

Christian Science Visiting Nurse Service

for Michigan

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CHRISTIAN SCIENCE NURSE SCOPE OF PRACTICE

Christian Science nursing care includes:

- Accepting a case with the expectancy of complete and immediate healing;
- Spiritual reassurance: acknowledging God's all-presence and absolute power; faithfully and consistently affirming the patient's spirituality;
- Encouragement: gently offering Christian assistance in support of the individual's expression of vitality and normal activity;
- Reading aloud: reading, at the patient's request or with the patient's permission, from the Bible, *Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures* and other writings by Mary Baker Eddy; also, additional literature published by The Christian Science Publishing Society;
- Communication: contacting the Christian Science practitioner on the case or family members if patient is unable to do so; maintaining an ethical, moral, and loving manner in all communications with the patient, family, friends, Christian Science practitioner, and others;
- Personal care: assistance with bathing, commoding, oral care;
- Mobility assistance: moving, handling; positioning in a chair or bed; help with the use of wheelchairs, crutches, walkers, canes or other aids;
- Nourishment: preparation and/or modification of food; assistance with feeding; also, appropriate encouragement to eat;
- Dressing/bandaging: proper cleansing and bandaging of wounds to provide for cleanliness, protection, and comfort;
- Instruction: instructing the patient and/or others in providing care for meeting individual physical needs;
- Being obedient to the laws of the land.

Christian Science nursing does not include:

- Intruding on the private relationship between the patient and the Christian Science practitioner, or between the patient and his or her family;
- Giving personal advice and counsel; assuming responsibility for making health care decisions for the patient;
- Diagnosing; recording and maintaining a record of symptoms or conditions;
- Summoning medical care except at the request of the patient or responsible party;
- Administering medication, drugs or using medicated, herbal vitamin-based products and remedies;
- Using and administering medically oriented techniques, equipment and technology;
- Manipulation, massages, physical therapy.