



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: INTRAVENOUS ADMINISTRATION
OF RADIOLOGIC CONTRAST MEDIA**
APPROVED DATE: 10/88
REVISED DATE: 3/03, 7/07, 1/11
ORIGINATING COMMITTEE:
SCOPE OF PRACTICE COMMITTEE

Within the Scope of Practice of RN LPN

ADVISORY OPINION INTRAVENOUS ADMINISTRATION OF RADIOLOGIC CONTRAST MEDIA

It is within the Scope of Practice of a Registered Nurse (RN) to administer contrast media intravenously for diagnostic radiological procedures (non coronary artery) if the following requirements are met:

I. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

- A. A written policy and procedure is maintained by the employer.
- B. Emergency equipment is immediately available.
- C. Only an RN who has satisfactorily completed an agency's instructional program and has documented satisfactory clinical practice on file with the employer is allowed to administer intravenous contrast media.
- D. Personnel holding current certification in Advanced Life Support procedures suitable to the age of the patient (ACLS/PALS/NRP) are immediately available.

II. COURSE OF INSTRUCTION to include, but not limited to:

- A. Anatomy and physiology indications/contraindications/complication management related to maintaining an intravenous access site for IV medication administration.
- B. Indications and contraindications for administration of contrast media.
- C. Equipment set up and safety measures appropriate for administration modality and technique.
- D. Complication and side effects management to include:
 1. Embolic phenomena
 2. Respiratory/cardiac crisis
 3. Anaphylactoid/non-anaphylactoid reactions to the substance administered
 4. Techniques to prevent and manage extravasations
 5. Age specific complication management
- E. Nursing care responsibilities related to a patient undergoing a contrast procedure.

III. RATIONALE

IV contrast may be safely administered by an RN with additional training and demonstrated competency.

IV. REFERENCES

American College of Radiology. (2010). ACR manual on drugs and contrast media, version 7. Retrieved January 10, 2011 from www.acr.org/SecondaryMainMenuCategories/quality_safety/contrast_manual/FullManual.aspx

Bartomei & Reeifsnyder. (2006). Patient care in interventional radiology, chapters 1-3. In *Policies and Procedures for Infusion Nursing*, 3rd Ed. Norwood, MA: Infusion Nursing Society.

Policies and Procedures for Infusion Nursing, 3rd Edition, Infusion Nursing Society, 2006.

ACR Manual on Contrast Media, Version 7, 2010 American College of Radiology available on the web at www.arc.org