



The College of Licensed Practical Nurses of Alberta (CLPNA) is mandated by government to regulate the profession of Practical Nurses in a manner that serves and protects the public.

Accordingly the College develops specific practice statements relevant to the Practical Nursing profession.

The purpose of a Practice Statement is:

- ❖ To provide LPNs, employers and the public with information and clarity regarding the scope of practice for LPNs.
- ❖ To help eliminate misconceptions regarding the scope of practice for LPNs.
- ❖ To assist employers with utilizing LPNs more effectively in the health care system.

IMMUNIZATION

PRACTICE STATEMENT 15

Approved by Council: October 29, 2009

Under the Health Professions Act, restricted activities are health services that pose significant risk and are identified to require a level of professional competence, to be performed safely. Regulated professionals must be authorized by their College to perform restricted activities.

Immunization, or the administration of any vaccine, is considered a restricted activity. Licensed Practical Nurses (LPNs) must be competent in administering injections and complete advanced training to provide vaccines. The current Health Professions Act LPN Regulation (2003) 13(4) states:

Only regulated members who have completed advanced training in immunizations approved by the Council are authorized to perform the restricted activity of administering vaccines for the purpose of providing immunizations under the following conditions:

- a) the recipient of the immunization is 5 years of age or older
- b) the employer of the regulated member has in place protocols respecting immunization
- c) an authorized practitioner is available for consultation while the restricted activity is being performed

The Council of the College of Licensed Practical Nurses of Alberta has approved the following advanced training programs for LPNs.

Immunization Specialty

LPNs successfully completing additional education from either Bow Valley College (Immunization Course) or Health Canada (Immunization Provider Course) are eligible to receive authorization to administer any vaccine or immunizing agent. This authorization then allows LPNs to vaccinate individuals ages 5 and older, with an authorized practitioner available for consultation and employer protocols in place.

The following programs are part of this authorization:

- Bow Valley College - Immunization Course
- Health Canada - Immunization Provider Course

LPNs completing one of these programs must ensure the College is notified to have the authorization noted on their practice permit. Educators may forward completion lists to the College or the LPN may email, fax or mail a certificate of completion to the College directly.

Pandemic Immunization Authorization

In an effort to prepare immunization providers, Alberta Health Services (AHS) has developed the *LPN Pandemic Immunization Authorization Orientation Program*.



IMMUNIZATION

PRACTICE STATEMENT 15

Approved by Council: October 29, 2009

This *Orientation Program* consists of a workbook, face to face orientation, skills checklist and provides detailed information for LPNs to administer **influenza (seasonal or H1N1) and pneumococcal vaccines** only.

The College has instituted a ***Pandemic Immunization Authorization*** for those LPNs who complete this *Orientation Program* and are employees by AHS. This Authorization allows LPNs to provide **influenza (seasonal or H1N1) and pneumococcal** vaccines to ages 5 and older, with an authorized practitioner available **on-site** for consultation. AHS may implement additional parameters to the role, including age and time restrictions.

LPNs completing the AHS *Orientation Program* are encouraged to access the Bow Valley College Immunization Course if considering long-term practice in immunization environments.

- The following program is part of this authorization: Alberta Health Services – LPN Pandemic Immunization Authorization Orientation Program

AHS will communicate names of LPNs who complete the *Orientation Program* directly to CLPNA on a daily basis.

REFERENCES

Alberta Regulation 2003, Health Professions Act, Licensed Practical Nurses Profession Regulation. (2003) Edmonton, AB: Government of Alberta.

Code of Ethics and Standards of Practice. (June 18, 2008).Edmonton, AB: College of Licensed Practical Nurses of Alberta.

Competency Profile for LPNs (2nd Ed). (2005). Edmonton, AB: College of Licensed Practical Nurses of Alberta and Alberta Health and Wellness.

Immunization Provider Course. (2009). Edmonton, AB: Health Canada, First Nations and Inuit Health, Regional Nursing.

LPN Pandemic Immunization Authorization: Influenza (Seasonal or H1N1) and Pneumococcal – Orientation Program. (2009). Calgary, AB: Alberta Health Services.

Seasonal Influenza Immunization Orientation Workbook 2009/2010 (2009). Edmonton, AB: Alberta Health Services.



COLLEGE OF
LICENSED PRACTICAL NURSES
OF ALBERTA

St. Albert Trail Place
13163 146 Street
Edmonton AB T5L 4S8

Telephone 780.484.8886
Toll Free 800.661.5877
Fax 780.484.9069
www.clpna.com