

PRACTICE DECISION
Practice Guidelines for Telenursing

The rapid increase in the use of telenursing has necessitated the development of practice guidelines for nurses engaged in such activities. Telenursing (NAC 632.249, 3.b.) is defined as the provision of nursing care or advice from a remote location through the use of telecommunications equipment including, but not limited to, a telephone, Teletype, facsimile machine or other equipment capable of transmitting a video image. Telenursing involves the use of comprehensive written protocols for potential implementation of treatment by nurses.

The Nevada State Board of Nursing has established the following practice guidelines.

1. Only Registered Nurses, currently licensed in the State of Nevada, may practice telenursing in relation to patients in Nevada.
2. Per NAC 632.249, the nurse practicing telenursing must identify himself by name and title.
3. After completion of a nursing assessment of the patient, the nurse practicing telenursing may provide advice based on the use of written physician protocols (which may include over-the-counter medications), published reference guides or software protocols approved by the medical staff.
4. All telenursing interactions including, but not limited to, the collection of demographic data, health history, assessment of chief complaint, protocols followed, referrals and follow-ups, must be documented in a written or electronic medical record.

Supersedes Advisory Opinion: Practice Guidelines for “Telephone Triage/Advice”, dated 3/5/98.

Recommended by the Nursing Practice Advisory Committee: 3/13/02.

Approved by the NSBN: 5/23/02.

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Approved by the Board: 3/26/14