

Table 1. Unit Partner Performance Guidelines

Tasks a Unit Partner can perform:

- Assist with meal set up (cutting food, opening packaged food).
- Assist nurses and PCTs with turning/boosting patients.
- Obtain supplies for a patient to perform their activities of daily living.
- Provide companionship during mealtimes and encouragement to eat/drink.
- Ask the PCT or nurse about appropriate distraction activities (card games, movies) for the patient.
- Care for patients with sitter responsibilities due to risk of falling, being in medical restraints, or suicide precautions.
- Talk to the patient.
- Stock supplies.
- Perform glucometer readings as requested by nurse or PCT.
- Assist with ambulation for stand-by assistance patients.
- When requested by a care team member, transport patients.

Tasks a Unit Partner cannot perform:

- Do not perform sitter duties for patients in behavioral restraints.
- Never offer medical advice of any kind.
- Do not obtain vital signs.
- A unit partner is not able to document in electronic health record.
- Do not provide activities of daily living for patients who are not independent.

General Guidelines for the Unit Partner role:

- Do not discuss patients or their illnesses in or out of the hospital.
- Inform the nurse/PCT when task is beyond skill level and unable to perform.
- Always follow standard precautions, including hand hygiene and personal protective equipment requirements.
- Call for assistance if a patient is out of bed and at risk of falling.