A certified nursing assistant **shall not work independently without the supervision of a registered nurse or a licensed practical nurse.** The scope of their skills are subject to the laws of the each state.

A certified nursing assistant does not perform any task which requires specialized skills, nursing knowledge, judgment, or specialized training. CNA's are NOT LPN's, RN's, or Dr's. In general a certified nursing assistant can provide care and assist residents with the skills related to the Activities of Daily Living only under the general supervision of a registered nurse or licensed practical nurse:

(1) A certified nursing assistant shall provide care and assist residents with the following tasks related to the activities of daily living only under the general supervision of a registered nurse or licensed practical nurse:

(a) Tasks associated with personal care:
1. Bathing;
2. Dressing;
3. Grooming;
4. Shaving;
5. Shampooing and caring for hair;
6. Providing and assisting with oral hygiene and denture care;
7. Caring for the skin;
8. Caring for the feet;
9. Caring for the nails;
10. Providing pericare;
11. Bed making and handling linen;
12. Maintaining a clean environment.

(b) Tasks associated with maintaining mobility:
1. Ambulating;
2. Transferring;
3. Transporting;
4. Positioning;
5. Turning;
6. Lifting;
7. Performing range of motion exercises;
8. Maintaining body alignment.

(c) Tasks associated with nutrition and hydration:
1. Feeding and assisting the resident with eating;
2. Assisting the resident with drinking.

(d) Tasks associated with elimination:
1. Toileting;
2. Assisting with the use of the bedpan and urinal;
3. Providing catheter care;
4. Collecting specimens;
5. Emptying ostomy bags, or changing bags that do not adhere to the skin;
6. Bowel and bladder training.

(e) Tasks associated with the use of assistive devices:
1. Caring for dentures, eyeglasses, contact lenses, and hearing aids;
2. Applying established prosthetic and orthotic devices;
3. Applying braces;
4. Applying antiembolus stockings;
5. Assisting with wheelchairs, walkers, or crutches;
6. Using comfort devices such as pillows, cradles, footboards, wedges, and boots;
7. Assisting with and encouraging the use of self-help devices for eating, grooming, and other personal care tasks;
8. Utilizing and assisting residents with devices for transferring, ambulation, alignment, and positioning;
(f) Tasks associated with maintaining environment and resident safety, including handling of blood and body fluid and cleaning resident care areas.
(g) Tasks associated with data gathering:
1. Measuring temperature, pulse, respiration, and blood pressure;
2. Measuring height and weight;
3. Measuring and recording oral intake;
4. Measuring and recording urinary output, both voided and from urinary drainage systems;
5. Measuring and recording emesis;
(h) Recognition of and reporting of abnormal resident findings, signs, and symptoms.
(i) Post mortem care.
(j) Tasks associated with resident socialization, leisure activities, reality orientation, and validation techniques.
(k) Tasks associated with end of life care.
(l) Tasks associated with basic first aid, CPR skills, and emergency care.
(m) Tasks associated with compliance with resident’s/patient’s rights.
(n) Tasks associated with daily documentation of certified nursing assistant services provided to the resident.
(2) A certified nursing assistant shall perform all tasks with knowledge of and awareness of a resident’s/patient’s rights and developmental level.
(3) A certified nursing assistant shall not perform any task which requires specialized nursing knowledge, judgment, or skill.