E: Nursing Practice
A Licensed Practical Nurse will:

E-1-1 Demonstrate knowledge of importance of critical thinking and critical inquiry to nursing practice.

E-1-2 Demonstrate knowledge of how critical thinking and critical inquiry influence clinical judgment and decision making.

E-1-3 Demonstrate ability to utilize critical inquiry to expand critical thinking through analysis, discernment and reflective reasoning related to:
- actions
- assumptions
- beliefs
- conclusions
- ideas
- principles

E-1-4 Demonstrate knowledge and ability to apply critical thinking and critical inquiry throughout the decision making process:
- identify facts
- prioritize risks and problems
- analyze best available evidence
- clarify and challenge assumptions
- identify and analyze the context
- identify anticipated outcome
A Licensed Practical Nurse will:

**E-2-1**  
Demonstrate importance of clinical judgment and decision-making in nursing practice and inter-personal relationships.

**E-2-2**  
Demonstrate knowledge and ability to integrate evidence informed practice in clinical judgment and decision making:  
- identify concern  
- reflect on prior knowledge, experience and intuition  
- assess potential for inaccurate judgments and decisions  
- establish a plan to achieve desired outcomes  
- implement the plan  
- evaluate effectiveness of process and assess outcomes  
- alter plan to achieve desired outcomes if required  
- review and suggest alternatives to policy and procedures  
- reflect on knowledge gained and impact on professional practice

**E-2-3**  
Demonstrate knowledge and ability to communicate and collaborate with inter-professional team as necessary throughout the decision making process.
A Licensed Practical Nurse will:

**E-3-1** Demonstrate knowledge and ability to manage time effectively.

**E-3-2** Demonstrate knowledge and ability to prioritize and manage client care related to the following factors:
- emergent – immediate threat to survival or safety
- urgent – problems requiring immediate intervention
- less urgent – problems requiring non-immediate intervention
- non-urgent – anticipated problems in future

**E-3-3** Demonstrate knowledge and ability to seek guidance and assistance from inter-professional team as necessary.

**E-3-4** Demonstrate knowledge and ability to assess and monitor own fitness to practice while prioritizing care.

**E-3-5** Demonstrate ability to respect inter-professional team in decisions of personal time management including:
- arriving for work on time
- collaborating in care delivery
- conducting self professionally
- limiting personal activities to personal time (social media, texting, personal calls)
- managing breaks effectively
- remaining until transfer of care is complete to avoid abandonment of care

**E-3-6** Demonstrate knowledge and ability to adapt to unexpected demands.
A Licensed Practical Nurse will:

**E-4-1** Demonstrate knowledge and ability to perform admission and discharge procedures including:
- comprehensive client assessment and history
- medication reconciliation
- advanced care planning/goals of care
- processing orders
- managing transfers and referrals
- health teaching and coaching
- documenting and reporting
A Licensed Practical Nurse will:

**E-5-1** Demonstrate knowledge and ability to assess client functional status to independently perform self-care including:

- **basic:**
  - dressing
  - functional mobility/lift and transfer
  - ambulation/range of motion
  - personal hygiene and grooming
  - feeding/hydration
  - toilet hygiene

- **instrumental:**
  - care of others, pets
  - communication (telephone, technology)
  - community mobility
  - financial management
  - health and medical interventions
  - home management
    - housework
    - meal preparation
    - routine maintenance
    - shopping
    - sidewalk clearing

**E-5-2** Demonstrate knowledge and ability to assess client inability to achieve independent self-care including:

- physical and cognitive impairments
- gaps in support system
- homelessness
A Licensed Practical Nurse will:

E-6-1  Demonstrate knowledge and ability to assess and provide nutrition/hydration by multiple routes:
   • enteral
   • gastrostomy
   • hypodermoclysis
   • intravenous
   • jejunostomy
   • nasogastric
   • nasojejunal
   • oral
   • orogastric
   • intraosseous (amended Jan. 31, 2017)

E-6-2  Demonstrate knowledge and ability to insert, manage, and remove a nasogastric tube (with a stylet). (amended Jan. 31, 2017).

E-6-3  Demonstrate knowledge and ability to reinsert established gastrostomy tube.

E-6-4  Demonstrate knowledge and ability to perform basic chewing and swallowing assessment and manage associated client care needs.

