

LPN IV Authority FAQ's

Q. *Is it within the scope of practice for a LPN with IV authority to draw blood?*

A. Yes, the collection of venous blood specimens from peripheral veins and venous access devices is within the scope of LPN IV Authority.

Q. *Is it within the scope of practice for a LPN with IV authority to administer pre-mixed antibiotic solutions via venous access devices, via gravity, IV pump, IV piggyback or Add-Vantage system?*

A. Yes, if a physician, pharmacist, podiatrist, dentist or RN assembles the self-contained administration unit, the LPN may then "activate" and administer the antibiotic solution. The first dose of IV antibiotic therapy must be administered under the observation of a RN, physician, podiatrist, or dentist who is present in the same patient care area.

Q. *What IV procedures are outside the scope of IV Authority?*

A. The following procedures are outside the scope of IV Authority:

- Administration of IV fluids OR medications other than:
 - dextrose 5%; normal saline; lactated ringers; sodium chloride 0.45%; sodium chloride 0.2%.
 - Pre-mixed Intravenous Fluids containing electrolytes and vitamins;
 - Pre-mixed antibiotic solutions via Venous Access Devices delivered per labeled instructions by gravity flow, pump or Direct Injection for a period of time consisting of greater than five (5) minutes in duration; and/or
 - The first dose of IV antibiotic therapy under the observation of a professional nurse, physician, podiatrist, or dentist who is present in the same patient care area.
- Access or de-access implanted central venous access ports;
- Insertion of a PICC line or a peripheral midline catheter;
- Repair of Venous Access Devices;
- Remove a central venous access catheter;
- Administration of Parenteral nutrition solutions;
- Administration of blood and blood products;
- Administration of chemotherapy intravenous medications/solutions;
- Administration of thrombolytic agent to declot a catheter; and/or
- Administration of any fluids, antibiotics, or medications by IV Push which means the direct injection for a period of time consisting of five (5) minutes or less in duration.

Q. *What IV procedures are within the scope of IV Authority?*

A. The following procedures are within the scope of IV Authority:

- IV Authority is limited to the administration of the following IV fluids, pre-mixed antibiotic solutions, and pre-mixed IV fluids containing electrolytes and vitamins:
 - dextrose 5%; normal saline; lactated ringers; sodium chloride 0.45%; sodium chloride 0.2%.
 - Pre-mixed Intravenous Fluids containing electrolytes and vitamins;
 - Pre-mixed antibiotic solutions via Venous Access Devices delivered per labeled instructions by gravity flow, pump or Direct Injection for a period of time consisting of greater than five (5) minutes in duration.
 - The first dose of IV antibiotic therapy under the observation of a professional nurse, physician, podiatrist, or dentist who is present in the same patient care area.
- Calculate and observe flow rate of intravenous infusions.
- Stop the flow of Intravenous Fluids.
- Remove peripheral short catheter for Adult Clients.
- Report and document observations and procedures relating to intravenous infusion and insertion sites.

- Utilize Peripheral Veins for intravenous access with a peripheral short catheter.
- Perform blood sampling from a peripheral vein or through a central Venous Access Device using a syringe or vacutainer device.
- Regulate the prescribed flow rate of the Intravenous Fluids.
- Monitor the systemic effects of intravenous therapy.
- Flush Venous Access Devices designed to maintain venous patency with normal saline or a sub-therapeutic dosage of heparin.
- Switch from continuous infusion of Intravenous Fluid to heparin/saline lock.

Q. *Is it within the scope of practice for an LPN with IV authority to administer pre-mixed antibiotic solutions via venous access devices via IV push?*

A. No, the administration of any antibiotic solution or IV fluid or medication by way of IV push is outside the scope of IV authority.

Q. *I have IV authority in a compact state and I am practicing in Colorado under a multistate compact license. Do I have to apply for IV authority?*

A. Yes, you must apply for and be granted IV authority by the Board in order to perform IV therapy and venous blood sampling.

Q. *Do I have to apply for IV authority when IV therapy and venous blood sampling were included in the curriculum of the LPN training program?*

A. Yes, you must apply for and be granted IV authority by the Board in order to perform IV therapy and venous blood sampling.

Q. *May a LPN administer blood and blood products through venous access devices?*

A. No, it is outside the scope of IV authority for a LPN to administer blood and blood products through venous access devices.

Q. *May a LPN monitor the administration of blood and blood products through venous access devices?*

A. No, it is outside the scope of IV authority for a LPN to monitor the administration of blood and blood products through venous access devices.

Q. *May a RN delegate IV therapy and venous blood sampling to a LPN who has not been granted IV authority by the Board?*

A. No, although IV therapy and venous blood sampling are a nursing function, the RN may not delegate this function to a LPN who does not have IV authority.

Q. *May a RN delegate as a nursing function IV procedures that are outside the scope of IV Authority and thereby expand the LPNs scope of IV Authority?*

A. No, the scope of IV Authority as defined in the Chapter IX Rules may not be expanded by the delegation of a nursing function by a RN.

Q. *May a physician, podiatrist, or dentist delegate as a medical function IV therapy and venous blood sampling to a LPN who has not been granted IV authority by the Board?*

A. No, a LPN who does not have IV authority may not perform IV therapy and venous blood sampling as a delegated medical function.

Q. *May a physician, podiatrist, or dentist delegate, as a medical function, IV procedures that are outside the scope of IV Authority and thereby expand the LPN's scope of IV Authority?*

A. No, the scope of IV Authority as defined in the Chapter IX Rules may not be expanded by the delegation of a medical function by a physician, podiatrist, or dentist.