

NEVADA STATE BOARD OF NURSING
Practice Advisory Opinion

RNs Advancing or Withdrawing Endoscopes and Colonoscopes

The registered nurse is adequately prepared to and may advance or withdraw an endoscope and colonoscope when:

1. The RN has completed an appropriate education program including theory and techniques of advancing and withdrawing endoscope and colonoscope. All requirements identified in NAC 632.224 and 225 are met and documented.
2. The procedure is performed when the RN is visualizing the lumen (e.g. teaching scope or video camera). The RN is permitted to advance or withdraw a flexible sigmoidoscope without direct visualization.
3. The procedure is carried out under the direct supervision of a licensed physician.
4. The institution has a written policy identifying the procedure as acceptable practice for the registered nurse.

GENERAL BOARD AUTHORITY

The Nevada State Board of Nursing is authorized by NRS 632.120 and NAC 632.935 and NAC 632.940 to issue advisory opinions, declaratory orders and to determine the applicability of any statute or regulation to specific nursing acts in determining the scope of practice for nurses in Nevada.

Adopted: March 8, 1996.