

KAPLAN'S DECISION TREE

STEP 1

Can you identify the topic of the question?

STEP 2

Are the answers assessment or implementation?

STEP 3

Apply Maslow:
Are the answers physical or psychosocial?

STEP 4

Are the answer choices related to ABCs?

STEP 5

What is the outcome of each of the remaining answers?

ASK YOURSELF:

“If I could do only one thing and then leave, what would I do?”

Who Do You See First?

CONSIDER:
Expected vs. Unexpected
Chronic vs. Acute
Stable vs. Unstable
Potential Problem vs. Actual Problem
Safe vs. Unsafe

Common NCLEX Traps

Do not ask “Why?”

Do not leave the patient.

Do not persuade the patient.

Do not say, “Don’t worry!”

Do not pass the buck.

Do not read into the question.

Do not ‘do nothing.’

Therapeutic Communication Tips

DO:

Do respond to feeling tone.

Do provide information.

Do focus on the client.

Do use silence.

Do use presence.

DO NOT:

Do not ask 'why' questions.

Do not ask 'yes/no' questions, except
in the case of possible self-harm.

Do not focus on the nurse.

Do not explore.

Do not say, "Don't worry!"

Rules for Delegation

RN ASSIGNMENT

Cannot delegate
assessment, teaching, or
nursing judgment

LPN/LVN ASSIGNMENT

Assign stable patients with
expected outcomes

UAP ASSIGNMENT

Delegate standard,
unchanging procedures

Five Rights of Delegation

RIGHT TASK

(scope of practice, stable client)

RIGHT CIRCUMSTANCES

(workload)

RIGHT PERSON

(scope of practice)

RIGHT COMMUNICATION

(specific task to be performed, expected results,
follow-up communication)

RIGHT SUPERVISION

(clear directions, intervene if necessary)

