

Nevada State Board of Nursing - Scope of Nursing Practice Decision Making Framework

Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN), Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN), or Registered Nurse (RN)

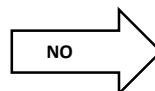
The NSBN works to empower Nevada nurses regarding determining their own scope of practice. The Board's mission is the regulation of nursing practice in Nevada; this regulation does not mean dictating how individual nurses and nursing facilities should carry out that practice, but whether or not that practice meets the standards established by the Nevada Nurse Practice Act. Using the following algorithm, the nurse may decide what is within their scope, with the knowledge, skills, and training, and to provide policies & procedures to reflect that practice.

Determination: If you are unable to determine whether the act, task, skill, function, activity, intervention or role is within your **formal education and population focus (i.e., scope of practice)**, consider the following:

IDENTIFY

Is the activity, task, function, intervention or role allowed by the [Nurse Practice Act](#) and rules/regulations or any other applicable laws, rules/regulations or accreditation standards or professional nursing scope and standards?

- For APRNs, is the activity, task, function, intervention or role included in the scope of practice based on your national certification [population focus/specialty area](#)?

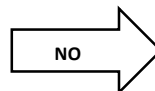


STOP
NOT within Scope of Practice. Not allowed by Nurse Practice Act.

↓ Yes

STANDARDS OF PRACTICE

Is performing the activity, task, function, intervention or role consistent with professional [national nursing standards](#), [evidence-based nursing](#) and health care literature and research, and/or accreditation standards?



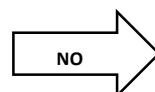
STOP
NOT supported by professional national nursing standards or evidence-based nursing and health care literature.

↓ Yes

KNOWLEDGE

Does the nurse possess the knowledge to perform the activity, task, function, intervention or role safely and effectively as acquired in an accredited nursing educational program and/or nursing continuing education program?

- For APRNs, [population focus/foci](#) is determined by graduate/post graduate education and national certification [population focus/foci area](#). CEUs do not expand [population focus/foci area](#).

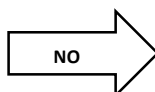


STOP
Until additional formal education and/or national certification is gained.

↓ Yes

SKILLS

Is there documented evidence of the nurse's current clinical competence (knowledge, skills, & abilities) to safely perform the activity, task, function, intervention or role?



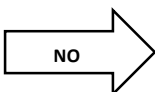
STOP
Until competencies (knowledge, skills, abilities and judgments) are gained and documented.

↓ Yes

PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY

Are there practice setting policies and procedures in place to support performing the activity, task, function, intervention or role?

Will this meet the professional responsibility to conduct this activity within the organizational policies & procedures?



STOP
Until appropriate policy or procedure is established. Performance of activity, task, function, intervention or role may place both patient and nurse at risk.

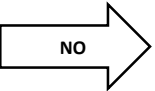
↓ Yes

STANDARD OF CARE

Is the performance of the activity within the accepted [standard of care](#)?

Would a reasonable and prudent nurse perform the activity, task, function, intervention or role in this setting?

Could the activity be duplicated in similar circumstances by reasonable and prudent nurse(s) who have similar training and experience?

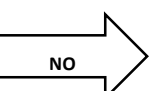


STOP
Performance of activity, intervention or role may place both patient and nurse and risk.

↓ Yes

SAFETY

Is the nurse prepared to accept accountability for the activity, task, function, intervention or role and for the related outcomes?



STOP
Accountability is not assumed. Performance of activity, task, function, intervention or role may place both patient and nurse at risk.

↓ Yes

The nurse may perform the activity, task, function, intervention or role to acceptable and prevailing standards of safe nursing care.

If you are unable to determine whether the task/skill is within your scope of practice: 1. Has the Nevada State Board of Nursing made a practice decision regarding the task/skill in question? 2. Is the task/skill in your hiring agency policy and procedure manual? ([NAC 632.225](#) or [632.242](#)) 3. Is your competency in performing this task/skill documented in your personnel file? ([NAC 632.225](#)) 4. Does carrying out the duty pass the "Reasonable and Prudent" standard for nursing? 5. Is the action reflective of the consumer's desires and is it appropriately authorized? If you cannot answer "yes" to the above, and if no practice decision exists, use the [Cumulative Index of Nursing and Allied Health Literature \(CINAHL\)](#) process ([NAC 632.110](#)) as described in Nurse Practice Regulations [NAC 632.225](#), subsection 3, for Registered Nurses; for Licensed Practical Nurses, [NAC 632.242](#), subsection 3, and Advanced Practice Registered Nurses [NAC 632.255](#). If the task is not addressed in [CINAHL](#), you may request a Board Practice Decision by obtaining the proper forms from a Board office, doing the research using criteria provided by the Board, and submitting 12 copies of your results for review and consideration by the Board's Nursing Practice Advisory Committee. After the Committee makes a recommendation, the Board's conclusion will be relayed to the requester following the next regularly scheduled Board meeting.

References

Ballard, K., Haagenon, D., Christiansen, L., Damgaard, G., Halstead, J. A., Jason, R, R., Joyner, J. C., O'Sullivan, A. M., Silvestre, J., Cahill, M., Radtke, B., Alexander, M. (2016). Scope of Nursing Practice Decision-Making Framework. *Journal of Nursing Regulation*, 7. 19-21.

Iowa State Board of Nursing (2018). *Scope of Practice Decision Making Model for Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioners*. Retrieved from https://nursing.iowa.gov/sites/default/files/documents/2017/06/arnp_practicedecisionmakinmodel .pdf

Kentucky Board of Nursing (2015). *Scope of Practice Decision-Making Model for APRNs*. Retrieved <https://kbn.ky.gov/practice/Documents/APRN%20Scope%20of%20Practice%20%20Decision%20Making%20Model.pdf>

National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN). (2008). *Consensus Model for APRN Regulation: Licensure, Accreditation, Certification & Education*. Retrieved from https://www.ncsbn.org/Consensus_Model_for_APRN_Regulation_July_2008.pdf

National Organization of Nurse Practitioner Faculties. (2012). *Statement on acute care and primary care certified nurse practitioner practice*. Retrieved from <https://www.aanpcert.org/resource/documents/ACPCNPStatementFinal2013.pdf>

Nebraska Board of Nursing (2017). *Scope of Practice Decision Model for APRNs*. Retrieved <http://dhhs.ne.gov/publichealth/pages/crlNursingScope.aspx>

Nevada Legislature (2018). Nevada Administrative Code Chapter 632 – Nurse Practice Act

Nevada Legislature (2018). Nevada Revised Statute Chapter 632 – Nurse Practice Act.

North Carolina Board of Nursing (2013) *Scope of Practice Decision Tree for the RN and LPN*. Retrieved <https://www.ncbon.com/vdownloads/position-statements-decision-trees/scope-of-practice-decision-tree-rn-lpn.pdf>

Oregon State Board of Nursing (2018). *Scope of Practice Decision Making Guidelines for All Licensed Nurses*. Retrieved from https://www.oregon.gov/OSBN/pdfs/InterpretiveStatements/scope_decision_tree.pdf

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, (2012). Nursing Experts Release Guiding Principles for Patient Engagement. Retrieved online: <https://www.rwjf.org/en/library/articles-and-news/2012/07/nursing-experts-release-guiding-principles-for-patient-engagemen.html>