South Dakota Board of Nursing Delegation Decision-Making Algorithm

This is a tool to assist nurses in making delegation decisions. General criteria for delegation listed in the South Dakota Nurse Practice Act, ARSD 20:48:04.01:01, were used to develop this tool. The RN is responsible for the nature and quality of nursing care that a client receives under the nurse's direction. To achieve full utilization of the services of a RN or a LPN, the licensed nurse may delegate selected nursing tasks to unlicensed assistive personnel (UAP). UAPs may complement the nurse in the performance of nursing functions but may not substitute for the nurse. Unlicensed assistive personnel may not redelegate a delegated act. A licensed nurse in South Dakota is accountable to practice in accordance with the scope of practice as defined in SDCL Chapter 36-9. The delegating nurse is accountable for assessing a situation and making the final decision to delegate.

