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OPINION: Sheath Removal, Placement of Mechanical Compression Devices & Deployment of Vascular Closure Devices

DATE APPROVED: 1/90

REVISED DATE: 7/02, 3/03, 1/07, 3/10, 9/13, 9/19, 3/24

ORIGINATING COMMITTEE:

SCOPE OF PRACTICE COMMITTEE

Within the Scope of Practice of: RN LPN

ADVISORY OPINION

SHEATH REMOVAL, PLACEMENT OF MECHANICAL COMPRESSION DEVICES, & DEPLOYMENT OF VASCULAR CLOSURE DEVICES

It is not within the Scope of Practice for a Registered Nurse to deploy suture mediated, extravascular clip or invasive compression assist closure devices.

It is within the Scope of Practice for a Registered Nurse to remove intravascular (arterial or venous) sheaths and apply manual compression or mechanical compression devices and deploy plug based vascular closure devices for hemostasis, if the following requirements are met:

I. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

- A. Written policies and procedures are maintained by the agency/employer.
- B. Licensed Practitioner (LP) order is obtained for plug based vascular closure devices and readily available to manage complications related to deployment of vascular closure devices.
- C. Only RNs who have satisfactorily completed an instructional program and have supervised clinical practice with return demonstration are allowed to remove sheaths, apply manual compression or mechanical compression devices and deploy vascular closure devices.
- D. Documentation of satisfactory completion of an instructional program and supervised clinical practice is on file with the agency/employer.
- E. A periodic educational/competency validation mechanism is developed and documentation of the successful demonstration of knowledge, skills, and abilities is on file for each nurse performing the procedures.
- F. Completion of appropriate advanced life support training as appropriate to patient population.
- G. For collagen vascular closure deployment supervised clinical practice with demonstration of successful deployments, including patients who have received anticoagulant therapy.

II. COURSE OF INSTRUCTION which provides didactic and classroom instruction, followed by supervised clinical practice that includes but is not limited to:

- A. Anatomy and physiology related to femoral artery, vein, nerves and groin area structures.
- B. Indications and contraindications of compression devices and deployment of vascular closure devices.
- C. Demonstrated knowledge of potential adverse reactions and management of complications.
- D. Sterile technique.
- E. Cognitive and psychomotor skills necessary to deploy vascular closure devices.
- F. For Sheath removal: supervised clinical practice with demonstration of competency for sheath removals and compression applications.
- G. For collagen vascular closure deployment: Supervised clinical practice with demonstration of successful deployments, including patients who have received anticoagulant therapy.

III. RATIONALE

The guiding principle for this opinion is that sheath removal, manual compression, the use of mechanical compression devices, and deployment of vascular closure devices can be safely performed by a registered nurse with specialized training, skills, and knowledge.

The use of a suture mediated, extravascular clip or invasive compression assist closure device can present complications which are outside the scope of practice of a non-advanced practice RN to manage. Therefore, use of such devices is **not** within an RN scope of practice to deploy.

IV. REFERENCES

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