# **Guided Lecture Notes, Chapter 47, Safety and Infection Control in the Home Health Care Setting**

Learning Objective 1. List safety concerns that are unique to the home health care environment. (Refer to PowerPoint slides 2 to 18.)

* Discuss factors in the home that can put a person at a risk for falling.
* Discuss factors in the home that can increase the risk of fire.
* Ask the students to read the guidelines for maintaining a safe home environment given in Guidelines Box 47-1 of *Lippincott’s Textbook for Nursing Assistants*. Discuss these guidelines.
* Explain the role of a home health care aide who finds that a client’s home is either unsafe or lacks the assistive devices and equipment necessary for caring for the client.
* Explain the steps the home health aide should take in case of an emergency in the client’s home.
* Explain the role of the home health aide in recognizing and reporting abuse.
* Explain what a home health care aide should do if a family situation turns violent while they are in the client’s home.
* Have learners refer to learning activities located at the end of the chapter.

Learning Objective 2. Discuss the responsibilities of the home health aide in an emergency situation. (Refer to PowerPoint slides 16.)

* Discuss the importance of staying calm during an emergency.
* Describe the necessary steps each home health aide should take when confronted with an emergency in a client’s home.
* Discuss the importance of activating the emergency response system.
* Discuss the importance of providing appropriate care until help arrives.
* Discuss the importance of documentation and completing all necessary forms required by your agency.
* Discuss the importance of not becoming a victim.
* Discuss the importance of recognizing when an abusive situation is developing and how to protect both the client and self.
* Discuss the importance of reporting any suspected abuse or suspicious behavior which may be putting the client in danger.
* Have learners refer to learning activities located at the end of the chapter.

Learning Objective 3.Understand ways that home health aides can spread infection. (Refer to PowerPoint slides 19 and 20.)

* Discuss the ways that a home health aide can bring infectious microbes into a home during a home visit.
* Explain how easy it would be to transfer microbes from one client’s home to another client’s home during the course of a day.
* Have learners refer to learning activities located at the end of the chapter.

Learning Objective 4. Identify ways to reduce the spread of infection within the home. (Refer to PowerPoint slides 21 to 25, 31 to 39.)

* Explain what bag technique is and why it is used.
* Explain when and how to clean equipment and household surfaces. Discuss how to clean up blood or other body fluids or substances in the client’s home.
* Explain the role of a home health care aide when assisting clients with personal hygiene.
* Discuss the single most important method of preventing the spread of infection. Also discuss when a home health care aide should wash their hands.
* Explain the importance of using personal protective equipment (PPE) when caring for a client. Discuss where the home health aide can obtain PPE (i.e., from their tote bag, or on site). Discuss the home health aide’s responsibility for ensuring that the supply of PPE is well stocked at all times.
* Discuss the precautions to be taken when disposing of sharps. What should a home health care aide do if a sharps container is not available?
* Have learners refer to learning activities located at the end of the chapter.

Learning Objective 5. Identify ways to properly prepare and store food. (Refer to PowerPoint slides 26 to 30.)

* Review guidelines for the safe preparation and storage of food.
* Ask the students to list the activities that should be done when cleaning a kitchen.
* Discuss the kitchen cleaning practices followed by a home health care aide when caring for a client.
* Have learners refer to learning activities located at the end of the chapter.

Learning Objective 6. Describe measures that the home health aide should take to help ensure their own personal safety. (Refer to PowerPoint slides 40 to 49.)

* Discuss some of the unique risks involved in a home health care aide’s job.
* Describe some of the personal safety precautions that a home health care aide should take when traveling from one client’s home to another.
* Have learners refer to learning activities located at the end of the chapter.