



LICENSED PRACTICAL NURSE JOB DESCRIPTION

Job Summary:

The Licensed Practical Nurse provides services on a supplemental staffing basis to client facilities. The LPN works under the direction of a Registered Nurse and participates in patient care within the objectives, standards, and policies of the department and within the parameters of this/her educational parameters. The LPN is expected to practice a systematic approach to patient care utilizing the nursing process in collaboration with the Registered nurse. The Licensed Practical Nurse's role in the nursing process includes:

- Observes, records and reports patients' condition, symptoms, reactions and progress to the RN
- Contributes to the nursing plan of care
- Assists in the implementation of the plan of care
- Assists in evaluating patient response by documentation and communication of evaluation data to the RN

Qualifications:

Education: Graduation from an accredited School of Practical Nursing with current license

Experience: One-year full time experience in the clinical area or specialty he/she requests to work

Certification: Current CPR/BLS Certification

Duties and Responsibilities

The Licensed Practical Nurse is expected to practice safe and ethical nursing within the scope of his/her profession by the State Practice Act, understanding his/her own limitations, seeking advice and assistance when necessary. Specific duties may include, but are not limited to the following:

- Gives direct care based on knowledge of principles and practices of the LPN
- Gives medications via oral, topical, subcutaneous, intradermal and intramuscular routes under the direction of a Registered Nurse. The LPN has full knowledge of actions and untoward effects of medications being dispensed.
- Performs activities related to I.V. Therapy according to facility policy and procedures under the supervision of a Registered Nurse.
- Assists physicians with patient exams, when required.
- Contributes to patient/family teaching based on plan of care
- Provides age specific care to all patients
- Documents and reports to RN any changes in patient's condition
- Consistently practices standard precautions, including hand washing, consistent use of personal protective equipment.
- Adheres to facilities' policies for handling bio hazardous materials
- Updates knowledge and skills by attending continuing education opportunities

Essential Functions:

- Must have working knowledge of the principles and techniques of Practical Nursing
- Must have current knowledge in caring for patients in different developmental stages throughout the life span
- Ability to communicate effectively both verbally and in writing
- Seeks to obtain educational resources and create learning experiences to enhance and maintain current knowledge and skills for continued competence in nursing
- Ability to operate and handle many types of medical equipment
- Frequently move/lift between 50-100 pounds, depending on assignment requirements
- Stand for long periods with frequent squatting, twisting, bending, kneeling and reaching to prepare equipment, material or objects for providing patient care.
- Sensory requirements include speech for communication, vision, smell, touch and hearing for accurate assessment of the patient
- Manual dexterity and fine motor coordination
- Ability to work in a stressful environment
- Consistent attendance is required to assure that the client facilities' needs and patient needs are met.
- Must have the ability to follow directions/instruction from his/her supervisor.
- Compliance with institutional policies, procedures and practices
- Compliance with policies and to uphold standards of nursing excellence at or client facilities

Working Conditions:

The Licensed Practical Nurse must understand and accept the possibility of exposure to inside environmental conditions, such as noise, infectious/communicable diseases, blood and bloodborne diseases, chemicals and/or chemical fumes, odors, gases and dusts. There is also the possibility of physical injury/verbal abuse from an out of control patient and/or visitor. Frequent exposures to distressed patients, families or visitors.
