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NOTE: An advisory opinion adopted by AZBN is an interpretation of what the law requires. While an advisory opinion is not law, it is more than a recommendation. In other words, an advisory opinion is an official opinion of AZBN regarding the practice of nursing as it relates to the functions of nursing. Facility policies may restrict practice further in their setting and/or require additional expectations related to competency, validation, training, and supervision to assure the safety of their patient population and or decrease risk.

**OPINION: APRN CARE FOR TRANSEXUAL,
TRANSGENDER, AND GENDER
NONCONFORMING POPULATIONS**
APPROVED DATE: 11/15/2019
REVISED DATE: xx/xx
**ORIGINATING COMMITTEE:
ADVANCED PRACTICE COMMITTEE**

Within the Scope of Practice of: LPN RN APRN

ADVISORY OPINION APRN CARE FOR TRANSEXUAL, TRANSGENDER, AND GENDER NONCONFORMING POPULATIONS

I. STATEMENT OF SCOPE

It is within the scope of practice for an APRN to provide care to Gender Nonconforming populations including prescribing and dispensing within the APRNs population focus and role for which the APRN is educationally prepared and for which competency has been established and maintained. Population focus includes Gender Nonconforming populations as it relates to the educational background of the practitioner. APRNs include Registered Nurse Practitioners, Certified Nurse-Midwives, Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists and Clinical Nurse Specialists.

II. SCOPE OF PRACTICE:

In accordance with A.R.S. § 32-1601(19), a nurse practitioner is a professional nurse (RN) who is certified by the board and has an expanded scope of practice within a specialty area. Analyzing multiple sources of data, identifying alternative possibilities as to the nature of a health care problem and selecting, implementing and evaluating appropriate treatment; making independent decisions in solving complex client care problems; diagnosing, performing diagnostic and therapeutic procedures, prescribing, administering and dispensing therapeutic measures, including drugs, medical devices and controlled substances is within the APRN's scope of practice. APRNs work collaboratively with other health care professionals when appropriate.

III. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS:

Adding competency, beyond what exists within the APRNs scope of practice, for specific aspects of care to gender non-conforming populations, requires educational preparation such as academic coursework or continuing education activities, which includes both theory and supervised clinical practice and competency assessment (See Advisory Opinion: [Decision Tree](#)). Administration of hormone therapy for gender affirmation is appropriate for primary care providers within their population focus, who have undergone appropriate training. The World Professional Association

for Transgender Health (WPATH) is committed to increased training and involvement of primary care providers in the area of feminizing/masculinizing hormone therapy. According to WPATH, “medical visits relating to hormone maintenance provide an opportunity to deliver broader care to a population that is often medically underserved.”

IV. REFERENCES:

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