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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: INTRA-AORTIC BALLOON  
REMOVAL**

**APPROVED: 11/89**

**REVISED DATE: 01/02, 3/06, 8/09, 9/12,  
11/15, 1/19**

**ORIGINATING COMMITTEE:  
SCOPE OF PRACTICE COMMITTEE**

Within the Scope of Practice \_\_\_\_\_RN\_\_\_\_\_LPN

### **ADVISORY OPINION INTRA-AORTIC BALLOON CATHETER REMOVAL**

It is **NOT** within the scope of practice for a registered nurse (RN) to remove an intra-aortic balloon catheter.

#### **I. RATIONALE**

Removal of an intra-aortic balloon catheter can precipitate immediate and life threatening complications which require interventions that are outside the RN scope of practice.

#### **II. REFERENCES**

Wiegand, D. L. (7thEd.). (2016). *AACN procedure manual for critical care* (6th ed.). St. Louis, MO: Elsevier Saunders.