(A) Policy Statement

(1) The Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN), who has certification from the Ohio Board of Nursing (OBN) verifying the successful completion of a course in intravenous therapy, may perform limited intravenous therapy procedures on adult patients.

(2) The LPN may only perform the following limited IV procedures at the direction of a Registered Nurse (RN) or a licensed Physician, Dentist, Optometrist, or Podiatrist. The RN, Physician, Dentist, Optometrist or Podiatrist giving the direction must be on the premises where the procedure is to be performed or accessible by some form of telecommunication.

(3) The RN must perform a patient assessment prior to directing the LPN to complete the IV therapy procedure. The RN remains accountable and responsible for the IV therapy procedures directed to the LPN.

(4) An IV therapy course is not required to perform the following procedures:
   - Verification of the type of peripheral IV solution being administered.
   - Examination of a peripheral infusion site and the extremity for possible infiltration.
   - Regulation of a peripheral IV infusion according to the prescribed flow rate.
   - Discontinuation of a peripheral IV device at the appropriate time.
   - Performance of routine dressing changes at the insertion site of a peripheral venous or peripherally inserted central catheter, or central venous pressure subclavian infusion.

(B) Purpose of Policy

To clearly identify the qualified LPN's role with respect to IV therapy.

(C) Procedure

1. The qualified LPN may prepare an individual for intravenous therapy and select the peripheral intravenous infusion site only in the hands, the forearms, and/or the antecubital fossa area.

2. The qualified LPN may assemble and maintain equipment for:
   a. Gravity drip infusion; or
   b. Electronic controlling devices excluding patient controlled devices.

3. The qualified LPN may perform venipuncture with a needle or catheter no longer than one and one-half inches only into a peripheral vein of the hand, forearm, and/or antecubital fossa area.
4. The qualified LPN may initiate and maintain the infusion of select intravenous solutions as ordered by a Licensed Physician, Dentist, Optometrist or Podiatrist and calculate infusion rate using standard formulas. Select intravenous solutions are limited to one, or a combination of, the following:
   a. 5% Dextrose
   b. Normal saline
   c. Lactated Ringers
   d. 0.45% Sodium Chloride
   e. 0.2% Sodium Chloride
   f. IV Piggybacks only with an antibiotic additive

5. The qualified LPN may maintain an IV by hanging subsequent containers of the IV solution that contains vitamins or electrolytes, if an RN initiated the infusion of that same IV solution.

6. The qualified LPN may regulate and maintain an infusion of the allowed intravenous solutions at the prescribed flow rate through peripheral IV lines. The qualified LPN may maintain the above listed infusions through central venous and PICC lines.

7. The qualified LPN may perform routine intravenous administration set changes, dressing changes, and discontinue IV’s only on IV lines that terminate in a peripheral vein.

8. The qualified LPN may initiate, convert and flush peripheral intermittent infusion devices. The peripheral intermittent infusion devices may be flushed with normal saline or heparin flush solutions to maintain peripheral venous patency.

   No other medication may be given via a direct IV route.

9. The qualified LPN should observe, report and record the individual’s responses to the intravenous therapy including the condition of the intravenous infusion site.

10. Even though the law allows a limited role for the LPN in IV therapy, the following are prohibited practices even for the LPN who may be authorized to engage in IV therapy:

    Initiating or maintaining:
    - Blood or blood components
    - Solutions for total parenteral nutrition
    - Any cancer therapeutic medication including but not limited to cancer chemotherapy or an antineoplastic agent
    - Solutions administered through any central venous line or arterial line or any other line that does not terminate in a peripheral vein except that an authorized LPN may maintain solutions listed earlier in the article that are being administered through a central venous line or PICC
    - Any investigational or experimental medication
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<td>Moneca Smith, MSN, RN</td>
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<td>Director of Nursing/CNO</td>
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