

NEVADA STATE BOARD OF NURSING

PRACTICE DECISION REGARDING RN SCOPE OF PRACTICE IN PERFORMING UPPER EXTREMITY PERIPHERAL INTRAVENOUS CATHETER PLACEMENT USING ULTRASOUND GUIDANCE

The Nevada State Board of Nursing finds that it is within the scope of practice of a Registered Nurse to perform upper extremity peripheral intravenous catheter placement using ultrasound guidance.

Interest to the Consumer: Hospital admissions are creating vast challenges for nurses because of the increased patient longevity, multiple organ system problems, greater survival from critical states, and obesity. Due to these conditions, our nursing success rate for peripheral intravenous placement (PIVs) is becoming increasingly more difficult. Using ultrasound for PIV placement, similar to nurses using ultrasound for Peripherally Inserted Central Catheters (PICCs) can increase nursing success rates. By increasing our success rate at PIVs through ultrasound guidance, we should see the following results:

1. Increased patient satisfaction from fewer access attempts
2. Less damage to peripheral vasculature from fewer access attempts
3. Intravenous treatment delay is prevented
4. Preventing delay of intravenous treatment fosters decreasing the length of hospital days and cost containment.

These procedures are within the scope of practice for a Registered Nurse provided the following guidelines are followed:

1. The nurse is competent to perform the procedure and has documented and demonstrated knowledge, skill, and ability to perform the procedure pursuant to NAC 632.071, 623.224, and 632.225.
2. There are agency policies and procedures and any required protocols in place for the nurse to perform the procedure.
3. The nurse maintains accountability and responsibility for nursing care related to the procedure and follows the accepted standard of care, which would be provided by a reasonable and prudent nurse.

Nursing Practice Advisory Committee review: April 10, 2007
Approved by the Nevada State Board of Nursing: July 12, 2007