



## **Arizona State Board of Nursing**

1740 W Adams Street Suite 2000  
Phoenix, AZ 85007  
Phone (602) 771-7800  
Home Page: [www.azbn.gov](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: INTUBATION, AND THE USE OF ADVANCED AIRWAY**

**APPROVED DATE: 3/90  
REVISED DATE: 3/03, 7/07,  
1/11, 9/14, 12/17, 1/18  
ORIGINATING COMMITTEE:  
SCOPE OF PRACTICE COMMITTEE**

Within the Scope of Practice of   X   RN       LPN

### **ADVISORY OPINION INTUBATION: ENDOTRACHEAL, AND THE USE OF ADVANCED AIRWAY DEVICES: THE ROLE OF THE REGISTERED NURSE**

It is within the scope of practice of a registered nurse (RN) to insert an endotracheal tube if the following requirements are met:

#### **I. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS**

- A. The nurse maintains nationally recognized advanced certification specific to the age of the patient, such as Pediatric Advanced Life Support (PALS), Neonatal Resuscitation Program (NRP), or Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS)
- B. The employer maintains written policy and procedures
- C. Completion of an instructional course as outlined below with demonstrated clinical proficiency on file with the employer

#### **II. COURSE OF INSTRUCTION**

- A. Anatomy and physiology of the respiratory system, pharmacological properties of drugs used, and advanced airway assessment and management
- B. Indications and contraindications for intubation including, but not limited to, patient preparation equipment set-up, and maintenance
- C. Selection of proper airway equipment appropriate for weight and age
- D. Verification procedures to ensure proper placement of the airway
- E. Management of potential complications and unexpected outcomes, including the use of advanced airway devices
- F. Nursing care responsibilities and age specific management of the intubated patient.
- G. Supervised endotracheal intubation clinical practice

#### **III. RATIONALE**

To provide age-appropriate intubation guidelines consistent with current practice in which intubation can be performed by registered nurses with additional knowledge and skills who

have demonstrated competency per professional licensure and institutional standards (Arizona Board of Nursing, 2017).

#### IV. REFERENCES

- Air and Surface Transport Nurses Association. (2010). *Advanced airway management position statement*. Retrieved from <http://c.ymcdn.com/sites/astna.org/resource/collection/4392b20b-d0db-4e76-959c-6989214920e9/Advanced%20Airway%20Management.pdf?hhSearchTerms=%22advanced+and+airway%22>
- Air and Surface Transport Nurses Association. (2009). *Rapid sequence intubation consensus statement*. Retrieved from [http://c.ymcdn.com/sites/astna.org/resource/collection/4392b20b-d0db-4e76-959c-6989214920e9/Rapid\\_Sequence\\_Intubation\\_\(RSI\)\\_Consensus\\_Statement.pdf?hhSearchTerms=%22Rapid+and+sequence+and+intubation%22](http://c.ymcdn.com/sites/astna.org/resource/collection/4392b20b-d0db-4e76-959c-6989214920e9/Rapid_Sequence_Intubation_(RSI)_Consensus_Statement.pdf?hhSearchTerms=%22Rapid+and+sequence+and+intubation%22)
- Alaska State Board of Nursing. (2015). *Advisory opinion: Registered nurse administration of sedating and anesthetic agents*. Retrieved from <https://www.commerce.alaska.gov/web/portals/5/pub/nur1809.pdf>
- American Academy of Pediatrics & American Heart Association. (2016). *Textbook of Neonatal Resuscitation (NRP)*, (7<sup>th</sup> ed.). Elk Grove Village, IL: American Academy of Pediatrics.
- American Heart Association. (2016). *Advanced cardiovascular life support: Provider manual* (16<sup>th</sup> ed.). Dallas, TX: American Heart Association.
- American Heart Association. (2017). *Pediatric advanced life support provider manual*. Dallas, TX: American Heart Association.
- Arizona Board of Nursing. (2017). Rules of the State Board of Nursing. Retrieved from <https://www.azbn.gov/media/2305/rulesjuly12017final.pdf>
- Kentucky Board of Nursing. (2014). *Advisory opinion statement: The performance of advanced life support procedures by nurses*. Retrieved from <https://kbn.ky.gov/practice/Documents/aos05.pdf>
- South Carolina Board of Nursing. (2017). *Advisory opinion 23*. Retrieved from <http://www.llr.state.sc.us/POL/Nursing/AdvisoryOp/AO23.pdf>
- Wiegand, D. (ed.). (2016). *AACN procedure manual for high acuity, progressive, and critical care* (7<sup>th</sup> ed.). St. Louis, MO: Elsevier Saunders
- Other Applicable State Board Advisory Opinions:**
- Alabama Board of Nursing. (2016). *Approved standardized procedures*. Retrieved from <https://www.abn.alabama.gov/wp-content/uploads/2016/03/Approved-Standardized-Procedures.pdf>
- Board of Nursing, State of Maine. (2017). *Practice questions related to registered professional nurses*. Retrieved from <https://www1.maine.gov/boardofnursing/practice/rpn-questions.html#endotracheal>

Kentucky Board of Nursing. (2016). *Cardiopulmonary/respiratory nursing practice*. Retrieved from [https://kbn.ky.gov/practice/Documents/AOS%2029%20-%20Cardiopulmonary-Respiratory%20Nursing%20\(Revised%2010-2016\).pdf](https://kbn.ky.gov/practice/Documents/AOS%2029%20-%20Cardiopulmonary-Respiratory%20Nursing%20(Revised%2010-2016).pdf)

New Hampshire Board of Nursing. (n.d.). *Position statement and clinical practice advisories regarding the role of the RN in the insertion of advanced airways*. Retrieved from <https://www.oplc.nh.gov/nursing/documents/advanced-airway.pdf>

South Dakota Board of Nursing. (2010). Advisory opinions, memo of understanding, position statements, and resolutions: Approved flight nurse skills. Retrieved from <http://doh.sd.gov/boards/nursing/title-opinion.aspx#FlightNurse>

Washington Department of Health: Nursing Care Quality Assurance Commission. (2014). Advisory opinion: Neonatal intubation and related procedures. Retrieved from <https://www.doh.wa.gov/Portals/1/Documents/6000/Neonatal.pdf>