A: Nursing Knowledge
A Licensed Practical Nurse will:

A-1-1 Identify the normal structures and functions of the body.

A-1-2 Describe the anatomical organization of the body.

A-1-3 Describe the cellular chemistry and organization of the body.

A-1-4 Describe basic cellular functions – protein synthesis, cell division, and movement of substances across the cell membrane.

A-1-5 Explain how cells are organized into tissue, organs, and systems of the body.

A-1-6 Identify the structure and explain the function of body systems:
- cardiovascular system
- circulatory system
- digestive system
- endocrine system
- genitourinary system
- immune system
- integumentary system
- lymphatic system
- musculoskeletal system
- nervous system and special senses
- reproductive system
- respiratory system.

A-1-7 Identify the components of blood and blood products.

A-1-8 Describe the major body processes of:
- metabolism
- reproduction
- homeostasis.
Major Competency Area: A
Nursing Knowledge

Priority: One

Competency: A-2
Microbiology

Date: September 1, 2005

A Licensed Practical Nurse will:

A-2-1 Explain characteristics of micro-organisms and their role in the transmission of disease.
A-2-2 Describe and differentiate pathogens and non-pathogens.
A-2-3 Describe and differentiate bacteria, viruses, and fungi.
A-2-4 Describe the normal micro-organisms within the human body.
A-2-5 Describe conditions for growth and transferability of micro-organisms.
A-2-6 Explain the concept of asepsis.
A-2-7 Explain the principles of disease prevention and health promotion.
A Licensed Practical Nurse will:

A-3-1 Define pathophysiology as the science of disease processes within the human body.

A-3-2 Identify and describe pathophysiological processes:
- etiology (cause of disease)
- pathophysiology (disease process)
- manifestations (signs and symptoms)
- complications
- chronic versus acute conditions / disorders.

A-3-3 Describe common health problems for all body systems.

A-3-4 Identify the etiology, pathophysiology, and common complications of common health problems.

A-3-5 Describe common body responses to disease:
- cellular / tissue / organ / system level
- immunity
- inflammation
- stress
- carcinogenesis
- genetic
- psychological.

A-3-6 Describe the processes of inflammation, infection, and healing.
A Licensed Practical Nurse will:

A-3-7 Explain the common types of trauma:
- fractures
- haemorrhage
- shock
- burns
- neurological
- respiratory
- psychological
- surgical
- multisystem failure.

A-3-8 Describe the etiology and medical treatment of common mental disorders.
(See Competency Band M).

A-3-9 Describe the common referral agencies and resources for mental health.

A-3-10 Explain common medical management in relation to pharmacology, surgery, anaesthesia, and treatments.

A-3-11 Apply the nursing process to the care of clients with common health problems.
Major Competency Area: A
Nursing Knowledge

Priority: One

Competency: A-4
Medical Terminology

Date: September 1, 2005

A Licensed Practical Nurse will:

A-4-1 Identify the meanings of common prefixes, suffixes, and root words used in reporting and documenting.

A-4-2 Identify and use common abbreviations in documentation.

A-4-3 Identify and use common medical symbols.

A-4-4 Use appropriate medical terminology in reporting and documentation.

A-4-5 Know common agency policies and procedures regarding documentation and use of medical terminology.
A Licensed Practical Nurse will:

A-5-1 Explain the common theories of human growth and development throughout the life cycles.

A-5-2 Describe the significant physical, psychological, social, cognitive, moral, spiritual, and cultural developments throughout the life cycle.

A-5-3 Describe the principles of growth and development.

A-5-4 Describe how the factors of environment, genetics, culture, lifestyle, religion, and maturation influence growth and development.

A-5-5 Identify the developmental tasks for each stage of growth and development.

A-5-6 Describe the normal process of learning.

A-5-7 Describe and apply the principles of teaching.

A-5-8 Describe and apply normal stages of death and dying, and grief and grieving process.

A-5-9 Relate normal growth and development processes to the application of nursing in the care of clients of all age groups.
A Licensed Practical Nurse will:

A-6-1 Describe the importance of nutrition to health and recovery.

A-6-2 Identify the functions, major sources, and daily requirements for common nutrients:
- carbohydrate
- fibre
- fat
- minerals
- protein
- vitamins.

