

*College of
Licensed Practical Nurses
of Manitoba*



**Certified Foot Care
Nurses
Interest Group**

Standards of Practice

CLPNM Board Approved: January 2007

College of Licensed Practical Nurses of Manitoba

Certified Foot Care Nurses Interest Group Standards of Practice

The Foot Care Standards are based on the College of Licensed Practical Nurses of Manitoba Standards of Practice¹ and the exit competencies of the Licensed Practical Nurses Foundation of Manitoba Foot Care program delivered through Winnipeg Technical College and Assiniboine Community College.

Licensed Practical Nurses are responsible for their own actions and are required to perform within their own level of competence and educational preparation. However, Licensed Practical Nurses, through formalized training, expand their knowledge base and/or competencies¹.

A standard is the desired and achievable level of practice expected of a Licensed Practical Nurse against which actual performance is measured.²

Standards also serve as a guide to the professional knowledge, skills, judgment and attitudes required to practice safely.³

Each Standard identifies the minimum quality of practice required and is applicable across all practice settings.⁴

Licensed Practical Nurses are expected to meet these standards and should be able to articulate how they demonstrate the standards in their practice.⁵

The policies of employers do not relieve individual LPNs of accountability for their own actions, or their primary obligation to meet the Standards of Practice for Licensed Practical Nurses. Conversely, employer policy should not require a LPN to practice in a manner that violates the Standards of Practice for Licensed Practical Nurses.⁶

¹ College of Licensed Practical Nurses of Manitoba Standards of Practice, Board Approved June 2004

² Adopted from the 1989 Manitoba Association of Licensed Practical Nurses, Standards of Practice.

³ Adopted from the 2004 Standards for Nursing Practice, College of Registered Nurses of Nova Scotia.

⁴ Adopted from the 2000 Standards of Practice, College of Licensed Practical Nurses of Manitoba.

⁵ Adopted from the 2000 College of Nurses of Ontario, Professional Standards.

⁶ Adapted from the 2003 College of Registered Nurses of Manitoba Standards of Practice for Registered Nurses.

Standard I - Knowledge

The Licensed Practical Nurse bases foot care practice on knowledge acquired from nursing science and best practice.

Indicators:

The Licensed Practical Nurse:

1. Demonstrates current knowledge necessary to provide safe nursing foot care.
2. Demonstrates knowledge, skill and judgment relevant to practice.
3. Uses current knowledge to support and guide practice.
4. Demonstrates awareness of changing trends in foot care practice, health and society.
5. Demonstrates a commitment to lifelong learning through self-evaluation and participation in the professions Continuing Competency Program.

Standard II - Application of Knowledge, Skills and Judgment

The Licensed Practical Nurse assesses the clients' actual or potential strengths and limitations and plans interventions and evaluates outcomes.

Indicators:

The Licensed Practical Nurse:

1. Practices within own level of competence.
2. Obtains information from a variety of sources.
3. Applies critical thinking and the problem-solving processes in decision-making.
4. Determines client status and responds to actual or potential health problems.
5. Exercises judgment when planning nursing foot care interventions, performing planned interventions, evaluating client outcomes and revising the nursing foot care plan as necessary.
6. Refers clients to the appropriate health care professional when a condition presents which is beyond the scope of the foot care practitioner.
7. Initiates, maintains and concludes the therapeutic nurse-client relationship.
8. Maintains documentation of client care and observations that are chronological, legible, clear, timely, accurate and concise.

Standard III - Professional Service in the Public Interest

The Licensed Practical Nurse provides nursing foot care service and collaborates with others in providing foot health care, while respecting individual beliefs.

