



Management and Supervision Considerations

Standards of LPN/LVN Responsibilities

The standards that define LPN/LVN responsibilities for nursing practice implementation follow.

The LPN/LVN practicing under the direction of a registered nurse, advanced practice registered nurse, licensed physician or other authorized licensed health care provider:

- Conducts a focused nursing assessment, which is an appraisal of the patient's status and situation at hand that contributes to ongoing data collection.
- Plans for episodic nursing care.
- Demonstrates attentiveness and provides patient surveillance and monitoring
- Assists in identification of patient needs
- Seeks clarification of orders when needed
- Demonstrates attentiveness and provides observation for signs, symptoms, and changes in patient condition.
- Assists in the evaluation of the impact of nursing care. Contributes to the evaluation of patient care.
- Recognizes patient characteristics that may affect the patient's health status
- Obtains orientation/training for competency when encountering new equipment and technology or unfamiliar care situations.
- Implements appropriate aspects of patient care in a timely manner
- Provides assigned and delegated aspects of patient's health care plan
- Implements treatments and procedures
- Administers medications accurately
- Documents care provided
- Communicates relevant and timely patient information with other health team members.
- Patient status and progress.
- Patient responses or lack of response to therapies.
- Significant changes in patient condition.
- Patient needs.
- Participates in nursing management
- Assigns nursing activities to other LPN/LVNs
- Delegates nursing activities to assistive personnel
- Observes nursing measures and provides feedback to nursing manager
- Observes and communicates outcomes of delegated and assigned activities.
- Takes preventive measures to protect patient, others, and self.
- Respects patient's rights, concerns, decisions, and dignity (this standard includes respecting the patient's concerns regarding end-of-life care)
- Attends to patient or family concerns or requests
- Promotes a safe patient environment
- Maintains appropriate professional boundaries
- Assumes responsibility for nurse's own decisions and actions



Nutrition Concepts

- A major part of treatment for people with heart disease is reduction of fat and cholesterol in the diet.
- When fats are used in cooking or eating, unsaturated fats (vegetable oil such as corn oil, canola oil, or olive oil) should be substituted for saturated fats (animal fat such as butter or lard).
- Fats and oils used in cooking or eating should be limited to five to eight servings daily in normal adults.
- Saturated fat can be limited by eating only 5 to 7 ounces of meat daily.
- Foods that contain omega-3 fatty acids (certain fish, walnuts, and soybeans) lower serum triglycerides and decrease the number of deaths resulting from heart disease.

In the inpatient setting, the nurse is often the first on the scene when accidents or emergencies occur. Nurses also need to be prepared to act in emergency situations in homes and other community settings. Prompt intervention can make a dramatic difference in patient outcomes. Knowledge of first aid can make the difference between life and death in many situations. This chapter addresses first aid interventions for common emergencies. Some emergency conditions that require further medical attention are covered in greater detail elsewhere in this book.

GENERAL PRINCIPLES OF EMERGENCY CARE

When accidents or emergencies occur, the victim and any observers are often understandably frightened. It can be very reassuring to them to know that a nurse is present, but you must remember a cardinal rule: remain calm! Victims react to emergencies in various ways, from stunned silence to hysteria. Although your prior-



Health Promotion Considerations

Strategies for Preventing Falls

In summary, basic strategies for reducing all types of falls include:

- Increase physical activities that enhance and maintain muscular strength, endurance, balance, and flexibility.
- Increase regular, moderate physical exercise.
- Reduce visual impairments.
- Teach and encourage proper use of aids for ambulation (cane, walker)
- Increase provider review of prescribed and over-the-counter medications.
- Increase provider screening and referral for alcohol and drug problems.
- Modify the environment to reduce or eliminate environmental factors that can cause falls, or to minimize injury if a fall occurs.