E-6-5  Demonstrate knowledge and ability to monitor, regulate, and discontinue Total Parenteral Nutrition (TPN) (amended Jan. 31, 2017).

Note: LPNs are not authorized to provide the restricted activity of initiating the administration of TPN (amended Jan. 31, 2017).
A Licensed Practical Nurse will:

**E-7-1** Demonstrate knowledge and ability to manage elimination needs including:

- urinary:
  - bladder scanning
  - catheter flush
  - continuous bladder irrigation
  - distension
  - double J stent
  - incontinence
  - inserting and removing urethral and coude catheter
  - nephrostomy
  - re-inserting established suprapubic catheter
  - residual urine
  - retraining
  - urethrostomy
  - urostomy
  - vaginal pessary

- bowel:
  - digital stimulation
  - enema
  - fecal disimpaction
  - ostomies
    - irrigation
  - rectal tubes

**E-7-2** Demonstrate knowledge and ability to utilize devices and equipment related to elimination needs.

**Note:** LPNs are not authorized to insert urological devices, for the purpose of aiding elimination, using a guide-wire or stylet (amended Jan. 31, 2017).
A Licensed Practical Nurse will:

**E-8-1** Demonstrate knowledge of indications and risks associated with peritoneal dialysis.

**E-8-2** Demonstrate knowledge and ability to monitor and manage peritoneal catheter site.

**E-8-3** Demonstrate knowledge and ability to perform procedures involved in peritoneal dialysis:
- initiate, monitor and discontinue
- intra-peritoneal medication administration

**E-8-4** Demonstrate knowledge and ability to calculate weekly clearance of urea by client’s kidneys.

**E-8-5** Demonstrate knowledge and ability to provide health teaching and coaching to client receiving peritoneal dialysis.
A Licensed Practical Nurse will:

E-9-1 Demonstrate knowledge and ability to manage basic foot care for client including trimming and filing nails.

E-9-2 Demonstrate knowledge of common micro-organisms of the feet including:
- bacteria
- viruses
- fungi
- yeast

E-9-3 Demonstrate knowledge of infection prevention and control standards associated with foot care.

E-9-4 Demonstrate knowledge and ability to assess compromised circulation and its effects on lower extremities.

E-9-5 Demonstrate knowledge and ability to manage basic foot care in client with compromised circulation.

E-9-6 Demonstrate knowledge and ability to teach appropriate foot care to client, family and others.

E-9-7 Demonstrate knowledge and ability to refer client to advanced foot care professional(s) as appropriate.
A Licensed Practical Nurse will:

E-10-1  **Demonstrate knowledge and ability to apply critical thinking and critical inquiry throughout the nursing process related to skin care/wound management protocols.**

E-10-2  **Demonstrate knowledge and ability to identify client at risk for recurrence or exacerbation of skin breakdown.**

E-10-3  **Demonstrate knowledge and ability to perform wound care:**
- 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-10-4  **Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of pathophysiology and etiology related to principles of wound healing and wound care management including:**
- biochemical process related to wound healing
  - hemostasis
  - inflammation
  - proliferation/granulation
  - remodeling/maturation
- differentiate between acute, chronic and malignant wounds
- factors related to optimal healing environment
A Licensed Practical Nurse will:

**E-10-4** Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of pathophysiology and etiology related to principles of wound healing and wound care management including: (cont’d)
- factors which impede healing
  - vascular compromise
  - immunodeficiency
  - metabolic disease
  - connective tissue disorders
  - malignancy
  - nutritional deficiencies
  - psychosocial disorders
  - adverse effects of medications
  - infection, burns, trauma
- utilize wound classification and staging tools (Braden scale)

**E-10-5** Demonstrate knowledge of purpose of wound debridement.

**E-10-6** Demonstrate knowledge and ability to assess psychosocial and quality of life concerns of client and others related to wound care management including:
- alterations of body image/lifestyle
- attitudes and feelings/beliefs and values
- communication difficulties/information needs
- involve client and family in care planning/decision making
- pain management strategies
- patient-centered holistic care

**E-10-7** Demonstrate knowledge and ability to provide health teaching and coaching to client, family and others related to wound care management and the healing process.

