Examples, FAQs, & Additional Guidance for Kentucky Board of Nursing RN/LPN Scope of Practice Comparison Chart

Administering Nursing Administration Services

Licensed practical nurses may function under direction in other areas, including but not limited to administrative and management areas, and quality assurance and peer review programs.

It is not within an LPN's scope of practice for an LPN to supervise the practice of an RN. However, an LPN may serve in an administrative supervisory role over an RN as long as that role does not require the supervision or direction of patient care by the RN and deals solely with employment conditions. Employment conditions may include, but are not limited to, time and attendance issues, disciplinary issues, and termination.

If the role requires the LPN to make clinical judgments and directions based on patient status, acuity, and care to the RN, then this is not within the scope of practice for the LPN to be in an administrative supervisory role over an RN. Although this role does not include direct patient care, this can affect patient outcomes, and it is not within the LPN's scope of practice in Kentucky.

Example: The LPN works in a role as an Assistant Director of Nursing, with responsibilities of time and attendance, data collection, and quality measures. The Director of Nursing is an RN and oversees nursing and UAP staff to evaluate clinical practice and competency.