



# Department of Nursing POLICY AND PROCEDURE

POLICY NUMBER: 253  
VERSION: 1

## **SUBJECT: ADMINISTRATION OF IV FLUIDS, QUALIFICATIONS FOR**

**PURPOSE:** To outline qualifications needed for Registered Nurses and Licensed Vocational Nurses to administer intravenous (I.V.) fluids.

### **POLICY STATEMENTS:**

1. Registered Nurses (RNs) qualified to administer I.V. therapy, blood and blood products must have successfully completed the Intravenous Medication Module administered by the Nursing Education Department.
2. Licensed Vocational Nurses (LVNs) qualified to administer I.V. therapy must have successfully completed a state accredited Intravenous Certification course and completed the Intravenous Medication Module administered by the Nursing Education Department. LVNs may start peripheral I.V.s, convert continuous I.V.s to intermittent infusion locks, flush intermittent infusion locks, hang I.V. solutions containing electrolytes, nutrients and vitamins, and remove butterfly and peripheral catheters.
3. LVNs may **NOT** perform the following procedures:
  - Administer I.V. piggyback medication
  - Administer I.V. solutions containing medications (i.e. Aminophylline)
  - Infuse I.V. push medications except to flush an intermittent infusion lock
  - Flush any type of central line
4. All licensed nurses who provide I.V. therapy will possess the following skills and knowledge:
  - Knowledge of equipment used for I.V. delivery
  - Knowledge of I.V. administration techniques and procedures
  - Knowledge of aseptic techniques used in I.V. therapy
  - Knowledge of drug stability and incompatibilities

### **REFERENCES:**

California Nursing Practice Act. Board of Registered Nursing Practice Act, (2007 ed.).  
Charlottesville: Matthew Bender and Company.  
Vocational Nursing California Code of Regulations (2009). Retrieved November 11, 2009 from  
[www.bvnpt.ca.gov](http://www.bvnpt.ca.gov)

<b>POLICY NO:</b> 253	<b>SUBJECT:</b> ADMINISTRATION OF IV FLUIDS, QUALIFICATIONS FOR	<b>Page 2 of 2</b>
--------------------------	---	--------------------

Approved By: Karla Magdaleno (SENIOR SECRETARY II)	
Date: 10/15/2013	Original Date: 02/01/1991
Reviewed: 05/24/2016	Next Review Date: 04/24/2017
Supersedes:	