J: Cardiovascular Nursing
Major Competency Area: J
Cardiovascular Nursing

Priority: One

Competency: J-1
Knowledge of Cardiovascular Disorders and Diseases

Date: September 1, 2005

A Licensed Practical Nurse will:

**J-1-1** Demonstrate knowledge of the human anatomy and physiology of the cardiovascular system.

**J-1-2** Demonstrate knowledge of cardiovascular disease and disorders:
- recognize normal cardiac rhythms
- provide pre / post operation instruction to client and family relating to specific procedures
- provide and reinforce client and family teaching.

**J-1-3** Demonstrate knowledge and ability to perform assessment and provide care to client with cardiovascular disorder or disease:
- distinguish between normal and abnormal
- take immediate action as necessary
- know when to seek assistance from another regulated health professional.

**J-1-4** Demonstrate knowledge and ability to prepare client for tests, procedures, treatments, care, and surgery:
- knowledge of location and operation of emergency equipment
- follow pre / post procedure routines and protocols.

**J-1-5** Demonstrate knowledge and ability to use cardiac equipment:
- attach client to cardiac monitor through proper application of leads
- recognize normal cardiac rhythms
- understand the use of external cardiac pacing
- recognize when pacemaker is on / off, pacing, sensing
- assess and utilize telemetry equipment
- attach client to 24hr Holter monitor
- teach client and family about specific procedure / equipment
- report findings and changes in status to appropriate health professional.
A Licensed Practical Nurse will:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>J-1-6</th>
<th>Demonstrate knowledge and ability to perform 12 and 15 lead ECG:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• apply 12 and 15 leads in proper position</td>
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<td>• check equipment operation</td>
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<td>• run ECG readings as ordered</td>
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<td>• assist with interpretation of ECG</td>
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<td>• document procedure and findings</td>
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<td>• adhere to agency policy</td>
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