



Provincial Job Description

TITLE:
(494) Orthopaedic Specialty/LPN

PAY BAND:
17

FOR FACILITY USE:

SUMMARY OF DUTIES:

Provides nursing care to patients with orthopaedic injuries/conditions through the application, adjustment and removal of a variety of immobilization devices.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- ◆ Practical Nursing diploma plus Advanced Education in Orthopaedics for LPN's certificate
 - ◆ Licensed with the College of Licensed Practical Nurses of Saskatchewan with Advanced Orthopaedic Specialty endorsement.

KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS & ABILITIES:

- ◆ Basic computer skills
- ◆ Interpersonal skills
- ◆ Organizational skills
- ◆ Communication skills
- ◆ Ability to work independently

EXPERIENCE:

- ◆ Previous: Twenty-four (24) months previous experience working in an acute care setting (prerequisite for entry into Advanced Education in Orthopaedics for LPN's certificate).

KEY ACTIVITIES:

A. Direct Patient Care / Orthopaedic Services

- ◆ **Applies critical thinking and clinical judgement in health assessments and throughout nursing process (e.g., wounds prior to casting).**
- ◆ **Prioritizes daily workload.**
- ◆ **Applies/adjusts/removes various immobilization devices (e.g., casts, halos, external fixation devices, splints, braces).**
- ◆ **Assists in the application, removal, maintenance and adjustment of traction.**
- ◆ **Measures and fits patients for orthopaedic devices and ambulatory aids.**
- ◆ **Fabricates and applies splints, slings and bandages.**
- ◆ **Applies specialized castings.**
- ◆ **Monitors, interprets and records vital signs (e.g., blood pressure, temperature, pulse, respirations, oxygen saturations, attaches cardiac monitors, telemetry devices).**
- ◆ **Instructs patient/family regarding care and proper use of applications and orthopaedic soft goods.**
- ◆ **Reinforces the teaching of the medical information given by the specialist regarding specific injury, treatment plan and anticipated results.**
- ◆ **Provides on-the-job instructions and demonstrations of basic principles and casting techniques to trainees or other health care professionals (e.g., casting, halo/other external fixation devices, insensitive foot care).**
- ◆ **Documents relevant patient conditions and treatment provided.**
- ◆ **Applies and removes dressings.**
- ◆ **Cleans, debrides and cultures wounds, as directed.**
- ◆ **Removes sutures, staples, K-wires and pins.**
- ◆ **Applies different orthopaedic soft goods on patients.**
- ◆ **Assists in the application, removal, maintenance and adjustment of traction in the fracture clinic, Operating Room and wards.**
- ◆ **Prepares the room, supplies, instrumentation/equipment and medications for the specific operative procedure.**
- ◆ **Supports/assists patients in meeting their spiritual needs.**
- ◆ **Promotes the emotional well-being of patients and monitors and manages their behaviour as outlined by care plans.**
- ◆ **Porters patients.**

B. Medication Administration

- ◆ **Administers and records medications (e.g., oral, subcutaneous, pulmonary, rectal, intramuscular, I.V. push).**
- ◆ **Initiates, administers and maintains intravenous therapy (e.g., flow rate, site integrity).**
- ◆ **Pre-loads dosettes, where required.**
- ◆ **Ensures accurate accounting of narcotics (e.g., counting, recording).**

C. Indirect Patient Care

- ◆ Completes admission/transfer/discharge processes.
- ◆ Records information in patients chart.
- ◆ Participates in shift report.
- ◆ Informs care team of patients current status.

D. Education and Evaluation

- ◆ Provides patient education (e.g., diabetic care, colostomy care, palliative, self-catheterization, post-natal care, cast/brace care).
- ◆ Provides pre-operative and post-operative education.
- ◆ Explains and reassures patients/families of procedures/equipment.
- ◆ Provides occasional guidance to the primary function of others, including training.

E. Related Key Work Activities

- ◆ Maintains orthopaedic equipment/supplies and any required documentation.
- ◆ Manages orthopaedic soft goods and supplies in the fracture clinic.
- ◆ Maintains stock for the traction and halo carts in the Operating Room.
- ◆ Stocks and supply cast room carts (e.g., orthopaedic supplies, linen and medical supplies).
- ◆ Identifies and introduces new orthopaedic applications.
- ◆ Communicates and participates in emergent situations as per protocols (e.g., codes).
- ◆ Answers phones, takes messages, photocopies/faxes physician orders and reports.

The above statements reflect the general details considered necessary to describe the principal functions of the job and shall not be construed as a detailed description of all related work assignments that may be inherent to the job.

Validating Signatures:

CUPE:

SEIU:

SGEU:

SAHO:

Date: March 16, 2023

Experience component updated September 12, 2023.