

# J: Orthopedics

Major Competency Area: **J**  
**Orthopedics**

Competency: **J-1**  
**Orthopedic Nursing**

Date: January 16, 2017

A Licensed Practical Nurse will:

- J-1-1**      **Demonstrate knowledge and ability to apply critical thinking and critical inquiry throughout the nursing process in orthopedics.**
- J-1-2**      **Demonstrate knowledge of anatomy, physiology and pathophysiology related to the musculoskeletal system including:**
- determinants of normal musculoskeletal structure and function
  - identify symptoms indicating immediate/urgent need for intervention
  - infection prevention, risks, exposure and management
  - musculoskeletal illness and trauma
  - signs and symptoms of musculoskeletal impairment
- J-1-3**      **Demonstrate knowledge and ability to provide evidence informed, client centered care in relation to orthopedic nursing.**
- J-1-4**      **Demonstrate knowledge and ability to provide health teaching and coaching associated with orthopedic nursing.**
- J-1-5**      **Demonstrate knowledge and ability to communicate and collaborate with inter-professional team.**

Major Competency Area: **J**  
**Orthopedics**

Competency: **J-2**  
**Orthopedic Nursing Interventions**

Date: January 16, 2017

A Licensed Practical Nurse will:

**J-2-1 Demonstrate knowledge and ability to assess and manage nursing care for conditions and injuries of the musculoskeletal system.**

**J-2-2 Demonstrate knowledge of orthopedic diagnostic tests and nursing implications such as:**

- arthrogram
- blood tests
- bone scan
- computed axial tomography (CT scan)
- discography
- doppler studies
- electromyography (EMG) (nerve conduction studies)
- magnetic resonance imaging (MRI)
- myelogram
- X-ray

**J-2-3 Demonstrate knowledge and ability to assess and manage ambulation and immobilization needs including:**

- braces and splints
- canes, crutches, walkers, wheelchairs
- external fixators
- mechanical lifts
- nutritional needs
- pain management
- physical mobility and ambulation
- protective devices
- traction

Major Competency Area: **J**  
**Orthopedics**

Competency: **J-3**  
**Traction and Immobilizers**

Date: January 16, 2017

A Licensed Practical Nurse will:

- J-3-1 Demonstrate knowledge of indications and contraindications associated with use of traction and immobilizers.**
- J-3-2 Demonstrate knowledge and ability to assess and manage client with traction and immobilization devices such as:**
- ambulation
  - cast care
  - complications (compartment syndrome, compression syndrome, infection, bleeding, DVT, pulmonary embolism, etc.)
  - edema
  - neurovascular status
  - pain
- J-3-3 Demonstrate knowledge and application of pre-formed removable splints and braces such as:**
- adjustable knee braces
  - clam shells
  - half/back slabs
  - soft cervical collars
- J-3-4 Demonstrate knowledge and ability to cut, form and apply removable resting splint or immobilizer.**

A Licensed Practical Nurse will:

**J-3-5 Demonstrate knowledge and ability to manage nursing care for client with traction/external fixators including:**

- bucks
- halo
- manual
- pin site care
- skeletal
- skin

**J-3-6 Demonstrate knowledge of indications and contraindications associated with care of c-spine injuries.**

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