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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: APHERESIS IN THE OUTPATIENT
SETTING**

APPROVED: X NOT APPROVED:

DATE: 03/03

REVISED DATE: 11/06

**ORIGINATING COMMITTEE: SCOPE OF
PRACTICE COMMITTEE**

ADVISORY OPINION APHERESIS IN THE OUT-PATIENT SETTING

It is within the Scope of Practice for a Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) to perform Apheresis in an outpatient setting if the following criteria are met

The role of the LPN in Apheresis is a role delegated by the Registered Nurse (RN)

I. General Requirements

- A. The LPN functions under the supervision of an RN who is physically present in the facility.
- B. The LPN has successfully completed an organized program of study on Apheresis, including didactic and supervised clinical practice.
- C. The LPN has successfully completed an instructional program on intravenous therapy and medication skills (either in their AZ LPN core curriculum or at an organized course of instruction).
- D. Documentation of satisfactory completion of the instructional programs and supervised practice is on file with the employer.
- E. Documentation of annual reviews of competency, including the methods used for conducting outcome reviews.

II. The following competencies are within the Scope of Practice of the Licensed Practical Nurse:

- A. Administration of a topical anesthetic for the purpose of providing client comfort while initiating IV access.
- B. Initiation of the Apheresis procedure.
- C. Inspection and evaluation of the access site
- D. Performing vascular access site care.
- E. Monitoring and recording the Apheresis procedure.
- F. Observation of changes in the client's status.
- G. Reporting findings to the RN.

- H. Adjusting the Apheresis procedure according to the client's needs, at the direction of the physician.
- I. Monitoring anticoagulation medication associated with the Apheresis procedure.
- J. Flushing of central venous ports and alteration of fluid rates as ordered.
- K. Discontinuing the Apheresis procedure.

Rationale

To provide: (1) guidelines for practice changes related to the LPN working in the outpatient facility and,
(2) protection of the public.

References

2001, Fresenius HemoCare, Inc. AS104 Therapeutic Plasma Exchange Training Manual.
www.gambrobct.com

www.gambrobct.com

www.apheresis.org