

# H: Respiratory Care

Major Competency Area: **H**  
**Respiratory Care**

Competency: **H-1**  
**Airway Management**

Date: January 16, 2017

A Licensed Practical Nurse will:

- H-1-1 Demonstrate knowledge and ability to apply critical thinking and critical inquiry throughout the nursing process in airway assessment and management.**
- H-1-2 Demonstrate knowledge and ability to manage airway issues associated with acute and chronic conditions.**
- H-1-3 Demonstrate knowledge and ability to assist in the management of airway devices including:**
- oropharyngeal airway (OPA)
    - includes insertion and removal
  - nasopharyngeal airway (NPA)
    - includes removal
  - endotracheal airway (trach)
  - laryngeal mask airway (LMA)
  - other respiratory assist devices:
    - self-inflating resuscitator (Ambu-bag)
    - self-inflating resuscitator via mask
    - bilevel positive airway pressure (BiPAP)
    - continuous positive airway pressure (CPAP)
- H-1-4 Demonstrate knowledge and ability to provide care for client with mechanical ventilation according to agency policy.**
- H-1-5 Demonstrate knowledge and ability to provide health teaching and coaching associated with respiratory disorders including:**
- activity intolerance
  - airway management
  - altered sleep pattern
  - anxiety
  - ineffective airway clearance
  - ineffective breathing pattern
  - trauma

Major Competency Area: **H**  
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Competency: **H-2**  
**Oxygen Therapy**

Date: January 16, 2017

A Licensed Practical Nurse will:

- H-2-1 Demonstrate knowledge and ability to recognize indications and contraindications for oxygen administration.**
- H-2-2 Demonstrate knowledge and ability to apply and manage oxygen therapy devices including:**
- aerosol mask (simple face mask)
  - self-inflating resuscitator (bag-valve mask)
  - nasal cannula
  - non re-breathing mask
  - mechanical ventilation
  - oropharyngeal airway (OPA)
  - bilevel positive airway pressure (BiPAP) machine
  - continuous positive airway pressure (CPAP) machine
- H-2-3 Demonstrate knowledge and ability to care for client with oxygen therapy devices including:**
- laryngeal mask airway (LMA)
  - nasopharyngeal airway (NPA)
- H-2-4 Demonstrate knowledge of safety precautions when utilizing oxygen therapy.**

Major Competency Area: **H**  
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Competency: **H-3**

**Suctioning**

Date: January 16, 2017

A Licensed Practical Nurse will:

- H-3-1 Demonstrate knowledge and ability to recognize indications and contraindications for suctioning.**
- H-3-2 Demonstrate knowledge and ability to perform suctioning beyond the pharynx according to agency policy:**
- appropriate size and lumen of suction catheters
  - appropriate suction pressure
  - frequency of suctioning
  - appropriate depth
- H-3-3 Demonstrate knowledge and ability to perform endotracheal suctioning according to agency policy.**
- appropriate size and lumen of suction catheters
  - appropriate suction pressure
  - frequency of suctioning
  - appropriate depth
- H-3-4 Demonstrate knowledge and ability to maintain suctioning equipment.**

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Competency: **H-4**  
**Respiratory Interventions**

Date: January 16, 2017

A Licensed Practical Nurse will:

- H-4-1      Demonstrate knowledge and ability to provide respiratory interventions.**
- H-4-2      Demonstrate knowledge and ability to recognize indications and contraindications for performing chest physiotherapy:**
- assisted coughing
  - deep breathing and coughing
  - incentive spirometer
  - orthopneic position
  - percussion (clapping)
  - postural drainage
  - vibration
- H-4-3      Demonstrate knowledge and ability to evaluate effects of respiratory interventions.**

Major Competency Area: **H**  
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Competency: **H-5**  
**Tracheostomy Care**

Date: January 16, 2017

A Licensed Practical Nurse will:

- H-5-1 Demonstrate knowledge and ability to recognize indications and contraindications associated with tracheostomy tubes.**
- H-5-2 Demonstrate knowledge and ability to manage tracheostomy care:**
- administering nebulized medication into a tracheostomy
  - changing tracheostomy dressing
  - changing and/or cleaning an inner cannula of a tracheostomy tube
  - changing of tracheostomy ties
  - cleaning a tracheostomy tube
  - changing established tracheostomy
  - deflating/inflating a tracheostomy cuff
  - humidification
  - capping a tracheostomy tube
  - suctioning
  - using manual resuscitator (Ambu bag)
- H-5-3 Demonstrate knowledge of indications and contraindications of mechanical ventilation.**
- H-5-4 Demonstrate knowledge and ability to manage a client with mechanical ventilation.**

Major Competency Area: **H**  
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Competency: **H-6**  
**Chest Tubes**

Date: January 16, 2017

A Licensed Practical Nurse will:

- H-6-1 Demonstrate knowledge and ability to apply critical thinking and critical inquiry throughout the nursing process in care for client with chest drainage system.**
- H-6-2 Demonstrate knowledge and ability to recognize indications and contraindications for chest tube insertion such as:**
- hemothorax
  - pleural effusion
  - pneumothorax
  - surgical treatment
  - tension pneumothorax
- H-6-3 Demonstrate knowledge and ability to assist with insertion/removal of pleural chest tube.**
- H-6-4 Demonstrate knowledge and ability to maintain an established chest drainage system.**
- H-6-5 Demonstrate knowledge and ability to manage chest tube dressing changes.**
- H-6-6 Demonstrate knowledge and ability to identify complications and appropriate interventions for client with chest drainage system including:**
- absence of fluid fluctuation in water seal chamber
  - apparatus lifted to client's chest
  - apparatus malfunction
  - chest tubes dislodged
  - continuous bubbling in the water seal chamber
  - hemorrhage
  - incorrect tube placement
  - monitor drainage (amount/colour)
  - pulmonary edema
  - signs of infection
  - subcutaneous emphysema
  - tube occlusion

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