

# COMPARISON OF PRACTICE EXPECTATIONS FOR RNS AND LPNS

## REGISTERED NURSE

### ASSESSMENT

Assesses and *makes decisions* about actual or potential client problems and strengths  
*Makes nursing diagnoses to identify conditions*  
*Anticipates and recognizes subtle changes*

### PLANNING

*Leads and coordinates* the care planning process  
Develops care plans focusing on day-to-day, *medium and long-range* plans for care

### IMPLEMENTATION

*Coordinates and oversees* the overall care and provides clinical expertise and leadership for the plan of care  
Coordinates the care of clients regardless of acuity, complexity, variability and predictability  
*Directs plans of care* for highly complex clients

*Meets immediate and anticipated long-term client needs*, drawing from a comprehensive assessment and a wide range of options  
*Manages multiple nursing interventions simultaneously in rapidly changing situations*  
*Designs, coordinates and implements health programs*, including teaching

### EVALUATION

*Monitors and interprets* changes in client status and response to interventions and *revises the plan of care* as necessary

## LICENSED PRACTICAL NURSE

Assesses and *identifies* the status of actual or potential client limitations and strengths

Recognizes changes

*Collaborates, contributes* and participates in the care planning process  
Reviews and interprets the plan of care focusing on *current and day-to-day* needs of clients

*Selects and implements* appropriate nursing interventions according to the plan of care  
*Coordinates care of less acute, less complex, less variable clients with more predictable outcomes*  
*Provides elements of care* for highly complex clients in close consultation with the RN coordinating that client's care

*Meets current identified client care needs* drawing from the known range of options included in the care plan

*Performs planned nursing interventions* and responds appropriately to changing situations or emergencies  
*Teaches and delivers elements of* established health programs

*Monitors and recognizes* changes in client status and response to interventions and *participates in revising* the plan of care as necessary