do, and whom to contact)**

* Avoid cutting nails too short and injuring the skin around the nail
* Residents with diabetes should receive nail care from a nurse or podiatrist. DO NOT DO NAIL CARE FOR THESE RESIDENTS