

FF: Ophthalmic Nursing

Major Competency Area: **FF**
Ophthalmic Nursing

Priority: **One**

Competency: **FF-1**
**Knowledge of Ophthalmology and
Surgical Procedures**

Date: September 1, 2005

A Licensed Practical Nurse will:

FF-1-1 Demonstrate knowledge of Ophthalmology:

- explain the anatomy and physiology of the eye
- describe the components of the specialty of Ophthalmology
- describe common diseases and disorders of the eye.

FF-1-2 Demonstrate knowledge of Ophthalmology surgery and treatment:

- describe common procedures used to diagnose ophthalmic diseases and disorders
- describe common surgical and treatment procedures used in Ophthalmology
- explain the type and use of medications in Ophthalmology
- explain the medical protocols associated with Ophthalmology
- describe common equipment and technology used in Ophthalmology.

Note: Licensed Practical Nurses who practice in Ophthalmic Nursing have usually been certified through the Surgical Ophthalmology Assistant Guide course.

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Competency: **FF-2**
**Assess and Care for
Ophthalmic Client**

Date: September 1, 2005

A Licensed Practical Nurse will:

FF-2-1 Demonstrate ability to assess the needs of the ophthalmic client:

- follow protocols and procedures for admission of ophthalmic client
- use appropriate nursing history and assessment tools to conduct health assessment of client
- follow agency policy in obtaining consent from client
- preserve client dignity throughout clinic / hospital stay.

FF-2-2 Demonstrate ability to provide nursing interventions to ophthalmic client:

- apply nursing knowledge to meet needs presented by client
- assist with diagnostic procedures
- explain procedures and reassure client as necessary
- administer ophthalmic medications as ordered, using principles of medication administration
- conduct appropriate procedures for preparation of the eye, as surgical site
- prepare client for surgical procedure
- provide post-operative care of client following physician orders and protocols
- reinforce discharge teaching and prepare client for discharge from clinic / hospital
- discharge client per anesthesiologist order.

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Competency: **FF-3**
**Knowledge and Application
of Surgical Asepsis**

Date: September 1, 2005

A Licensed Practical Nurse will:

- FF-3-1 Demonstrate knowledge and ability to apply surgical asepsis:**
- follow principles of surgical asepsis in preparation of the client for surgery
 - follow scrub protocols to prepare self for procedure
 - apply gown and gloves prior to set up
 - establish and maintain sterile field to set up equipment and supplies
 - use appropriate procedures to chemically disinfect and sterilize instruments
 - be alert for breaks in sterile technique during surgical procedure.

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Competency: **FF-4**
Perform Scrub Assistant Role

Date: September 1, 2005

A Licensed Practical Nurse will:

FF-4-1 Demonstrate ability to perform scrub assistant role during ophthalmic surgery:

- know and adhere to policies and protocols for specific procedure
- know name and function of instruments
- set up and prepare instrument tray prior to procedure
- prepare the surgical site and drape the client
- hand instruments to surgeon in proper order and as requested
- administer balanced salt solution as ordered
- administer eye drops as ordered
- dress the surgical site using eye patch
- conduct surgical count prior to and following procedure.

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Competency: **FF-5**
Assist with Laser Procedures

Date: September 1, 2005

A Licensed Practical Nurse will:

- FF-5-1 Demonstrate ability to assist with laser procedures:**
- know the principles of laser use in the treatment of disorders of the eye
 - calibrate laser equipment as ordered
 - input physicians calculations into laser equipment as ordered
 - collect and set up instruments and supplies
 - explain procedure to the client
 - position client for the procedure
 - drape the client appropriately
 - hand instruments to the surgeon in proper order and as requested
 - administer medications as ordered
 - chart the procedure using appropriate forms.

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Competency: **FF-6**
**Assist with Circulating in the
Ophthalmic Theatre**

Date: September 1, 2005

A Licensed Practical Nurse will:

FF-6-1 Demonstrate ability to assist with the circulating role during ophthalmic procedures:

- locate, collect, prepare, and provide instruments and supplies prior to and during procedure
- review chart for client information and consent
- position client as appropriate
- assist with draping and monitoring of client
- provide assistance to anaesthetist as required
- prepare medications for physician as required
- change basic salt solution (BSS) bags as necessary
- conduct surgical counts as required
- chart the procedure and client response using appropriate forms.
- collect, label, and disperse specimens
- assist with dressing the eye and preparing client to leave theatre
- reinforce discharge teaching and protocols
- ensure prescriptions are provided to client.

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Competency: **FF-7**
**Provide Administrative Support
to the Ophthalmic Program**

Date: September 1, 2005

A Licensed Practical Nurse will:

- FF-7-1 Demonstrates the ability to provide administrative support to Ophthalmic Program:**
- acts as liaison between physicians and staff in the clinic
 - interview potential employees, hires, disciplines or terminates as needed
 - ensures all employees are oriented according to orientation guidelines
 - ensures staffing compliment is adequate to meet Operating Room requirements
 - completes staff performance appraisals
 - receives sick calls and makes arrangements for staff to cover
 - signs and controls overtime and calculates time cards bi monthly
 - plans and conducts all staff meetings
 - implements and monitors procedural changes
 - ensures that procedure manual and job descriptions are updated
 - orders new instruments and supplies as needed and keeps instruments in good condition
 - checks accuracy of all operative reports
 - delegates responsibilities as appropriate
 - proofs operative reports after corrections or dictation
 - monitors budget
 - prepares a quarterly report regarding program activities
 - facilitates data and chart reviews for research purposes
 - facilitates ongoing continuing education for staff.

Competency: **FF-7**

**Provide Administrative Support
to the Ophthalmic Program**

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A Licensed Practical Nurse will:

FF-7-2 Demonstrates ability to provide overall supervision of clinical aspects of program:

- ensures communication of clinical changes to staff
- reviews charts pre-operatively for accuracy and completeness
- meets patients pre-op with the doctor, if appropriate
- document when client teaching is completed by physician
- ensure the incision placement has been determined
- ensures all lens powers are chosen accurately
- checks supplies on hand according to quota required
- ensure laser worksheets are prepared for calculations and signed by physician when completed.