Indicators:

The Licensed Practical Nurse:

1. Responds to the needs of clients in a manner that fosters trust, respect, collaboration and innovation.
2. Provides information to the client as appropriate.
3. Communicates and collaborates with appropriate professionals and relevant others to attain client health care outcomes.
4. Assists clients to select choices, which will support changes in their health care outcomes.
5. Encourages clients to assume responsibility for their own health.
6. Respects the integration of alternative approaches to client's own health care.
7. Encourages client learning through appropriate learning strategies.
8. Uses resources effectively and efficiently in the provision of nursing foot care services.
9. Exercises judgment in directing and/or delegating clients' care to others.

Standard IV - Ethical Practice

The Licensed Practical Nurse understands, promotes and adheres to the ethical standards of the nursing profession.

Indicators:

The Licensed Practical Nurse:

1. Adheres to the College of Licensed Practical Nurses of Manitoba Code of Ethics.
2. Acts as an advocate to protect and promote the clients right to autonomy, respect, privacy, dignity and access to information.
3. Recognizes the impact of own values and beliefs on practice.
4. Maintains appropriate boundaries between professional therapeutic relationships and non-professional, personal relationships.
5. Identifies, responds to and reports situations of unsafe practice or professional misconduct to appropriate authorities.
6. Promotes a practice environment that supports ethical behaviour and practice.

Standard V – Self-Regulation

The Licensed Practical Nurse maintains current knowledge related to nursing foot care.

Indicators:

The Licensed Practical Nurse:

1. Maintains current registration.
2. Invests time and effort into maintaining current knowledge related to the practice of nursing foot care.
3. Supports the mandate of the College of Licensed Practical Nurses of Manitoba to protect the public.
4. Maintains an informed position with respect to regulatory changes, which affect own practice.
5. Practices within the professions legislated Scope of Practice.
6. Participates in professional meetings and activities.

Standard VI – Continuing Competence

The Licensed Practical Nurse assumes responsibility for attaining and maintaining competence relevant to own nursing foot care practice.

Indicators:

The Licensed Practical Nurse:

1. Demonstrates appropriate knowledge, skills and judgment related to own nursing foot care practice.
2. Demonstrates awareness of the changing trends in nursing foot care, health and society.
3. Continually assesses own competence to identify learning needs and opportunities for growth and development.
4. Uses reflective thought and feedback from others when assessing own practice, and provides feedback to others to support their professional development.
5. Participates in the College of Licensed Practical Nurses of Manitoba Continuing Competency Program.
6. Incorporates knowledge gained into practice.
7. Maintains a record of professional activities.

Standard VII – Professional Responsibility and Accountability

The Licensed Practical Nurse is responsible and accountable for own conduct and nursing foot care practice.

Indicators:

The Licensed Practical Nurse:

1. Demonstrates knowledge regarding professional responsibilities.
2. Accepts accountability and takes responsibility for own professional conduct and decisions at all times.
3. Supports policies and practices consistent with the College of Licensed Practical Nurses of Manitoba Standards of Practice and reports those in conflict with the Standards.
4. Maintains mental, spiritual and physical well-being.
5. Displays the characteristics and attributes of a Professional.
6. Seeks advice, when necessary, from individuals who are competent to provide that advice in a given situation.
7. Protects the rights of the client, including confidentiality, privacy, dignity and self-determination.
8. Protects confidentiality of all information gained in the context of a professional relationship.
9. Complies with health related legislation pertaining to the disclosure of confidential information.

Standard VIII – Professional Leadership

The Licensed Practical Nurse demonstrates professional leadership in the delivery of quality nursing foot care.

Indicators:

The Licensed Practical Nurse:

1. Demonstrates openness to new ideas, which may change, enhance or support nursing foot care practice.
2. Presents a positive image of nursing.
3. Acts as a role model, resource and mentor to clients, learners, nursing peers and colleagues.
4. Promotes and supports foot care nurses to practice to their full scope.
5. Practices within the policies and procedures of the employing agency for the delivery of safe, competent nursing foot care.
6. Promotes practice environments, which supports the foot care nurses' mental, physical and emotional well-being.
7. Advocates for clients needs, professional practice environments and the nursing profession.
8. Promotes efforts to achieve a healthier society.