



WALA 2026

RN & LPN Roles in Wisconsin Assisted Living

Dr. Mary Kate Friess, DNP, FNP-BC, PMHNP-BC

CEO and Director of Clinical
Sequoia Integrative Medical Services

Presenters

Jodi Navis, RN, BSN

COO, Bay Harbor Assisted Living

Krystal Bittner, RN

Vista Senior Living

1. Regulatory Foundation (Wisconsin)

- Wis. Stat. Ch. 441 — Nurse Licensure
- Wis. Admin. Code Ch. N 6 — Standards of Practice & Delegation
- DHS 83 — CBRF
- DHS 88 — AFH
- DHS 89 — RCAC

2. RN Scope of Practice

Wis. Admin. Code N 6.03

A Registered Nurse:

- Utilizes the nursing process
 - Assessment
 - Planning
 - Intervention
 - Evaluation
- Makes delegation decisions
- Maintains accountability
- Performs and documents reassessments

Important: Evaluation cannot be delegated.

3. LPN Scope of Practice

Wis. Admin. Code N 6.04

An LPN:

- Provides nursing care under RN direction
- Administers medications and treatments
- Collects and reports data
- Does NOT independently perform the full nursing process**
- Requires structured supervision

4. Delegation in Assisted Living

Wis. Admin. Code N 6.03(3)

The RN must ensure:

- Right task
- Right person
- Right circumstance
- Right direction
- Right supervision

Delegation does NOT transfer accountability.

5. Setting-Specific Reminders

CBRF (DHS 83)

- Written staffing plan required
- Defined roles and responsibilities
- Nurse presence does NOT expand license scope

RCAC (DHS 89)

- May provide nursing services
- 28-hour/week nursing limit per tenant
- Must reassess placement if threshold exceeded

AFH (DHS 88)

- Limited nursing services
- Not licensed as skilled nursing
- RN often consultative/supervisory

6. Common Citation Triggers

- No documented RN reassessment
- Delegation without supervision structure
- Exceeding RCAC 28-hour nursing limit
- LPN functioning without direction
- Medication reconciliation failures
- No clear RN of record

7. Survey-Ready Checklist

Be prepared to answer:

- Who is the RN of record?
- How are delegated tasks supervised?
- How is change in condition documented?
- How is medication reconciliation completed?
- How do you track RCAC nursing hours?
- When is placement reassessed?

8. Key Takeaways

- RN = Nursing process + delegation decisions + evaluation**
- LPN = Nursing care under structured direction**
- You cannot delegate evaluation.
- You cannot exceed your setting's license.
- Compliance protects residents AND your license.

Notes

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