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ORIGINATING COMMITTEE:
SCOPE OF PRACTICE
COMMITTEE

POSITION STATEMENT **SUPERVISORY ROLES OF ADVANCED PRACTICE REGISTERED NURSES IN THE** **CLINICAL SETTING**

Introduction

The Arizona State Board of Nursing recognizes the critical role of Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRNs) in delivering quality healthcare services. APRNs, including Registered Nurse Practitioners, Clinical Nurse Specialists, Certified Nurse-Midwives, and Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists possess advanced clinical training, education, and expertise that qualify them to perform a broad range of healthcare services. This position statement outlines the Board's stance on the authority of APRNs to supervise clinical personnel other than nursing students, such as medical assistants, other healthcare professionals, and students, as appropriate, within the clinical setting.

Scope of Supervision

Advanced Practice Registered Nurses are authorized to provide supervision to a variety of healthcare professionals within the clinical setting, provided that:

- The supervision is within the scope of the APRNs practice, expertise, and competencies.
- The supervised activities are consistent with the standards and guidelines for the healthcare professionals being supervised.
- The APRN assumes responsibility for the care provided under their supervision, ensuring it meets the established standards of practice and standards of care.

Rationale

The decision to recognize APRNs as qualified supervisors for a range of healthcare professionals is based on:

- The advanced level of education and clinical training APRNs receive equips them with the knowledge and skills necessary for providing comprehensive healthcare services and oversight.
- A growing need for interdisciplinary collaboration in healthcare settings to improve patient outcomes and ensure efficient use of resources.
- The recognition of APRN's role in leading healthcare teams contributes to their ability to manage and supervise diverse clinical personnel effectively.

Guidelines for Supervision

The Arizona Board of Nursing provides the following guidelines to ensure effective and safe supervision by APRNs:

1. Clear Communication: APRNs should establish clear communication with those they supervise, including expectations, clinical protocols, and feedback mechanisms.
2. Scope of Practice: APRNs must ensure that all supervised activities fall within their scope of practice and are in compliance with the Arizona Nurse Practice Act and federal regulations.

Conclusion

The Arizona State Board of Nursing supports the role of Advanced Practice Registered Nurses in supervising a range of healthcare professionals within clinical settings. This position statement is in alignment with our commitment to ensuring public protection, meeting standards of patient care and the efficient use of healthcare resources. The Board encourages healthcare entities to recognize and support the supervisory roles of APRNs as integral to the healthcare team.