**E-10-8** Demonstrate knowledge and ability to communicate and collaborate with inter-professional team.
A Licensed Practical Nurse will:

**E-11-1 Demonstrate knowledge and ability to apply the nursing process in assessment and management of complex acute, chronic and malignant wounds related to:**

- arterial disease
  - acute thrombosis
  - chronic atherosclerosis
- venous disease
  - acute deep vein thrombosis (DVT)
  - chronic venous insufficiency
  - varicose veins
- co-morbidities
- chronic edema
- allergies/sensitivities
- complicated post-surgical
- diabetes
- exudate management/malodorous secretions
- functional limitations/compromise
- lymphatic system sufficiency/compromise
- neuropathic/neurogenic associated pain
- tumor necrosis/fungating cancers
- vascular sufficiency/compromise

**E-11-2 Demonstrate knowledge and ability to perform clinical and technical vascular assessment of lower limbs including:**

- complete medical/physical history
  - current health status
  - previous fractures, investigations, treatments
  - prior use of compression therapy
  - co-morbidities
  - pain (type, location)
  - current medications
  - family history
A Licensed Practical Nurse will:

E-11-2 Demonstrate knowledge and ability to perform clinical and technical vascular assessment of lower limbs including: (cont’d)

- physical examination
  - skin integrity/color/temperature/rubor/blanche
  - hair and nail condition/growth pattern
  - presence/absence of pulses (femoral, popliteal, posterior tibial, dorsalis pedis)
  - presence/absence of varicosities
  - mobility/range of motion
  - structural deformities
  - ankle brachial pressure indices (ABPI)
  - photoplethysmography (pulse oximeter)
  - Doppler application / interpretation
  - neuropathy monofilament testing

E-11-3 Demonstrate knowledge and ability to perform advanced wound care treatment modalities and wound dressing to promote healing based on:

- classification/characteristics of wound
- phase of healing
- client need and risk factors (allergies/sensitivities/comorbidities/lifestyle)
- protection against secondary injury
- insulates and moistens wound bed to promote healing
- provides effective barrier to microorganisms
- prevents maceration/irritation of surrounding tissues
- free from particulate/toxins
- prevent secondary trauma upon removal of dressing

E-11-4 Demonstrate knowledge of adjunctive therapies often associated with care of advanced wounds such as:

- electrical stimulation
- negative pressure therapy
- hyperbaric oxygen therapy
A Licensed Practical Nurse will:

| E-11-5       | **Demonstrate knowledge and ability to perform wound debridement as defined:**  
|              | • Level 1: removal of loose, avascular skin tissue  
|              | • Level 2: removal of tissue within the dermis and hypodermis (not beyond the subcutaneous fascia) |

| E-11-6       | **Demonstrate knowledge and ability to identify clients at risk for recurrence or exacerbation of skin breakdown and develop appropriate prevention strategies.** |

| E-11-7       | **Demonstrate knowledge and ability to assess psychosocial and quality of life concerns of client and others related to advanced wound care management including:**  
|              | • patient-centered holistic care  
|              | • alterations of body image/lifestyle  
|              | • attitudes and feelings/beliefs and values  
|              | • cosmetic effects of dressings  
|              | • communication difficulties/information needs  
|              | • coping strategies and available support services  
|              | • sociocultural issues (marginalization/social isolation)  
|              | • impact on interpersonal relationships/functional ability  
|              | • pain management strategies  
|              | • socioeconomic issues (financial, relational, emotional, spiritual)  
|              | • expectations/short and long term goals  
|              | • involve client and family in care planning/decision making |

| E-11-8       | **Demonstrate knowledge and ability to provide health teaching and coaching to client, family and others related to advanced wound care management and the healing process.** |

| E-11-9       | **Demonstrate knowledge and ability to communicate, consult and collaborate with inter-professional team.** |
A Licensed Practical Nurse will:

E-12-1 Demonstrate knowledge and ability to apply critical thinking and critical inquiry throughout the nursing process related to phlebotomy.

E-12-2 Demonstrate knowledge of anatomy and physiology related to phlebotomy technique.

E-12-3 Demonstrate knowledge and ability to perform phlebotomy and manage blood samples according to agency policy.

E-12-4 Demonstrate knowledge and ability to provide health teaching and coaching related to phlebotomy.

