E: Nursing Practice
A Licensed Practical Nurse will:

**E-1-1** Demonstrate knowledge and ability to apply critical thinking concepts throughout the nursing process.

**E-1-2** Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of how critical thinking influences clinical judgment and decision making.

**E-1-3** Demonstrate knowledge and application of critical thinking skills in decision making:
- identify the facts
- research the literature
- analyze own assumptions
- identify and analyze the context
- identify relevant nursing concerns and issues
- establish level of priority of care
- identify desired outcome.
A Licensed Practical Nurse will:

**E-2-1** Demonstrate knowledge of how clinical judgment and decision-making processes guide thoughts, behaviours, and relations with others.

**E-2-2** Demonstrate knowledge and ability to assess the potential for inaccurate judgments and decisions.

**E-2-3** Demonstrate knowledge and ability to utilize best practice in clinical judgment and decision making:
- clearly identify the issue
- reflect on prior knowledge, experience, and intuition when considering the current issue
- generate a set of alternatives to address the issue
- select appropriate alternatives based on effectiveness, efficiency, quality, and feasibility
- establish a plan to implement the solution, including goals, outcomes, and evaluation measures
- implement the plan
- evaluate the effectiveness of the process and assess outcomes
- suggest alternatives to policy and procedure of the agency to prevent or manage future issues.

**E-2-4** Demonstrate knowledge and ability to involve key stakeholders throughout the decision-making process, as necessary and as appropriate.
A Licensed Practical Nurse will:

**E-3-1** Maintain current Basic Rescuers, Level C, CPR certification in accordance with the standards of the Canadian Heart and Stroke Foundation.

**E-3-2** Demonstrate knowledge and ability to follow the code procedure for cardiac and respiratory arrest such as:
- assess the need for code initiation
- carry out code procedures until assistance is available
- assist RN and physician / nurse practitioner and / or Code Team with managing code
- provide support to other clients and family
- document events of code, as appropriate.

**E-3-3** Demonstrate knowledge of agency-specific emergency codes.
Major Competency Area: E

Nursing Practice

Priority: One

Competency: E-4

Admission Procedures

Date: September 1, 2005

A Licensed Practical Nurse will:

E-4-1  Demonstrate knowledge and ability to admit a client to a health care agency:
   • verify admission documentation data is accurate and complete
   • obtain the client’s health history and perform health assessment.

E-4-2  Demonstrate ability to provide client and family teaching.

E-4-3  Demonstrate ability to document admission data and process according to agency procedure.

E-4-4  Demonstrate ability to report admission data and findings to appropriate health professional.

E-4-5  Demonstrate ability to recognize need for emergency intervention and take immediate action.
Major Competency Area: E

Nursing Practice

Priority: One

Competency: E-5

Nursing Diagnosis

Date: September 1, 2005

A Licensed Practical Nurse will:

E-5-1 Demonstrate knowledge and ability to analyze the assessment data to participate and collaborate in selecting established nursing diagnosis.

E-5-2 Demonstrate knowledge and ability to validate and communicate the established nursing diagnosis with client, family, and health care team.

E-5-3 Demonstrate knowledge and ability to document the established nursing diagnosis and determine the expected outcomes and plan.
Major Competency Area: E
Nursing Practice

Priority: One

Competency: E-6
Client Transfer, Discharge and Referral

Date: September 1, 2005

A Licensed Practical Nurse will:

E-6-1 Demonstrate ability to transfer client within or between health care agencies.

E-6-2 Demonstrate ability to discharge client from facility.

E-6-3 Demonstrate ability to arrange internal / external referrals for client and family.

E-6-4 Demonstrate knowledge and ability to provide teaching and support regarding transfer, discharge, and referral to client and family.
A Licensed Practical Nurse will:

E-7-1 Demonstrate knowledge and ability to assess client’s ability to perform self care.

E-7-2 Demonstrate knowledge and ability to provide activities of daily living.
A Licensed Practical Nurse will:

**E-8-1  Demonstrate knowledge and ability to assist with client mobility needs such as:**
- range of motion
- ambulation
- positioning
- lifts and transfers
- exercise instruction.

**E-8-2  Access additional resources and help and / or make referrals as necessary.**
A Licensed Practical Nurse will:

E-9-1 Demonstrate knowledge and ability to assess nutritional / hydration status.

E-9-2 Demonstrate knowledge and ability to provide feedings / hydration via all routes such as:
- oral
- nasogastric (NG-tube)
- gastrostomy (G-tube)
- jejunostomy (J-tube)
- percutaneous endoscopic gastrostomy (PEG-tube).

E-9-3 Demonstrate knowledge and ability to insert and remove a nasogastric tube (NG tube).

E-9-4 Demonstrate knowledge and ability to reinsert established gastrostomy tube.

E-9-5 Demonstrate knowledge of components of Total Parenteral Nutrition (TPN) and its therapeutic use.

E-9-6 Demonstrate knowledge and ability to monitor and regulate Total Parenteral Nutrition (TPN).
Note: LPNs are not authorized to provide the restricted activity of administering (initiating) TPN.

E-9-7 Demonstrate ability to assess and monitor the client’s response to TPN.

E-9-8 Demonstrate knowledge and ability to initiate and provide fluids via intravenous and hypodermoclysis routes. (See Competency Band V)
Major Competency Area: E

Nursing Practice

Priority: One

Competency: E-10

Elimination

Date: September 1, 2005

A Licensed Practical Nurse will:

**E-10-1** Demonstrate the knowledge and ability to care for elimination needs such as:
- urinary:
  - continuous bladder irrigation
  - distension
  - double J stint
  - incontinence
  - inserting and removing urethral catheter
  - intermittent bladder irrigation
  - re-inserting established suprapubic catheter
  - residual urine
  - retraining
  - urostomy
- bowel:
  - enema
  - fecal impaction
  - ostomies
    - irrigation
  - rectal tubes.

