

Comparison of RN and LVN Professional Roles and Responsibilities

Role/ Responsibility	RN	LVN
Assessment	15.28 Comprehensive assessment, extensive collection, analysis and interpretation of data	15.27 Collects data and information, recognizes changes in conditions and reports to the RN supervisor or another appropriate clinical supervisor
Planning	15.28 RN synthesize comprehensive assessment data to identify problems, formulate goals or outcomes and develop plan of care for patients.	15.27 Report data to assist in the identification of problems and formulation of goals or outcomes and patient centered plans of care in collaboration with patient.
Implementation	15.28 RN may begin to deliver, assign or delegate certain interventions within the plan of care	15.27 The LVN is responsible for providing safe, compassionate and focused nursing care to assigned patients with predictable health care needs. Lvn implement aspects of plan of care within legal, ethical and regulatory parameters.
Evaluation	15.28 RN evaluates and reports patient outcomes and responses to therapeutic interventions in comparison to benchmarks from evidence-based practice and research findings and plans any follow up care and referrals. Rn reassesses the patient conditions and determines if interventions were effective and if any modifications to the plan of care are necessary	15.27 LVN identifying and reporting any alteration in patient responses to therapeutic intervention in comparison to the expected outcome. Lvn helps in suggesting any modifications to the plan of care that may be necessary and making appropriate referrals to facilitate continuity of care.
Communication	15.28 The RN must communicate verbally, in writing, or electronically with members of the health care team, patients and their families in all aspects of the nursing care provided to patients.	15.27 The LVN communicate with members of the healthcare team. When patient conditions or situations have changed or exceeded the Lvn's level of competency and scope of practice. The LVN must prepare to seek out his or her clinical supervisor and actively communicate and collaborate to develop solutions that ensure patient safely.
Clinical Reasoning	15.28 RN use critical thinking skills to problem-solve and make decisions in response to patients, their families and the healthcare environment. RN are accountable and responsible for the quality of nursing care provided and must exercise prudent and professional nursing judgment	15.27 LVN must use clinical reasoning and establish evidence-based policies, procedures or guidelines as the basis for decision making in nursing practice.

Employment Setting	15.28 Must ensure it is safe and legal, not to over step the legal parameters of nursing practice when an employer may not understand the limits of the RN scope of practice.	15.27 Lvn must have a clinical supervisor who is knowledgeable and aware of his or her role. Lvn must determine before he or she engages in an activities he or she has the education, training, skills and training for it.
Making Assignments	15.28 The RN must determine before he or she engages in an activity or assignment whether he or she has the education, training, skill, competency, physical or emotional ability to safely carry out the activity or assignment	15.27 The VLN makes assignments to another LVN and UAP. He or she is responsible for reasonable and prudent decisions regarding those assignments but the lvn should be under oversight of an RN
Supervision	15.28 Supervised by experienced RN	15.27 Supervised by RN
Medication Administration	15.7 The role of RN who choose to engage in administration of properly ordered medications via the epidural or intrathecal routes must have documentations that the RN has participated in educational activities to gain and maintain the knowledge and skill necessary to safely administer and monitor patient.	15.25 4LVN are educationally prepared to administer medications and treatments as ordered by a phycician, podiatrist, dentist, or any other practitioner legally authorized to prescribe the ordered medication. Lvn may also administer medications and treatments ordered by Pas and APRNs within their scope of practice
Moderate Sedation	15.8 RN their polices and procedure guide the rn in administration of medication and patient monitoring.	15.8 Patient monitoring associated with moderate sedation
<i>Add any other differences that you found interesting here</i>		