



Arizona State Board of Nursing

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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: CONTRAST MEDIA INJECTION INTO
CORONARY ARTERIES**
APPROVED DATE: 10/88
**REVISED DATE: 5/97, 01/02, 1/06, 8/09, 7/12, 7/2015,
09/13/2018**
ORIGINATING COMMITTEE:
SCOPE OF PRACTICE COMMITTEE

Within the Scope of Practice of RN LPN

ADVISORY OPINION CONTRAST MEDIA INJECTION INTO CORONARY ARTERIES

It is NOT within the scope of practice for a Registered Nurse (RN), Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) to independently inject contrast media into coronary arteries.

It is within the Scope of Practice of an (RN) to inject contrast media into coronary arteries, in the presence of a physician, if the following requirements are met:

I. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

- A. A written protocol is maintained by the employer.
- B. The catheter must be placed by a physician who assumes responsibility for ensuring proper placement.
- C. Removal of the catheter shall be done by the physician
- D. The patient is placed on monitoring equipment for the length of time necessary to assure stability.
- E. Advanced Life Support/Pediatric Advanced Life Support, Neonatal Resuscitation Program, as appropriate to population.
- F. Documentation of satisfactory completion of the agency's instructional program and demonstrated clinical proficiency is on file with the employer.

II. COURSE OF INSTRUCTION is to include:

- A. Anatomy and physiology of the heart, with emphasis related to the coronary arteries.
- B. Equipment set up and assisting in procedures in the presence of the physician. (See Advisory Opinion: Cardiac Electrophysiology Related Procedures: Role of the RN).
- C. Safety Measures: Manipulating line outside of the coronary arteries, proper flushing of the line, and decreasing the risk of complications.
- D. Signs and symptoms of catheter complications.
- E. Side effects and untoward reactions to the injected substances.
- F. Management of complication.
- G. Nursing care responsibilities.

III. RATIONALE

It is within RNs scope of practice to inject contrast media into coronary arteries in the presence of a physician and-with the documented instruction described above. RNs, can safely provide care to patients receiving contrast media through coronary arteries.

IV. REFERENCES

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