



Part I

The Nurse in Role Transition

Chapter 4

LPN and RN

Knowledge and Roles



Learning Objectives

By the end of this chapter, you should be able to:

1. List the LPN's role and responsibilities.
2. List the RN's role and responsibilities.
3. List the RN's core components and competencies.
4. Evaluate your role and responsibilities as an LPN.
5. Define the differences between LPN and RN roles and responsibilities.



Key Terms

- Assessment
- Caring interventions
- Clinical decision making
- Collaboration
- Communication
- Core components and competencies
- Learning
- LPN responsibilities
- LPN roles
- Managing care
- Professional behaviors
- RN responsibilities
- RN roles
- Teaching



Chapter Scenario

LPNs do so many different things in so many different environments.

→ Think about it!

- Why do you need an RN degree? Why move on in your education journey?
- What is allowed for each of these roles in the Nurse Practice Acts?



Introduction

- What is the difference between an LPN and an RN?



National Nursing Organization's Definition of Nursing Roles

Refer to Table 4-1:
Distribution of Content for the NCLEX-PN
and NCLEX-RN Test Plan



LPN and RN Roles Compared with the RN Core Components and Competencies

Refer to Table 4-2:
LPN and RN roles and responsibilities



The Similarities Between the LPN and the RN

- Professional behaviors
- Communication
- Assessment
- Clinical decision making
- Caring interventions
- Teaching and learning
- Collaboration
- Managing care



Chapter Summary

“The greatest impediment to future success in a new role is inability to relinquish your old one.”

(Porter-O’Grady, 1999, p. 8)

What are the differences between the LPN/VN and the RN?



Chapter Reflections

1. What changes can one expect when transitioning from LPN to RN?
2. How might your decisions in planning client care change as you become an RN?
3. Describe the RN that you most admire and why. How does this person's behavior differ from your own?