

H: Orthopedics

Major Competency Area: **H**
Orthopedics

Competency: **H-1**
Orthopedic Nursing

Date: June 1, 2015

A Licensed Practical Nurse will:

- H-1-1 Demonstrate knowledge and ability to apply critical thinking and critical inquiry throughout the nursing process in orthopedics.**
- H-1-2 Demonstrate knowledge of anatomy, physiology and pathophysiology related to the musculoskeletal system including:**
- determinants of normal musculoskeletal structure and function
 - identify symptoms indicating immediate/urgent need for intervention
 - infection prevention, risks, exposure and management
 - musculoskeletal illness and trauma
 - signs and symptoms of musculoskeletal impairment
- H-1-3 Demonstrate knowledge and ability to provide evidence informed, client centered care in relation to orthopedic nursing.**
- H-1-4 Demonstrate knowledge and ability to provide health teaching and coaching associated with orthopedic nursing.**
- H-1-5 Demonstrate knowledge and ability to communicate and collaborate with inter-professional team.**

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Competency: **H-2**
Orthopedic Nursing Interventions

Date: June 1, 2015

A Licensed Practical Nurse will:

- H-2-1 Demonstrate knowledge and ability to assess and manage nursing care for conditions and injuries of the musculoskeletal system.**
- H-2-2 Demonstrate knowledge and ability to apply principles of pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics specific to medication management of orthopedic client.**
- H-2-3 Demonstrate knowledge of orthopedic diagnostic tests and nursing implications including:**
- arthrogram
 - blood tests
 - bone scan
 - computed axial tomography (CT scan)
 - discography
 - doppler studies
 - electromyography (EMG) (nerve conduction studies)
 - magnetic resonance imaging (MRI)
 - myelogram
 - X-ray
- H-2-4 Demonstrate knowledge and ability to assess and manage ambulation and immobilization needs including:**
- braces and splints
 - canes, crutches, walkers, wheelchairs
 - external fixators
 - mechanical lifts
 - nutritional needs
 - pain management
 - physical mobility and ambulation
 - protective devices
 - traction

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Competency: **H-3**
Traction and Immobilizers

Date: June 1, 2015

A Licensed Practical Nurse will:

- H-3-1 Demonstrate knowledge of indications and contraindications associated with use of traction and immobilizers.**
- H-3-2 Demonstrate knowledge and ability to assess and manage client with traction and immobilization devices including:**
- ambulation
 - complications (compartment syndrome, compression syndrome, infection, bleeding, etc.)
 - edema
 - neurovascular status
 - pain
- H-3-3 Demonstrate knowledge and ability to manage cast care including:**
- bivalving
 - removing
 - trimming
 - univalving
 - windowing
- H-3-4 Demonstrate knowledge and ability to fit and apply pre-formed removable splints and braces including:**
- adjustable knee braces (Zimmer splints)
 - clam shells
 - half/back slabs
 - soft cervical collars
- H-3-5 Demonstrate knowledge and ability to cut, form and apply removable resting splint or immobilizer.**

A Licensed Practical Nurse will:

H-3-6 Demonstrate knowledge and ability to manage nursing care for client with traction/external fixators including:

- bucks
- halo
- manual
- pin site care
- skeletal
- skin

H-3-7 Demonstrate knowledge of indications and contraindications associated with care of c-spine injuries.

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