

§484.80(g)(3) The duties of a home health aide include:

- (i) The provision of hands on personal care;**
- (ii) The performance of simple procedures as an extension of therapy or nursing services;**
- (iii) Assistance in ambulation or exercises; and**
- (vi) Assistance in administering medications ordinarily self-administered.**

Interpretive Guidelines §484.80(g)(3)

“Self-administration of medications” means that the patient (or the patient’s caregiver, if applicable) *can* manage all aspects of taking her or his medication, including safe medication storage, removing the correct dose of medication from the container, taking the medication at the correct time, and knowing how to contact the pharmacy for refills or other questions.

“Assistance in administering medications,” as referenced in this requirement, means that the HH aide may take only a passive role in this activity. Assistance may include items such as:

- Bringing a medication to the patient either in a pill organizer or a medication container as requested by the patient or caregiver;
- Providing fluids to take with the medication;
- Reminding the patient to take a medication;
- Applying a topical product, such as a non-prescription cream, to intact skin per home health aide instructions in how to apply it.