

NEVADA STATE BOARD OF NURSING
Practice Advisory Decision

**Scope of Practice Requirements and Limitations for RNs and LPNs Performing
Aesthetic/Cosmetologic Procedures**

Statement of Scope: The Nevada State Board of Nursing has determined that it is within the scope of practice of registered nurses (RNs), licensed practice nurses (LPNs), and advanced practice registered nurses (APRNs) to perform aesthetic/cosmetic procedures when compliant with the conditions and requirements or limitations of this advisory decision.

I. Rationale

As the technology in aesthetic and/or cosmetics evolves, nurses are increasingly involved in these procedures. Many of the clinical competencies required to perform these procedures in a safe, effective manner are gained through the acquisition of additional education, preparation, and supervised clinical practice by qualified licensed practitioners with specialized training, skills, ongoing training, and knowledge in aesthetic/cosmetic procedures

II. General Requirements

- A. Nurses who can demonstrate satisfactory completion of an instructional program and demonstrate clinical proficiency in each specific procedure may perform medical aesthetic/cosmetic procedures. The nurse performing the procedure must have ongoing competency validation appropriate to the responsibilities; treatment provided and targeted patient population.
- B. APRNs with independent practice authority meeting training requirements under [NAC 632.255](#) may perform aesthetic procedures without supervision.
- C. A nurse who provides medical aesthetic services shall have appropriate training, continuing education specific to aesthetic procedures performed and supervision, as required by this practice decision.
- D. The facility and/or licensed cosmetologic establishment (as defined in either [NRS 454.217.1C](#), [NRS 449.0151](#)) must be in compliance with state statutes and rules, maintain written policies, procedures and protocols, consistent with applicable standards and evidence-based nursing practice and approved by a qualified licensed practitioner.
- E. Informed consent including a description of risks and benefits related to the medical aesthetic/cosmetic procedure must be obtained and retained in a patient record.
- F. Only nurses who demonstrate satisfactory completion of an instructional program and demonstrate clinical proficiency in each specific procedure are allowed to perform such medical aesthetic procedures. Instruction will be provided by a qualified licensed practitioner or individual with same or higher licensure.
- G. Documentation of satisfactory completion of an instructional program, supervised clinical practice and current licensure and/or certification, as applicable, is on file

with the agency/employer. Ongoing competency must be in compliance with NAC [632.242](#), [225](#), [255](#).

- H. An order for each individual intervention by a qualified licensed practitioner that has assessed the patient and established a bonafide patient/provider relationship in compliance with [NRS 639.235.4](#).
- I. Only a qualified licensed practitioner may control and provide access to the dangerous drugs ([NRS 454.201](#), [454.316](#), [454.213](#)) utilized in the ordered procedure.

The nurse can remove and possess only the specific solutions/medications that have been ordered for the patient. To the extent a product is regulated by the Federal Drug Administration (FDA) including compounding medications, the FDA regulations shall be followed. Products shall be used by individuals who are trained, certified, and clinically proficient in their use.

II. Course of Instruction

Successful completion of training and demonstrated competency includes at a minimum:

[NAC 632.0385](#) “Competence” defined. ([NRS 632.120](#)) “Competence” means the ability to transform skill, knowledge, and performance into appropriate action. (Added to NAC by Bd. of Nursing, eff. 5-9-96)

- A. A comprehensive didactic component and supervised practicum where each procedure is evaluated by a qualified practitioner who is duly licensed as a nurse or physician that possesses the credentials, competency and specialized training necessary to provide such education.
- B. A training course must include:
 - Knowledge and understanding of anatomy, physiology, pathophysiology, regarding the integumentary system, as well as other systems that may be specific to the procedure being performed.
 - Education related to cosmetic and dermatologic conditions, including education in biophysics and tissue interactions.
 - Proper technique for each procedure including safe use of product, device and/or equipment.
 - Proper client selection, history taking, physical assessment parameters, indications and contraindication.
 - Informed consent.
 - Pharmacology including drug actions/interactions. Side effects, contraindications, and untoward effects.
 - Nursing care required and appropriate nursing preparation and interventions in the event of complications or untoward outcomes.
 - Management of complications or adverse events.
 - Infection control (e.g. Sterile or strict aseptic technique when indicated).
 - Safety precautions

IV. Statutory/Regulatory Definitions

- [NRS 454.201](#) Dangerous drug defined.
- [NRS 454.316](#) Possession of dangerous drug without prescription unlawful; penalties; exceptions.
- [NRS 454.213](#) Authority to possess and administer dangerous drug.
- [NRS 629.515](#) Telehealth
- [NAC 632.212](#) Duties included; competency required
- [NAC 632.220](#) Medication and treatment of patients; response to orders; adjustment of dosage or frequency of medication
- [NAC 632.225](#) Additional Duties in Areas of Specialization
- [NAC 632.220](#) Medication and treatment of patients, response to orders; adjustment of dosage or frequency on medication
- [NAC 632.242](#) Additional Duties in Areas of Specialization
- [NAC 632.255](#) Scope of Practice
- [NAC 632.047](#) “Delegation” defined. ([NRS 632.120](#))

Levels of Supervision Defined:

[NAC 632.087](#) “Supervision” defined. ([NRS 632.120](#)) “Supervision” means direction by a qualified nurse for the accomplishment of a nursing task or activity, including initial direction and periodic inspection of the actual accomplishment of the task or activity.

