

## **INFECTION CONTROL NURSE**

**DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS:** This is a professional nursing position involving responsibility for implementing, operating and administering an effective and efficient facility-wide infection control program. The incumbent specializes in preventing the spread of infectious agents, such as viruses and bacteria, by monitoring nursing home procedures to isolate and control incidences of infection, and correct and instruct medical and services staff in the prevention and avoidance of sources of infection. The work is performed under the general direction of the Director of Nursing, with leeway allowed for exercise of some independent judgment in planning and carrying out assigned duties. Supervision is not a regular responsibility of the position, however supervision may be exercised over lower level staff. Does related work as required.

### **TYPICAL WORK ACTIVITIES:**

Tracks and maintains database for residents, employees, volunteer and contracted employees regarding infection control and vaccination records;

Implements corrective procedures to minimize possibilities of infection;

Develops comprehensive procedures and systems to detect and control infection;

Instructs nursing home staff in preventative and corrective procedures;

Collects specimens and cultures to detect incidences of infection;

Investigates reports of infection;

Oversees employee's health assessments including required immunizations;

Evaluates staff procedures to ensure adherence to infection control policies;

Reports presence of infectious disease to nursing home administration, regulatory authorities, and state or federal agencies;

Collects and interprets data on incidents and rates of infection;

Evaluates effectiveness of infection control procedures;

Provides orientation and in-service training on elements of infection control;

Responsible for the destruction of discontinued narcotics;

Completes Minimum Data Set (MDS) assessments as related to infection control for residents;

Administers mantoux and vaccines to residents;

Assists in identifying carriers and tracing possible sources of infection, as well as preventing transmission of disease; Provides nursing coverage as required on nursing units.

**FULL PERFORMANCE KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, ABILITIES AND PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS:**

Good knowledge of current professional nursing practices;  
Good knowledge of medical supplies, sanitation and personal hygiene;  
Good knowledge of infection control principles and techniques;  
Ability to recognize and identify sites and incidence of infection;  
Ability to establish procedures for infection control;  
Ability to compile and disseminate information;  
Ability to prepare a variety of records and reports;  
Ability to instruct others on infection control methods, practices, and techniques;  
Ability to communicate both orally and in writing;  
Ability to establish and maintain cooperative working relationships with others;  
Ability to work independently;  
Dependability;  
Resourcefulness;  
Good observation skills;  
Good organizational skills;  
Professionalism;  
Tact.

**MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:**

A) Completion of a course of study approved by the New York State Education Department as qualifying for Registered Professional Nurse and licensure to practice as a Registered Professional Nurse in New York State and one year of nursing experience; OR

B) Completion of a course of study approved by the New York State Education Department as qualifying for Licensed Practical Nurse and licensure to practice as a Licensed Practical Nurse in New York State and two years of nursing experience.