

Practice Memo

DATE: September 28, 2007

TO: Members & Stakeholders

FROM: The College of LPNs of Alberta

RE: Competency V-5 Update

Competency V-5 Care of a Central Line in Specific Settings

The 2nd Edition LPN Competency Profile defines the role for the LPN with central lines in competency V-4 and V-5. Competency V-5 notes that the specific competencies related to central line care are limited to the areas of community and dialysis specialty. Because of changes in practice CLPNA has reassessed the parameter related to the settings in which these competencies can be performed.

In acute care settings, where LPNs have become proficient with peripheral intravenous medication administration, they may appropriately be authorized to provide advanced care to clients with central lines. This care may include those competencies listed in the 2nd Edition Competency Profile for LPNs under competency *V-5 Care of a Central Line in Specific Settings*.

Certification related to this advanced role with central lines may be provided on site through employer supported learning and should include theory and a period of supervision and mentoring within the clinical setting. This competency area will be updated with future revisions to the Competency Profile.



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References:

- Alberta Regulation 2003*, Health Professions Act, *Licensed Practical Nurses Profession Regulation*. (2003). Edmonton, AB: Government of Alberta.
- Competency Profile for LPNs (2nd Ed)*. (2005). Edmonton, AB: College of Licensed Practical Nurses of Alberta and Alberta Health and Wellness.
- Government Organization Act*. (2000). Edmonton, AB: Government of Alberta
- Licensed Practical Nurses, Standards of Practice*. (2003). Edmonton, AB: College of Licensed Practical Nurses of Alberta.