



ABN SAFETY GOALS 2018-2022

Goal 1 - Documentation: Promote improved compliance with documentation standards to reflect accurate, timely, and pertinent data, in accordance with ABN Administrative Code §610-X-6-.06, Documentation Standards.

Rationale: Accurate documentation is the key to communication among healthcare professionals to track the patient's progression through their individual care plan. Omission, falsification, and failure to adhere to facility policies and procedures could lead to failures, gaps, and lack of continuity of patient care. Omission of documentation, false documentation, and failure to document in accordance with organizational policy have been identified in ABN data as behaviors that have resulted in licensee discipline. **Reference ABN CE Course – “Documentation: A Case Study”**

Goal 2 - Medication Administration: Promote patient safety through established medication administration and safety standards of practice, in accordance with Alabama Administrative Code §610-X-6.07, Medication Administration and Safety.

Rationale: Drug administration is among the highest-risk areas of nursing practice and a persistent concern for healthcare leaders. The process for delivery of medications to patients often involves healthcare professionals from a variety of disciplines and a medication error can occur at any point; this process also may present opportunities for diversion. Medication errors may be related to professional practice, healthcare products, procedures, and systems, including prescribing; order communication; product labeling, packaging, and nomenclature; compounding; dispensing; distribution; administration; education; monitoring; and use. **Reference ABN CE Course – “Medication Administration and Safety for Charge Nurses”**

Goal 3 - Professional Conduct and Accountability: Promote professional conduct and accountability, in accordance with the ABN Administrative Code §610-X-6-.03, Conduct and Accountability.

Rationale: Patients and their families have a reasonable expectation to be treated with respect and dignity by licensed personnel. Failure by a licensed nurse to maintain an appropriate care environment becomes disruptive to the health and safety of the patient population which they serve. Inappropriate use of social media, exploitation of patient/family for financial gain, and sexual relationships with patients/family are among the behaviors that have resulted in licensee discipline. **Reference Part 4 of ABN Mandatory CE – “Conduct & Accountability”**

Goal 4 - Standards of Practice (RN and LPN): Promote safe patient care compliant with established standards and scope of practice for licensee and in accordance with the ABN Administrative Code Chapters 610-X-6, Standards of Nursing Practice, 610-X-7, Nursing Practice in a Specific Setting, and 610-X-9, Advanced Practice Nursing, as well as employer policies and procedures.

Rationale: Licensees who do not understand their scopes of practice may place patients at risk. Licensed nurses may not be aware that scope of practice is based upon many things, including, but not limited to, education, training, and experience; evidence-based standards of practice; and specific healthcare setting policy and procedures. **Reference ABN CE Courses – “Scope of Practice” - Part 1 and Part 2**

All ABN CE Courses are available on the [ABN website](#).