

NEVADA STATE BOARD OF NURSING
Practice Advisory Opinion
The Scope of Practice for the Registered Nurse in the Removal of Epidural Catheters

The Nevada State Board of Nursing has determined that it is within the scope of an adequately prepared registered nurse (RN) to remove an epidural catheter when the following requirements are met.

A registered nurse must:

1. Obtain a specific order from a qualified anesthesia provider or physician that is in accordance with established institutional policy and procedure
2. Complete commensurate institution-required knowledge and skills that cover potential catheter-related complications related to the epidural catheter removal
3. Have documentation of compliance with all requirements identified in [NAC 632.224](#) and [NAC 632.225](#) to demonstrate the procedure is within the nurses scope of practice
4. Verify the catheter insertion was documented as uncomplicated and no catheter-related complications have occurred

A registered nurse may not:

1. Insert or reposition an epidural catheter
2. Remove the following types of epidural catheters:
 - a. A tunneled epidural catheter
 - b. An epidural catheter with exposed metal, or
 - c. A spinal cord stimulator placed in the epidural space.
3. Continue to remove an epidural catheter if complications are encountered during the removal of the catheter.

REFERENCES:

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Approved by the Nursing Practice Advisory Committee 1/20/99

Adopted by the Nevada State Board of Nursing 5/14/99

Revised by the Nevada State Board of Nursing 7/19/06

Reviewed with proposed revisions Nursing Practice Advisory Committee 11/07/2023

Approved by Board 11/16-17/2023