(Added to NAC by Bd. of Nursing, eff. 5-9-96)

1. Direction: [NAC 632.049](#) “Direction” defined. ([NRS 632.120](#)) “Direction” means monitoring and directing the nursing practice of another person, including by means of verbal and written communication.
(Added to NAC by Bd. of Nursing, eff. 5-9-96)
2. Direct Supervision: [NAC 632.048](#) “Direct supervision” defined. ([NRS 632.120](#)) “Direct supervision” means the direction given by a supervisor of nurses who is periodically available at the site where care is provided to a patient or available for immediate guidance.
(Added to NAC by Bd. of Nursing, eff. 6-23-88)
3. Immediate Supervision: [NAC 632.059](#) “Immediate supervision” defined. ([NRS 632.120](#)) “Immediate supervision” means the direction given by a supervisor of nurses who is physically present at the site where care is provided to a patient and directly observing or assisting in that care.
(Added to NAC by Bd. of Nursing, eff. 6-23-88; A by R081-06, 6-28-2006)

The following procedures require an order by qualified license practitioner with supervision as identified.

Legend:

N = No Supervision Required

D = Provider is available for Direct supervision (Provider is available for consultation NRS 644A.545)

I = Provider is available for Immediate supervision

Not Within Scope = Not within scope

Grid-Level I procedures

Superficial, non-invasive depth only (does not pierce dermis) with minimal to no risk for potential for adverse event and requires informed consent.

Level I Cosmetic/Aesthetic Procedures	LPN	RN
Galvanic Current	D	D
Thermolysis	D	D
Cryoelectrophoresis	D	D
Electrotherapy	D	D
Exfoliation	D	D
Microdermabrasion	D	D
Dermaplane Exfoliation	D	D
Microneedling and Micro-channeling (maximum depth <.5mm)	D	D
Chemical Peel (light depth)	D	D

Legend:

N = No Supervision Required

D = Provider is available for Direct supervision (Provider is available for consultation NRS 644A.545)

I = Provider is available for Immediate supervision

Not Within Scope = Not within scope

Grid-Level II Intermediate procedures + laser certification*

Non-superficial/superficial, non-invasive depths; with risk for adverse events and the following requirements; LIP order required; informed consent required, laser certification and licensure for nurses, cosmetologists and aestheticians, equipment will be FDA labeled and approved by medical director

Level II Cosmetic/Aesthetic Procedures	LPN	RN
<i>Light</i>		
Photodynamic Therapy with Alpha-lipoic acid (ALA)	D	D
High Intensity Frequency Ultrasound-HIFU (e.g. Ulthera)	D	D
<i>Topical Chemical Applications</i>		

Chemical Peels (medium depth)	D	D
Laser (e.g. Alexandrite, Diode, Ruby)		
Non-ablative for hair removal only	D	D
Non-ablative for treatment of the skin	D	D
Light		
Intense Pulse Light Therapy	D	D
Lymphatic Drainage	Not Within Scope	D
Microneedling and Micro-channeling (0.5 to 1.5 mm)	Not Within Scope	D
Micro-channeling	Not within Scope	D

Legend:

N = No Supervision Required

D = Provider is available for Direct supervision (Provider is available for consultation NRS 644A.545)

I = Provider is available for Immediate supervision

Not Within Scope = Not within scope

Grid – Level III Advanced Procedures

Varying depths and intensity; increased potential for adverse events; LIP order required; written informed consent required; requires pain management; laser certification, equipment will be FDA labeled and approved by medical director

Level III Cosmetic/Aesthetic Procedures	LPN	RN
Varying depths and intensity; increased potential for adverse events; LIP order required.		
Laser and Light		
Sclerotherapy utilizing laser technology	Not Within Scope	D
Laser-Total ablative, Vaporizing, Laser resurfacing (e.g. CO2 Thulium)	Not Within Scope	Not Within Scope
Vaginal Rejuvenation (e.g. fractionated CO2, Erybium, radiofrequency)	Not Within Scope	Not Within Scope
Microwave Technology Devices		
Hyperhydrosis	Not Within Scope	D
Fractionated Laser		

Ablative	Not Within Scope	I	
Cosmetic Injectables			
Neuromodulators	Not Within Scope	D	
Tissue/Dermal Fillers/Tissue Volumizers (e.g. Juvederm, Restylane) (Excluding under eye, nasal, jawline and temporal zones)	Not Within Scope	D	
Tissue/Dermal Filler Injections to the under eye, nasal, jaw line and temporal zones	Not Within Scope	I	
Tissue/ Biostimulators (Sculptra) (Temporal, mid face, high cheek)	Not Within Scope	D	
Sclerotherapy (further introduction of a sclerosing agent)	Not Within Scope	Not Within Scope	
Plasma Rich Platelet (PRP) Procedures			
Phlebotomy for retrieval of PRP	N	N	
Topical application/microneedling of PRP	D	D	
Knee Injection of PRP	Not Within Scope	Not Within Scope	
Face and scalp injection of PRP	Not Within Scope	D	
Alteration of soft tissue (absorbable threads e.g. PDO)	Not Within Scope	D	
Injectable Fat Ablation (e.g. Kybella or deoxycholic acid)	Not Within Scope	D	
Any Liposuction/Fat Transfer	Not Within Scope	Not Within Scope	Not Within Scope of APRN
Mechanical			
Microneedling (greater than 1.5)	Not Within Scope	D	
Skin tag or benign skin lesion removal	Not Within Scope	Not Within Scope	
Other Modalities			
Surgically Invasive Sustained High Temperature Radiofrequency	Not Within Scope	Not Within Scope	

References

American Society for Laser Medicine & Surgery, Inc. (2012). Principles for non-physician use of laser and related technology. Retrieved from

<https://www.aslms.org/forprofessionals/professional-resources/standards-of-practice/principles-for-non-physicianuse-of-laser-and-related-technology>

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