



Position: Infusion Clinic Nurse (RN/LPN)

Team: Infusion

Reports to: Physicians, Lead Infusion RN, Practice Manager

Qualifications for Infusion RN/LPN:

1. Graduation from an accredited nursing program (or LPN/LVN school for LPN)
2. Current Oregon Registered Nurse License (or Oregon Licensed Practical Nurse for LPN)
3. National Provider BLS – American Heart Association
4. EMR experience preferred

Summary of Position:

Rheumatology registered nurses (RNs) & licensed practical nurses (LPNs) manage the rheumatology infusion suite and are directly responsible for infusing biologics and other agents for the treatment of the healthcare consumer's rheumatic disease or disorder. Many of these agents are proteins that are foreign to the individual, and thus have unique side effect and infusion reaction profiles. Some agents can cause life-threatening infusion reactions; thus, the rheumatology RNs and LPNs in the infusion suite are prepared for the rare but potentially life threatening reactions.

Responsibilities:

- Competency in intravenous infusion techniques, including peripheral intravenous catheter placement & implanted port access.
- Partnership in the development of healthcare consumer-centric infusion suite protocols, including medication-specific administration protocols that include pre-treatment procedures, medications, and follow-up intervals.
- Assessing the healthcare consumer prior to infusions for contraindications such as infection, unexplained rash, vital signs outside ordered parameters, change in health status, recent or upcoming surgical or invasive procedures, or newly diagnosed conditions that might affect administration of the prescribed agent. The nurse refers the healthcare consumer to the healthcare provider as appropriate.
- Knowledge of high-risk medications and other infused medications used for the treatment of rheumatic conditions, such as biologic response modifiers, bisphosphonates, corticosteroids, and cytotoxic agents. The rheumatology nurse is knowledgeable regarding expected outcomes of these medications, side-effect profiles, and infusion management protocols for each medication.
- Competency in dose calculations for weight-based medication dosing.
- Recognizes and manages infusion reactions, including the early, subtle signs of antibody reactions; and takes appropriate actions to preclude a more serious infusion reaction.
- Management of medication and equipment inventory, and may provide expert advice regarding vendor reliability, equipment safety, and equipment preference.
- Availability during infusions for conversations with healthcare consumers regarding the risks and benefits of the treatment(s), disease risks, medicine updates, healthy lifestyle changes, nutritional information, and other similar topics.
- Assist with training and overseeing LPN's and infusion medical assistants as needed.
- LPN's will work within the scope of their licensing and clinic policies.
- Other duties as assigned.

Acknowledgement of receipt:

Employee Signature

Employee Printed Name

Date