South Dakota Board of Nursing
LPN Scope of Practice

This table provides a list with some of the tasks LPNs may or may not be allowed to perform. Keep in mind that in order for a task to be within a nurse’s scope the appropriately prepared nurse must:

- Be educated and competent to perform the procedure or activity;
- Have an appropriate medical order for the procedure;
- Practice according to accepted standards of practice;
- Have a facility policy or procedure in place that supports the performance of the task or activity, as appropriate; and
- Have in place adequate level supervision by a registered nurse, advanced practice registered nurse, licensed physician, or other health care provider authorized by the state.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LPN Task/Responsibility</th>
<th>May perform if in individual LPN scope</th>
<th>May Not Perform</th>
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</thead>
</table>
| Charge Nurse            | • Accept role of charge nurse, team leader in stable nursing setting.  
                           • Supervise unlicensed personnel. | • Supervise licensed health professionals. Since LPNs are required in law to be supervised, the LPN should not supervise licensed providers. |
| Dialysis: Hemodialysis and Peritoneal | • Perform following completion of additional education pursuant to ARSD 20:48:04:02.03.  
                           • Provide for clients 12 year and older.  
                           • Initiate, monitor and discontinue dialysis treatments for peripheral or central catheter accesses according to IV therapy guidelines described below. | |
| Foley Catheter          | • Insert and remove.                        | |
| Gastrostomy Tube        | • Change or replace tube.                  | |
|                         | • Administer medication via tube.           | |
| Intravenous (IV) Therapy| For both peripheral & externally accessed central lines, may:  
                           • Provide for patients 12 years and older.  
                           • Perform peripheral venipuncture for IV therapy.  
                           • Assemble and maintain equipment for gravity drip infusion and electronic controlling devices.  
                           • Calculate and adjust infusion rates using standard formulas.  
                           • Perform routine tubing set changes.  
                           • Administer standard (maintenance) solutions at a defined flow rate, with or without admixtures, mixed and labeled by a pharmacist, RN, or physician.  
                           • Administer vitamins, antibiotics, corticosteroids, and H2 antagonists by piggyback route, mixed and labeled by a pharmacist, RN, or physician.  
                           • Perform routine dressing changes.  
                           • Perform routine saline and heparin flushes.  
                           For Peripheral lines only, may:  
                           • Convert and flush intermittent infusion devices with saline or heparin.  
                           • Discontinue and remove (not including midlines or PICC lines) | For Peripheral & externally accessed central lines, may not:  
                           • Assemble and maintain equipment for client-controlled devices, e.g. PCA pump.  
                           • Administer IV solutions with potassium chloride added at concentration that exceeds 20 meq/liter or at a rate that exceeds 10 meq/hour.  
                           • Administer first dose of vitamins, antibiotics, corticosteroids, and H2 antagonists (must be administered by RN).  
                           • Administer medications by direct IV push or bolus route.  
                           • Administer blood or blood products (may assist with monitoring).  
                           • Administer fat emulsions (may assist with monitoring).  
                           • Administer total parenteral nutrition (may assist with monitoring).  
                           • Administer Chemotherapy (may assist with monitoring); or  
                           • Administer any medications by intravenous route not authorized by § 20:48:04:06. |
| Laboratory Blood Draws  | • Perform peripheral venipuncture according to lab requirements for all ages, same as a phlebotomist.  
                           • Aspirate blood from central lines for patients 12 years and older according to standards of nursing practice and lab requirements. | Insert or discontinue/remove midlines, PICCs, central lines, and port-a-cath needles. |
| Medication Administration| • Administer oral, SQ, IM, topical, rectal, vaginal, inhalation, eye, and ear.  
                           • Delegate to a registered Med Aide in accordance with ARSD 20:48:04:01.  
                           • Delegate SQ insulin administration to unlicensed assistive persons (UAP) or unlicensed diabetes aides (UDA). | |
| Naso-gastric Tube       | • Insert and remove.                        | |
|                         | • Administer medication via tube.           | |
| Patient Teaching        | • Assist with admission and discharge of patients. | |
| Physician Orders        | • Receive and document verbal orders.       | |
| Trach Care              | • Suction, perform dressing changes.        | |
| Suprapubic Catheter     | • Change or replace tube.                  | |
| Wound Care              | • Perform sterile, complex dressing changes,  
                           • Remove sutures and staples. | |