



This standard of practice is to support the PSW in providing safe, respectful, and effective personal care to the public population in a dignified and ethical approach. Standards of Practice outline the expectations of the PSW and their responsibility in the delivery of care.

Shaving - Shaving of facial hair, arm pit hair or leg hair. To be done with an electric razor or disposable razor. Never a straight razor.

If the person(s) is unable to hold the razor and shave himself, the person(s) would need a Personal Support Worker.

The PSW may assist the person(s) with shaving. Training for different procedures to shave a person(s) will have been learned in the certification of a PSW. The type of equipment used should be listed in the Plan of Care. A PSW should never use a straight edge razor. It is the PSW's responsibility to also be aware of the use of blood thinners, if a person(s) is on blood thinners only an electric razor will be used due to the chance of excessive bleeding.

If the PSW has any concerns, they should check with the appropriate supervisor. (Family member, Care Coordinator, Nursing Supervisor etc.)

PSW – Personal Support Worker

RN/RPN – Registered Nurse/ Registered Practical Nurse

RHPA – Regulated Health Professions Act

Resources - Sheila A. Sorrentino, PhD, RN, Leighann Remmert, MS, RN and Mary J. Wilk, RN, GNC(C), BA, BScN, MN, Mosby's Canadian Textbook for the Support Worker, 3rd Edition