**E-10-2** Demonstrate knowledge and ability to utilize devices and equipment related to elimination needs.
A Licensed Practical Nurse will:

**E-11-1** Demonstrate knowledge and ability to differentiate between medical and surgical asepsis.

**E-11-2** Demonstrate knowledge and ability to apply principles of medical / surgical asepsis when providing nursing care and interventions:
- clean and aseptic techniques
- donning a mask
- donning gloves
- double bagging
- gowning for isolation
- hand washing
- isolation techniques
- sterile technique
- specialized cleaning of equipment.
A Licensed Practical Nurse will:

**E-12-1** Demonstrate knowledge of the anatomy and physiology of the renal system.

**E-12-2** Demonstrate knowledge of the need for peritoneal dialysis.

**E-12-3** Demonstrate knowledge of the risks to the client receiving peritoneal dialysis such as:
- electrolyte imbalance
- fluid level risks
- infection / sepsis.

**E-12-4** Demonstrate knowledge and ability to care for catheter site and change dressings.

**E-12-5** Demonstrate knowledge and ability to perform the procedures involved in peritoneal dialysis.

**E-12-6** Demonstrate knowledge and ability to calculate weekly clearance of urea by client’s kidneys.

**E-12-7** Demonstrate knowledge and ability to provide support and teaching to client receiving peritoneal dialysis.
A Licensed Practical Nurse will:

E-13-1 Demonstrate knowledge of human anatomy and physiology of feet and lower extremities.

E-13-2 Demonstrate knowledge of purpose of foot and nail care.

E-13-3 Demonstrate knowledge of common micro-organisms of the feet:
- bacteria
- viruses
- fungi
- yeast.

E-13-4 Demonstrate knowledge and ability to provide basic foot care for clients.

E-13-5 Demonstrate knowledge of principles utilized to minimize risk of transmission of infection:
- hand washing
- appropriate mask, gloves, and protective barriers
- care of instruments
- antiseptic cleansing of feet
- precautions with fungal nail dust
- care of environment.

E-13-6 Demonstrate knowledge of complications of diabetes and the effects on the feet:
- neuropathy
- decrease in sensation
- decrease in movement
- decrease in circulation.

E-13-7 Demonstrate knowledge of complications of circulatory impairment.

E-13-8 Demonstrate knowledge and ability to teach appropriate foot care to client and caregiver.
A Licensed Practical Nurse will:

E-13-9 Demonstrate knowledge and ability to access and refer clients to members of the multi-disciplinary team as necessary.

E-13-10 Demonstrate knowledge and ability to document and report procedure and client response.
A Licensed Practical Nurse will:

**E-14-1** Demonstrate knowledge of the physiology of wound healing.

**E-14-2** Demonstrate knowledge and ability to apply skin care / wound management protocols according to agency policy.

**E-14-3** Demonstrate knowledge and ability to identify clients at risk for skin breakdown.

**E-14-4** Demonstrate the knowledge and ability to perform wound care such as:
- acute wounds
- malignant wounds
- occlusive dressings
- pressure dressings
- skin ulceration wounds
- specialized (wound equipment)
- surgical wounds
- traumatic wounds
- wound compresses
- wound irrigation
- wounds with drain
- wounds with packing.

**E-14-5** Demonstrate knowledge of purpose of wound debridement.

**E-14-6** Demonstrate knowledge and ability to perform wound debridement.
A Licensed Practical Nurse will:

**E-15-1** Demonstrate the knowledge and ability to collect, test, store, transport, and document specimens such as:
- urine
- stool
- sputum
- tissue
- wound
- secretion swabs
- blood specimen
- phlebotomy (see Competency DD).
Major Competency Area: **E**  
Nursing Practice

Priority: **One**

Competency: **E-16**  
Resource Utilization

Date: September 1, 2005

A Licensed Practical Nurse will:

E-16-1 Demonstrate knowledge of appropriate resource utilization and the impact on practice and the health care system.

E-16-2 Demonstrate ability to consider safety, effectiveness, cost, and impact on practice:
   - in the planning and delivery of nursing care
   - when assigning care to others.

E-16-3 Demonstrate ability to assist client and family in identifying and securing appropriate resources.

E-16-4 Demonstrate ability to utilize resources in a cost-effective manner.
A Licensed Practical Nurse will:

**E-17-1**  Demonstrate the knowledge and ability to pronounce death.

**E-17-2**  Demonstrate the knowledge and ability to care for the body after death:
- respect cultural and religious beliefs
- adherence to protocols related to autopsy, organ donation, and Medical Examiner’s office
- according to Personal Directives.

**E-17-3**  Demonstrate the knowledge and ability to properly document, store, and return valuables.

**E-17-4**  Demonstrate the knowledge and ability to appropriately give emotional support to family and significant others.

**E-17-5**  Demonstrate the knowledge and ability to care for a body using standard precautions.

**E-17-6**  Demonstrate the knowledge and ability to notify appropriate health professional, family, and appropriate agency about client death.

**E-17-7**  Demonstrate knowledge and ability to notify funeral home, prepare documents, and arrange transfer of body to funeral home.

**E-17-8**  Demonstrate knowledge and ability to assist in post mortem examination and sample procurement.