

AA: Dialysis Specialty

Major Competency Area: **AA**
Dialysis Specialty

Competency: **AA-1**
Self-Regulation and Accountability

Date: June 1, 2015

A Licensed Practical Nurse will:

AA-1-1 **Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the hemodialysis restricted activity in the Health Professions Act Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) Regulation (2013).**

AA-1-2 **Demonstrate knowledge and ability to provide hemodialysis in accordance with professional Legislation, Regulation, Standards and Guidelines.**

Note: **Licensed Practical Nurses practicing in hemodialysis complete employer education and *specialized clinical competency* delivered by the Northern Alberta Renal Program and Southern Alberta Renal Programs (NARP/SARP).**

Major Competency Area: **AA**
Dialysis Specialty

Competency: **AA-2**
Specialized Hemodialysis Knowledge

Date: June 1, 2015

A Licensed Practical Nurse will:

AA-2-1 Demonstrate knowledge and ability to apply critical thinking and critical inquiry throughout the nursing process in care of hemodialysis client.

AA-2-2 Demonstrate knowledge of anatomy, physiology and pathophysiology associated with the disease process of acute and chronic renal insufficiency.

AA-2-3 Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of principals of dialysis and hemodialysis equipment including:

- osmosis, diffusion, ultrafiltration
- assembly of equipment, hemodialysis circuit
- identify and report equipment issues
- infection prevention and control standards
- monitor water treatment process and quality
- respond to machine alarms during dialysis

AA-2-4 Demonstrate knowledge and ability to assess and maintain dialysis access:

- arteriovenous fistula (AV fistula)
- arteriovenous graft (AV graft)
- central venous catheters (CVC)
 - jugular
 - subclavian
 - femoral

AA-2-5 Demonstrate knowledge and ability to initiate, monitor and discontinue hemodialysis treatment according to agency policy.

AA-2-6 Demonstrate knowledge and ability to assess and manage complications associated with hemodialysis including:

- anaphylaxis
- hypoglycemia/hyperglycemia
- cardiac dysrhythmia, angina, cardiac arrest
- dysequilibrium syndrome (neurological deficits)
- dehydration or hypervolemia

A Licensed Practical Nurse will:

AA-2-6 Demonstrate knowledge and ability to assess and manage complications associated with hemodialysis including: (cont'd)

- edema (periorbital, peripheral, sacral)
- electrolyte abnormalities
- encephalopathy
- fatigue/lethargy
- hemorrhage, thrombosis, aneurysm
- hypotension/hypertension
- infection (site, systemic, peritonitis)
- nausea/vomiting/diarrhea
- pericarditis, pericardial effusion, tamponade
- peripheral ischemia, neuropathy, neuropathic pain
- peripheral vascular disease
- renal osteodystrophy
- respiratory distress
- uremic pruritis

AA-2-7 Demonstrate knowledge and ability to provide treatments, interventions and health teaching and coaching to hemodialysis client including:

- blood transfusion monitoring & discontinuation
- care of vascular access (central, fistula, graft)
- fluid and/or electrolyte restrictions
- hemodialysis procedures
- immunizations
- medication administration
- obtain samples and specimens
- renal diet

AA-2-8 Demonstrate knowledge and ability related to end of life issues, conservative care and client comfort including:

- monitor physical and emotional condition
- compassionate, empathetic care
- refer to supportive and palliative care as required

AA-2-9 Demonstrate knowledge and ability to communicate and collaborate with inter-professional team.