

## SECTION II. MICRO SOCIAL WORK PRACTICE

### SOCIAL WORK COMPETENCIES – COMPETENCE

Competence	It is important to practice social work within the scope of one's practice. This may mean making sure patients know a social worker is in the hospital, providing the patient and the patient's family the social worker's contact information. The social worker may visit the patient's room periodically to reassure the patient that they are being cared for by skilled medical staff. The social worker may ask the family to complete medical insurance documents and be the mediation between the hospital insurance specialists and the family. The social worker prepares the patient and patient's family for a lower level of care, up to and including discharge. At discharge, the social worker ensures the patient has the proper medical equipment and instructions from the doctor.
------------	---

### SOCIAL WORK COMPETENCIES – COMPETENCE - MICRO PRACTICE ACTIVITY

#### **CSWE core principle – SOCIAL WORKERS PRACTICE WITHIN THEIR AREAS OF COMPETENCE AND DEVELOP AND ENHANCE THEIR PROFESSIONAL EXPERTISE.**

Social workers continually strive to increase their professional knowledge and skills and to apply them in practice. Social workers should aspire to contribute to the knowledge base of the profession

**Foundation activity:** The checklist, below, provides a sample of duties by a social worker in a hospital or medical setting. Please mark your level of comfort at this point in your academic year.

**1. Manage of caseload of patients in a medical setting or hospital.**

☐ Very uncomfortable   ☐ Somewhat uncomfortable   ☐ Comfortable   ☐ Very comfortable

**2. Work with patients and families in obtaining release of information (ROI) documents to receive medical treatment.**

☐ Very uncomfortable   ☐ Somewhat uncomfortable   ☐ Comfortable   ☐ Very comfortable

**3. Attend interprofessional meetings with a variety of medical staff, including doctors, nurses, physical therapists, occupational therapists, respiratory therapists, faith-based experts, etc.**

☐ Very uncomfortable   ☐ Somewhat uncomfortable   ☐ Comfortable   ☐ Very comfortable

4. **Provide discharge information and procedures, including distribution of medical equipment at discharge.**

☐ Very uncomfortable   ☐ Somewhat uncomfortable   ☐ Comfortable   ☐ Very comfortable

5. **Be aware of technology so patients are best informed about how technology will be used to diagnose and treat them; support communication among medical staff, patients, and their families; use the Internet to locate resources the medical setting does not provide; complete electronic medical records (EMRs).**

☐ Very uncomfortable   ☐ Somewhat uncomfortable   ☐ Comfortable   ☐ Very comfortable

6. **Participate in reaccreditation processes that include responding to questions about key policies and interviewing patients and key medical staff interacting with patients.**

☐ Very uncomfortable   ☐ Somewhat uncomfortable   ☐ Comfortable   ☐ Very comfortable

### **IFSW core principle – PROFESSIONAL INTEGRITY**

Social workers acknowledge that they are accountable for their actions to the people they work with; their colleagues; their employers; their professional associations; and local, national, and international laws and conventions and that these accountabilities may conflict, which must be negotiated to minimize harm to all persons. Decisions should always be informed by empirical evidence; practice wisdom; and ethical, legal, and cultural considerations. Social workers must be prepared to be transparent about the reasons for their decisions

**Advanced activity:** The checklist, below, provides a sample of duties by a social worker in a hospital or medical setting. Please mark your level of skill at this point in your academic year.

1. **Manage of caseload of patients in a medical setting or hospital.**

☐ Very unskilled   ☐ Somewhat unskilled   ☐ Skilled   ☐ Very skilled

2. **Work with patients and families in obtaining release of information (ROI) documents to receive medical treatment.**

☐ Very unskilled   ☐ Somewhat unskilled   ☐ Skilled   ☐ Very skilled

3. **Attend interprofessional meetings with a variety of medical staff, including doctors, nurses, physical therapists, occupational therapists, respiratory therapists, faith-based experts, etc.**

☐ Very unskilled   ☐ Somewhat unskilled   ☐ Skilled   ☐ Very skilled

4. **Provide discharge information and procedures, including distribution of medical equipment at discharge.**

☐ Very unskilled   ☐ Somewhat unskilled   ☐ Skilled   ☐ Very skilled

- 5. Be aware of technology so patients are best informed about how technology will be used to diagnose and treat them; support communication among medical staff, patients and their families; use the Internet to locate resources the medical setting does not provide; complete electronic medical records (EMRs).**

☐ Very unskilled ☐ Somewhat unskilled ☐ Skilled ☐ Very skilled

- 6. Participate in reaccreditation processes that include responding to questions about key policies and interviewing patients and key medical staff interacting with patients.**

☐ Very unskilled ☐ Somewhat unskilled ☐ Skilled ☐ Very skilled