Nursing Care Quality Assurance Commission (NCQAC)
Consistent Standards of Practice Sub-committee Minutes
February 5, 2019  12:00 pm to 1:00 pm

Sub-Committee
Members Present:  Tiffany Randich, RN, LPN, Chair
                                  Sharon Ness, RN
                                  Tracy Rude, LPN, NCQAC Chair, Ad Hoc

Sub-Committee
Members Absent:  Edie Higby, Public Member

Staff Present:  Deborah Carlson, MSN, RN,
                               Associate Director of Nursing Licensing and Practice
                               Shana Johnny, Nursing Practice Consultant
                               Tori Lane, Nursing Practice Administrative Assistant

I.  12:00 PM Opening – Tiffany Randich, Chair
Call to order
• Introduction – Tiffany Randich
• Public Disclosure Statement – Tiffany Randich
• Roll Call – Deborah Carlson

II.  Standing Agenda Items
• Announcements/Hot Topic/NCQAC Business Meeting Updates
• National Council State Boards of Nursing Knowledge Network Updates
  o August 23, 2018
  o December 6, 2018
• Draft Minutes Review- December 4, 2018
  Consensus reached to take the minutes to the March 8th business meeting for approval.

III. Old Business
• Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) Drafts:
  o RN Gastroenterology Procedures
  o RN Cardiology and Respiratory Procedures
  o RN Radiology Procedures
  o RN Neurological and Musculoskeletal Procedures
  o RN Obstetrical, Gynecological, and Reproductive Care
  o RN Urological and Hemodialysis Procedures
  o LPN Gastroenterology Procedures
  o LPN Cardiology and Respiratory Procedures
  o LPN Radiology Procedures
  o LPN Neurological and Musculoskeletal Procedures
  o LPN Obstetrical, Gynecological, and Reproductive Care
  o LPN Urological and Hemodialysis Procedures
• Reviewed draft FAQs. These were rescinded from the NCQAC Business Agenda for minor changes. These have been made. Consensus to take FAQs to March 8, 2019 business meeting for approval.

IV. New Business

• Review and Discussion of Concerns, Issues, and Requests for Clarity Concerning Nursing Process Scope of Practice in the Following Approved Documents:
  o Registered Nurse (RN) and Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) Scope of Practice Advisory Opinion
  o Registered Nurse (RN) Frequent Asked Questions- Nursing Process
  o Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) Frequently Asked Questions- Nursing Process

RN and LPN Scope of Practice Advisory Opinion was approved by the commission in November 2019. Concerns were brought up by the Washington Health Care Association (WHCA), Adult Family Home Council, LeadingAge, and Washington State Department of Social Health Services (DSHS). Debbie Carlson and Paula Meyer met with representatives from these organizations and DSHS to discuss these concerns.

Consensus for Interim Solution

Take the current advisory opinion back to the NCQAC to recommend the following:

a. Rescind the RN and LPN FAQs related to the CARES assessment and negotiated service agreement.

b. Revise the statement temporarily as follows:

Conclusion Statement

“The purpose of this advisory opinion is to clarify and provide distinction from the registered nurse and licensed practical nurse roles, responsibilities and functions as it relates solely to nursing practice.

C. Long-term revision of the document with additional stakeholder input to provide more clarification. This may also include revision of rescinded FAQ as well as additional FAQs.

d. Offer joint education with organizations, DSHS, and the commission around the state once the final revision is approved.

e. DSHS agrees to not take action (complaints) for LPNs performing the CARES assessments and the negotiated service plan.

Areas for further review and clarification include:

a. Nursing assessment vs. non-nursing assessment and data collection.
b. Nursing services vs. non-nursing services including medication management (medication assistance) and whether this is a non-nursing service and considered an activity of daily living (ADL)
c. Administrative role for the LPNs
d. Supervision of staff competency and performance.
e. Whether the commission would hold the LPN owner or co-owner to a higher level of care than a non-nurse owner or co-owner. Whether the LPN can evaluate non-nursing care independently.
f. Whether the LPN can be qualified assessor of residents required in the law for adult family homes and assisted living facilities.
g. Role of the LPN in providing nursing education and performing competency assessments specific to nursing assistant and home care aids and whether LPN can perform initial admissions to adult family homes or assisted living facilities.

V. Ending Items

1. Open Microphone (as time permits)
2. Extensive comments with recommendations and concerns about the LPN scope of practice in long-term care facilities from public attendees/stakeholders.
3. Review of Actions
   o Recommend the interim change in the RN and LPN Scope of Practice Advisory Opinion at the March 8, 2019 business meeting;
   o Recommend removing the FAQs related to the CARES assessment and negotiated service agreement for LPNs and RNs pending further clarification at the March 8, 2019 business meeting.
   o Recommend conducting additional stakeholder meetings and making additional recommendations for revision to the RN and LPN Scope of Practice Advisory Opinion;
   o Recommend approval of FAQ drafts as above at the March 8, 209 business meeting;
4. Meeting Evaluation –
   o Sub-committee members provided opportunity to reflect on the meeting and provide suggestions for improvement.
5. Date of Next Meeting – April 2, 2019
6. Adjournment: 12:48pm