# **Guided Lecture Notes, Chapter 46, Introduction to Home Health Care**

Learning Objective 1. Describe why a person might need home health care. (Refer to PowerPoint slides 2 to 7.)

* Ask the students whether they have had an illness that required them to be hospitalized. How did they feel when it was time for them to leave the hospital and return home? Discuss the reasons why people prefer to stay in the comfort of their own homes when they are sick.
* Remind students that people who receive health care in their homes are often referred to as *clients.* Give examples of reasons why a person might become a client of a home health care agency.
* Have learners refer to learning activities located at the end of the chapter.

Learning Objective 2. Discuss how home health care is paid for. (Refer to PowerPoint slides 8 to 10.)

* Discuss how home health care is paid for.
* Explain that insurance companies and government agencies often have strict regulations regarding what type of care is covered and under what circumstances. Make sure that students understand that the documentation they provide is often used to justify continued payment for home health care services and to determine the frequency and length of future visits.
* Have learners refer to learning activities located at the end of the chapter.

Learning Objective 3. Describe how the home health care team works together to provide client care. (Refer to PowerPoint slides 12 to 17.)

* Describe the role of the case manager.
* Explain why the home health aide is a very important member of the health care team. Emphasize the important role the home health aide plays as the “eyes and ears” for the rest of the team.
* Explain that since the members of the home health care team rarely see each other, it is critical that proper documentation is maintained to ensure that each member of the home health care team is kept “in the know.”
* Have learners refer to learning activities located at the end of the chapter.

Learning Objective 4. List some of the members of the home health care team. (Refer to PowerPoint slides 11 to 12.)

* List the typical members of the home health care team.
* Describe the role of each member.
* Have learners refer to learning activities located at the end of the chapter.

Learning Objective 5.Describe the primary duties of a home health aide. (Refer to PowerPoint slides 18 to 29.)

* Differentiate between the tasks related to personal care and the tasks related to homemaking.
* Ask the students to list and discuss general housekeeping chores and those related to personal care that they perform in their own homes.
* Explain the documentation that a home health care aide must maintain regarding the care provided to the client.
* Explain the documentation that a home health care aide may be required to keep with regard to their activities for the day, such as a time and travel log.
* Show the students typical forms used to document home care and communicate with other team members.
* Emphasize that the home health aide is a guest in the client’s home.
* Discuss how medical equipment may be lacking in the home setting. How should the home health care aide handle this situation?
* Explain that “homemaking” involves meal preparation and light housekeeping. Mention that the homemaking duties are documented on a homemaker flow sheet, which becomes part of the client’s medical record.
* Explain the duties of a home health care aide when preparing and serving meals.
* Explain the light housekeeping duties that may be required of the home health care aide. Emphasize the importance of caring for the client’s home as if it were one’s own.
* Have learners refer to learning activities at the end of the chapter.

Learning Objective 6. List personal qualities that a home health aide must have to be successful. (Refer to PowerPoint slides 30 to 41.)

* List the qualities of a successful home health aide.
* Explain that the home health aide needs to be self-motivated to be able to work independently without supervision.
* Discuss how a successful home health aide is able to organize and manage their time efficiently.
* Show the students a nurse’s bag and explain to them how it can help to keep the home health care aide organized.
* Explain why it is especially important for a home health aide to be reliable.
* Discuss when a home health aide would be considered guilty of abandonment.
* Discuss the importance of notifying both the client and the home health care agency when one cannot keep one’s scheduled appointments.
* Explain what professional boundaries are.
* Explain how professional boundaries help to protect the home health aide from being taken advantage of by the client or the client’s family.
* Discuss the importance of communication skills which the home health aide needs to have.
* Discuss the importance of looking and acting professionally while representing the agency in the client’s home and in the community.
* Have learners refer to learning activities at the end of the chapter.