



Arizona State Board of Nursing

1740 West Adams Street, Suite 2000

Phoenix, AZ 85007-2607

Phone (602) 771-7800

Home Page: <http://www.azbn.gov>

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: NEW – AURICULAR ACUPUNCTURE

DATE APPROVED: 03/2020

REVISED DATE:

ORIGINATING COMMITTEE:

SCOPE OF PRACTICE COMMITTEE

Within the Scope of Practice RN LPN

ADVISORY OPINION AURICULAR ACUPUNCTURE

It is NOT within the scope of practice of the Registered Nurse (RN) to perform medical or oriental acupuncture, and auricular puncture detoxification. Auricular acupuncture (also known as battlefield acupuncture) is approved for the treatment of alcoholism, substance abuse or chemical dependency as defined by the State of Arizona Board of Examiners. Auricular acupuncture for detoxification is not within the scope of the RN nor Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN)

Auricular acupuncture is within the scope of practice for the RN with additional education, skills, and demonstrated competency when facility and patient criteria are met pending approval and certification from the State Board of Arizona Acupuncture Board of Examiners.

I. REFERENCES

Arizona State Board of Nursing (2015). Advisory opinion: Acupuncture Procedures Performed by Advanced Practice Registered Nurses. Retrieved from <https://www.azbn.gov/sites/default/files/advisory-opinions/AO%20Acupuncture%20Procedures%20Performed%20by%20APRNs%2001.30.2015.pdf>

Federman, D. G., Zeliadt, S. B., Thomas, E. R., Carbone Jr, G. F., & Taylor, S. L. (2018). Battlefield acupuncture in the Veterans Health Administration: effectiveness in individual and group settings for pain and pain comorbidities. *Medical acupuncture*, 30(5), 273-278.

King, C. H. C., Moore, L. C., & Spence, C. D. L. (2016). Exploring Self-Reported Benefits of Auricular Acupuncture Among Veterans With Posttraumatic Stress Disorder. *Journal of Holistic Nursing*, 4(3), 291–299. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0898010115610050>

State of Arizona Acupuncture Board of Examiners, Retrieved from <https://acupunctureboard.az.gov>

Yeh, E. C., Mirocha, J. M., Brantman, A., Ma, X. L., Qiao, Y., Merz, C. N. B., & Jones, H. D. (2013). A Preliminary Investigation on the Acceptance and Feasibility of Acupuncture in the Intensive Care Unit. *ICU Director*, 4(2), 82–87. <https://doi.org/10.1177/1944451612472700>

Wyoming State Board of Nursing. (2017~~9~~). Advisory Opinion Auricular Acupuncture. Retrieved from <https://drive.google.com/file/d/13NVWUeluD2uWT11Lpz4mGcoURTIzdpP-/view>