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## ***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: AMNIOTOMY**  
**DATE APPROVED: 11/88**  
**REVISED DATE: 5/95, 07/02, 3/06**  
**ORIGINATING COMMITTEE:**  
**SCOPE OF PRACTICE COMMITTEE**

### **ADVISORY OPINION AMNIOTOMY**

It is **NOT** within the scope of practice for a registered nurse (RN) to perform amniotomy.

#### **RATIONALE**

In the event of a prolapsed cord, the person performing the amniotomy must be able to promptly deliver the infant by emergency Cesarean Section. This is not within the scope of practice of an RN.

#### **REFERENCES**

South Dakota State Board of Nursing Advisory Opinion, November 1993.

Danforth's Obstetrics & Gynecology, 9<sup>th</sup> Edition, Edited by Scott, DiSaia, Hammond, and Spellacy. 2003