



DIVISION SCOPE OF SERVICE

Division: FAR WEST
DHP Classification: LACTATION CONSULTANT
Name of Dependent Healthcare Professional (DHP):

<p>Lactation Consultant: The Lactation Consultant must have equivalent qualifications and competence as employed individuals performing the same or similar services at the facility.</p>
<p>Definition of Care or Service: The Lactation Consultant serves as a clinical expert for lactation and breastfeeding. The LC provides in-depth, individual assistance for mothers and families experiencing routine or complex circumstances associated with lactation and breastfeeding. The LC encourages the support of breastfeeding through patient consultation, staff education and implementation of current, evidence-based breastfeeding policies and procedures.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides direct patient care as part of the lactation team, working with normal and high-risk patients of all ages. • Works as a member of the healthcare team with nurses and physicians. • Performs and/or manages the following safely and efficiently: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Performing comprehensive maternal, child and feeding evaluations related to lactation ○ Developing and implementing an individualized feeding plan in consultation with the mother • Effectively communicates plan and follow-up as necessary to provide continuity of patient care • Document all patient contacts • Consults with other healthcare professionals as needed • Participates in the development of breastfeeding guidelines, protocols, and patient education materials. • Provides formal and informal teaching to parents and hospital staff. • Assists in data collection and subsequent program development and implementation that improve outcomes for breastfeeding women and infants. • Acts as an advocate for breastfeeding in the community, workplace and within all healthcare professions • Assist in the maintenance of current breastfeeding reference materials as a resource for the healthcare team.
<p>Setting(s):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Patient Care Areas
<p>Supervision:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Direct supervision by the Director of Women and Children Services <p>Evaluator: Director of Women and Children Services</p>
<p>Qualifications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Associate Degree or higher in healthcare related field • Current IBCLC certification or will obtain IBCLC certification within two years of initial employment • Two years' experience in a clinical setting in a lactation related field • Maintains expertise and certification through appropriate continuing education • Knowledge of accepted lactation consultant standards and practice
<p>State Requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • N/A
<p>Experience: One year experience in lactation consulting</p>
<p>Competencies: The Lactation Consultant will demonstrate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safe and effective operation of related equipment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Maintains equipment in good working order ○ Demonstrates effective infection control practices related to equipment operation



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- Accurate patient information review and evaluation
 - Uses at least two ways to identify patients before treating or performing a procedure
 - Verifies that the requested procedure correlates with the patient's clinical history, presentation and physician order
 - Accesses the patient medical record appropriately
 - Documents in the medical record according to the facility standard / policy
- Maintains a safe environment
- Infection Prevention
 - Practices consistent hand hygiene
 - Uses personal protective equipment (PPE)
 - Maintains current immunization for influenza
 - Complies with Isolation precautions
- Demonstrates skills to assist breastfeeding dyad
- Provide education for the mother and her family regarding the breast feeding dyad
- Provide information and strategies to minimize the risk of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) and provide anticipatory guidance to reduce potential risks to the breastfeeding mother or her child
- Documents patient contacts, assessments, feeding plans, recommendations and evaluations of care
- Work collaboratively with the health care team to provide coordinated services to families

References:

Association, I. L. (n.d.). *ILCA*. Retrieved June 6, 2012, from Worldwide Network of Lactation Professionals: <http://www.ilca.org/i4a/pages/index.cfm?pageid=3354>

DHP Printed Name: _____ **DHP Signature:** _____

Company/Vendor: _____ **Date:** _____