Jurisprudence Study Guide

Module 5: Professional Accountability and Responsibility

Handout

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Module 5 – Professional Accountability & Responsibility

1. Professional Accountability & Responsibility

1.1 Welcome

No narration, only music.
1.2 Topics

Module Topics

Professional accountability
and responsibility

Other relevant legislation

Narration

JILL: Hi ... I’m Jill and I have my colleague Carlos with me. Welcome to the final module in this Jurisprudence Study Guide.

CARLOS: Hi Jill. So what are the topics for this last module?

JILL: We are going to briefly discuss some of the key components of LPN professional accountability and responsibility. We will then wrap up our presentation by describing four other pieces of legislation affect LPNs’ nursing practice.

CARLOS: Sounds good.
1.3 Accountability

Narration

No narration, only transition music.
1.4 Accountability and responsibility

Narration

JILL: As a self-regulated profession, LPNs are required to be accountable and responsible for their actions, conduct and practice. Let’s take a look at what this means in day-to-day practice. Carlos, why don’t you describe the first one?

CARLOS: Sure. LPNs are legally accountable for their own practice. This means that they must understand the concept of duty of care; adhere to the duty to self-report; and practice only within their competence and scope of practice.

JILL: LPNs must adhere to all confidentiality requirements. This means managing all client information appropriately; identifying and reporting breaches in confidentiality; and recognizing and managing related risks.

CARLOS: LPNs must know and practice informed consent. The client must give permission prior to any treatment being provided. Informed consent means that the client must have knowledge and be able to understand the options and risks associated with the proposed treatment or intervention.

JILL: LPNs must respect professional boundaries with clients, family, colleagues, supervisors and employers. They must recognize and maintain professional boundaries both on and off duty. Respecting professional boundaries applies to use of technology and social media.

CARLOS: LPNs must work effectively through inter-professional collaboration and communication. They should know and use the principles of team dynamics and group processes, including recognizing and managing conflict.
JILL: And finally, accountability and responsibility means that LPNs must maintain physical, mental and emotional health to provide safe, competent care. An LPN should inform the appropriate authority if they feel they are unable to safely practice.

For more information on each of these accountability factors, click on the corresponding icon. When done, click on NEXT to continue with the presentation.
1.5 Other Legislation

Other Legislation

Module 5: Professional Accountability and Responsibility

Narration

No narration, only transition music.
1.6 Health Information Act

Narration

JILL: In this section, we will take a look at four other legislative acts that affect LPN practice. Carlos, why don’t you describe the first one?

CARLOS: Okay. The first piece of important legislation is the Alberta Health Information Act. This Act outlines the rules for the collection, use and disclosure of health information. It is designed to protect the privacy of individuals and the confidentiality of their health records. It also lays out the requirements as to how health records are to be managed, stored, shared, protected and destroyed.

JILL: LPNs must know the privacy and confidentiality rules as laid out by the Health Information Act. There are significant penalties for violations.

CARLOS: To learn more about the Health Information Act, click on the icon on this slide. After you have finished reviewing the legislation, come back to this slide and click NEXT to continue with our presentation.
1.7 Protection of Persons

Narration

JILL: The next piece of important legislation is the Alberta Protection of Persons in Care Act. This law requires publicly funded service providers to protect their clients from abuse. This Act also requires that anyone observing or suspecting abuse of any kind is required to report it to the proper authorities.

CARLOS: What about confidentiality and privacy issues? How can I report abuse without breaking other rules and laws?

JILL: Not to worry. Under this Act, anyone who has reasonable grounds for reporting abuse is protected from any liability associated with doing so.

CARLOS: Good to know.

JILL: So if any LPN suspects or actually observes abuse, they are required by this law to report it.

CARLOS: Again, to learn more about the Protection of Persons in Care Act, click on the icon. When done, click NEXT to continue the presentation.
1.8 Occupational Health

Narration

CARLOS: Next is the Alberta Occupational Health and Safety Act. This law focuses on safety in the workplace. It provides minimum legislated standards that employers and organizations must follow. It also provides health and safety advice and information. This branch of government ensures compliance with legislated standards. They investigate incidents and accidents, and well as doing targeted inspections to ensure safe facilities and workplaces.

JILL: LPNs should be aware of these requirements as it applies to their workplaces, and the facilities and equipment they use to look after their clients. Again, click on the icon to see the actual legislation, and then on NEXT to continue.
1.9 Controlled Drugs

Narration

JILL: The final piece of important legislation is the federal Controlled Drugs and Substances Act. This law would particularly apply to LPNs who handle and administer medications that may include narcotic drugs.

CARLOS: Click on the icon to view the actual legislation, then on NEXT below to continue.
1.10 Summary

Narration

JILL: This brings this last module to a close. Carlos, care to summarize?

CARLOS: Okay. We began by briefly discussing the key components of professional accountability and responsibility. These topics included legal accountability, confidentiality, informed consent, professional boundaries, teamwork and fitness to practice.

The second part of this module covered the other key legislation that LPNs must know. We began with the Health Information Act which lays out the rules for collecting, managing and disclosing health-related information and records. The next piece of legislation we examined was the Protection of Persons in Care Act. The most important part of this legislation is the mandatory requirement to report abuse. Next was the Occupation Health and Safety Act that governs workplace safety. Finally, we looked at the federal Controlled Drugs and Substances Act. This law affects any LPNs working with narcotic drugs.

JILL: Great! This brings us to the end of this module, and the completion of the CLPNA Jurisprudence Study Guide. We thank you for joining Carlos and I as we guided you through the many facets of jurisprudence. We hope that the information you learned about jurisprudence and its impacts on LPN nursing practice will serve you well in your practice. Goodbye for now.

CARLOS: Goodbye from me as well.
1.16 The End

Narration

No narration, only theme music.