A-6-3 Identify the Canada’s Food Guide requirements for each age group throughout the life cycle.

A-6-4 Identify factors that affect normal nutrition, e.g., cultural, socio-economic and geographical.

A-6-5 Identify the indicators of adequate and inadequate nutrition.

A-6-6 Describe common methods to assess nutritional status:
- general appearance
- height and weight
- diet history
- food allergies
- body mass index
- lab values
- swallowing
- perception of body image.

A-6-7 Describe the purpose and elements of common therapeutic diets.

A-6-8 Identify the role of the dietician as a member of the health team.
A Licensed Practical Nurse will:

A-7-1 Define pharmacology.

A-7-2 List four primary sources of drugs.

A-7-3 Describe the processes by which drugs are used in the body.

A-7-4 Distinguish between local and systemic sites of action.

A-7-5 Recognize normal lab values.

A-7-6 Describe the common effects of drugs:
- therapeutic effects
- side effects
- adverse reaction
- allergic reaction
- synergistic effects
- drug interactions.

A-7-7 Describe the signs, symptoms, and treatment of anaphylaxis.

A-7-8 Identify common legislation and drug standards.

A-7-9 Distinguish the difference between generic and trade name of drugs.

A-7-10 Identify the uses, actions, usual dosage range, major side effects, nursing implications, and examples of common drug classifications.

A-7-11 Define nursing role in “controlled substances.”
A Licensed Practical Nurse will:

A-7-12 Identify common systems of measurements in drug therapy.

A-7-13 Identify common formulas and calculate medication dosages for adults and children.

A-7-14 Describe the therapeutic purpose of drugs.

A-7-15 Describe the factors influencing medication action.

A-7-16 Describe and give examples of common medication actions.

A-7-17 Differentiate between drug abuse and drug misuse.

A-7-18 Differentiate between physiological and psychological dependence.

A-7-19 Identify roles and responsibilities of physician / nurse practitioner in prescribing and pharmacists in the dispensing of drugs.

A-7-20 Identify the common routes of medication administration.

A-7-21 Identify the principles underlying safe administration of medication:
- assessment
- “rights”
- documentation
- policy and procedures
- safe disposal.

A-7-22 Describe the purpose of common pharmacological references and resources.
A Licensed Practical Nurse will:

A-8-1 Describe the steps of the nursing process – assessment, planning, implementation, and evaluation.

A-8-2 Integrate knowledge and skills from sciences and humanities into the application of the nursing process.

A-8-3 Describe the process of identifying a nursing diagnosis.

A-8-4 Understand the evolution of nursing including history, role, function, and professionalism.

A-8-5 Describe the common characteristics of the Canadian health care system.

A-8-6 Identify the common methods of delivering and organizing nursing care.

A-8-7 Describe the basic elements of nursing theories and models:
- definition of nursing
- health
- human needs
- illness
- nursing process
- wellness.

A-8-8 Identify and describe trends and issues within the nursing professions.

A-8-9 Describe the legal, ethical, and moral aspects of nursing.
A Licensed Practical Nurse will:

A-8-10 Understand the role of the LPN within the health care system:
- relationship to other health professionals
- responsibility and accountability
- scope of practice.

A-8-11 Explain the concepts of professional accountability, responsibility for competence, and life long learning.

A-8-12 Provide the rationale and principles underlying nursing actions.

A-8-13 Describe the role of the LPN in health promotion and disease prevention.

A-8-14 Describe common complementary therapies.
A Licensed Practical Nurse will:

A-9-1 Describe the concepts within communication.
A-9-2 Describe the common goals of communication.
A-9-3 Explain the elements of the communication process.
A-9-4 Recognize the components of non-verbal communication when interacting with clients, families, and co-workers.
A-9-5 Describe the components of verbal and written communication.
A-9-6 Describe the common factors that influence the communication process.
A-9-7 Describe the importance of self-awareness to effective communication.
A-9-8 Describe the importance of feedback to effective communication.
A-9-9 Describe the role of effective communication in establishing, maintaining, and closing interpersonal relationships.
A-9-10 Describe how the communication process is used within the nursing process and provision of nursing care.
A-9-11 Describe the importance of effective communication to management of conflict.
A-9-12 Describe the importance of effective communication to the leadership role.
A-9-13 Describe the purpose and use of common communication devices.