E-12-5 Demonstrate knowledge and ability to communicate and collaborate with inter-professional team.

E-12-6 Demonstrate knowledge of use of therapeutic phlebotomy for conditions including:
- hemochromatosis
- sickle-cell anemia
- polycythemia

E-12-7 Demonstrate knowledge and ability to perform therapeutic phlebotomy according to agency policy.
A Licensed Practical Nurse will:

**E-13-1** Demonstrate knowledge and ability to integrate concepts of client centered care throughout care delivery including:
- client engagement (life history, belief, experiences)
- collaborative partnerships
- empowering communication
- health advocacy, support and empowerment
- holistic assessment
- obtaining informed consent
- ready access and autonomy
- respecting client needs, values and preferences

**E-13-2** Demonstrate knowledge and ability to identify relationship between client centered care and outcomes in health management:
- anxiety reduction
- satisfaction with health outcomes
- engagement and empowerment
- rights, needs, goals and preferences of client addressed
- satisfaction with healthcare system
- self-management and self-efficacy

**E-13-3** Demonstrate knowledge and ability to provide health teaching and coaching that fosters client decision making and self-efficacy.

**E-13-4** Demonstrate knowledge and ability to communicate and collaborate with client, family, others and inter-professional team to ensure delivery of client centered care.
A Licensed Practical Nurse will:

**E-14-1**  Demonstrate knowledge of differences between conventional medicine and complementary and alternative therapies.

**E-14-2**  Demonstrate knowledge of common complementary and alternative therapies including:
- bio-field/energy (Reiki, electro-magnetic, therapeutic touch)
- biologically based (dietary supplements, herbal products, vitamins)
- manipulative and body based (massage, reflexology, chiropractic)
- mind-body (hypnosis, visual imagery, meditation)
- whole medical (homeopathy, naturopathy, traditional healing)

**E-14-3**  Demonstrate knowledge and ability to assess and consider impact of complementary and alternative therapies on client’s goals of care.

**E-14-4**  Demonstrate knowledge and ability to assess and consider impact of complementary and alternative therapies on nursing interventions and plan of care.

**E-14-5**  Demonstrate knowledge and ability to assess and manage risk factors associated with complementary and alternative therapies:
- client perspective regarding efficacy
- delayed treatment
- cost and financial hardship
- contraindications with conventional medicine
- understanding of health risks and interactions
- potential atypical symptoms/response

**E-14-6**  Demonstrate knowledge and ability to recognize and support clients decision to supplement or replace conventional care with complementary and alternative therapy.

**E-14-7**  Demonstrate knowledge and ability to care for the body adhering to infection prevention and control standards.
A Licensed Practical Nurse will:

**E-15-1** Demonstrate knowledge of the anatomy of the ear.

**E-15-2** Demonstrate knowledge of the purpose for the ear syringing.

**E-15-3** Demonstrate knowledge and ability to perform ear syringing:
- check physicians order or protocol
- prepare supplies explain procedure to the client
- prepare and position client
- position drainage basin appropriately
- cleanse outer aspects of ear as necessary position ear canal to straighten the auditory canal by pulling the pinna:
  - down and back for an infant
  - up and back for an adult
- insert fluid appropriately:
  - direct a steady stream of solution against the roof of the auditory canal
  - use only sufficient force to remove secretions
- do not occlude auditory canal with the irrigating nozzle:
  - allow solution to flow out unimpeded
  - allow ear canal to drain appropriately
  - place cotton ball loosely in auditory meatus
- have client lie on side of affected ear using absorbent pad if necessary
- document irrigation, appearance of drainage and client response
A Licensed Practical Nurse will:

**E-16-1**  Demonstrate knowledge and ability to care for the body adhering to infection prevention and control standards.

**E-16-2**  Demonstrate knowledge and ability to notify appropriate individuals.

**E-16-3**  Demonstrate knowledge and ability to collaborate with inter-professional team to provide resources and support to client and others.

**E-16-4**  Demonstrate knowledge and ability to manage client valuables.

**E-16-5**  Demonstrate knowledge and ability to assist in post mortem examination and sample procurement.

**E-16-6**  Demonstrate knowledge and ability to notify funeral home, prepare documents, and arrange transfer of body.