


AC Nursing and Health Services Inc. Policies and Procedures	
Service Delivery	
Policy: Home Environment Safety	
Policy Number: 4.00	
Effective Date: January 2022	
Revision Date:	
Approved by: Board of Directors – Management	

PURPOSE

To reduce risk, prevent injury and promote safety in the home, for the protection of clients/families/employees, by identifying potential home safety hazards and by educating them about home safety to eliminate/minimize:

1. the need for clients/families/employees to seek emergency hospital care;
2. the need for clients to move into an assisted living complex or other care facility; and/or,
3. employees being unable to work, either temporarily or permanently.


POLICY

AC Nursing and Health Service Inc. is committed to ensuring the safety of its clients/ families/employees in the home environment.

PROCEDURES

Supervisor shall:


1. when doing the initial in-home assessment:
 - a. complete the “Home Safety Checklist” to identify hazards and use it as a tool to educate client/family/other relevant individuals, about potential dangers.
 - b. review the following safety factors with client/family/other relevant individuals:
 - i. bathroom safety: e.g., water temperature, grab-bars, slippery surfaces, non-skid mats, etc.
 - ii. environmental and mobility safety: e.g., fall prevention techniques, wheelchair safety, walker safety, exits/passageways, use of handrails stairway safety, adequate lighting, emergency medical plan and disaster plan.
 - iii. electrical safety: e.g., electrical appliances, grounding, light bulbs, outlets, overloaded circuits, electrical cords, extension cords, etc.

AC Nursing and Health Services Inc. Policies and Procedures	
Service Delivery	
Policy: Home Environment Safety	
Policy Number: 4.00	
Effective Date: January 2022	
Revision Date:	
Approved by: Board of Directors – Management	

- iv. fire safety: e.g., flammable liquids, cooking safety, space heaters, oxygen therapy precautions, heating pads, electric blankets, burns, fire escape routes, smoke detectors, smoking, etc.
- c. take an inventory of hazardous products that are in the home and advise clients how to handle them safely if they don't already know.
- d. ensure the safety checklist is placed in the in-home client file.
- e. ensure that uncorrected hazards are documented in the in-home client file.
- f. ensure employees, who provide service, are informed about the hazards; and,
- g. identify the client/family/other relevant individual's learning needs.

Employees shall:

1. ensure they review the safety checklist and uncorrected hazard notes in the in-home, client file;
2. continually assess the client/family/relevant individual's compliance to home safety and re-instruct, as necessary.
3. each time they go into a client's home:
 - a. be alert for new hazards.
 - b. advise client/family of any new hazards detected.
 - c. make a note of new hazard in the client's in-home file.
 - d. follow-up with client/family, if hazards are not corrected; and,
 - e. advise Supervisor if hazards remain uncorrected.
4. when working in the home:
 - a. read the labels before using a product.

AC Nursing and Health Services Inc. Policies and Procedures	
Service Delivery	
Policy: Home Environment Safety	
Policy Number: 4.00	Effective Date: January 2022
Revision Date:	Approved by: Board of Directors – Management

- b. clean up spills as soon as they occur.
- c. ensure that all weapons are kept out of view and preferably locked up; and,
- d. ensure that pets are restrained (if necessary) when they are working. If an animal does bite, the affected area should be washed with soap and water and medical attention sought.