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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: BONE MARROW  
ASPIRATION AND BIOPSY  
APPROVED: 11/94  
REVISED DATE: 3/95, 1/02, 1/06, 8/09  
ORIGINATING COMMITTEE:  
SCOPE OF PRACTICE COMMITTEE**

### **ADVISORY OPINION BONE MARROW ASPIRATION AND BIOPSY**

It is within the Scope of Practice for a Registered Nurse to perform bone marrow aspiration (BMA) and biopsy if the following requirements are met:

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

- a. Written policy and procedures are maintained by agency\employer.
- b. Only RNs who have satisfactorily completed an agency's instructional program, and have had supervised clinical practice are allowed to perform bone marrow aspirations and biopsy procedures.
- c. Documentation of satisfactory completion of the instructional program and supervised practice is on file with the employer.

#### **II. COURSE OF INSTRUCTION is to include:**

- a. Anatomy and physiology specific to selected bone marrow aspiration sites
- b. Physiology of blood formation (to understand the purpose of BMA)
- c. Indications and contraindications
- d. Potential adverse reactions and/or complications
- e. Techniques of Bone Marrow Aspiration & Biopsy
- f. Selection of appropriate site and preparation of slides
- g. Nursing care responsibilities

#### **III. RATIONALE**

Based on National and local evidence it is recognized that an RN who has satisfactorily completed an instructional program/supervised clinical practice in bone marrow aspiration and biopsy, can safely perform bone marrow aspiration and biopsy.

#### **IV. REFERENCES**

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