ADVISORY OPINION
SUTURE/STAPLE REMOVAL – ROLE OF LPN

It is within the Scope of Practice for the licensed practical nurse (LPN) to remove sutures/staples if the following requirements are met:

I. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS
   A. The task is delegated to the LPN by an RN/LPN.
   B. The LPN has demonstrated clinical competency in suture/staple removal.

II. COURSE OF INSTRUCTION includes but is not limited to:
   A. Inspection of wound site
   B. Performing suture/staple removal – indications of change in wound (pre & post removal)
   C. Reporting of findings to RN/LPN
   D. Pain and comfort measures

III. RATIONALE
    To provide guidelines for LPN practice relating to suture/staple removal.

IV. REFERENCES