



Janice K. Brewer
Governor

Joey Ridenour
Executive Director

Arizona State Board of Nursing

4747 N. 7th Street, Suite 200
Phoenix, AZ 85014-3655
Phone (602) 771-7800 Fax (602) 771-7888
E-Mail: arizona@azbn.gov
Home Page: <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: DELEGATION OF NURSING
ASSISTANT TASKS
DATE APPROVED: 1/10
REVISED DATE: xx/xx
ORIGINATING COMMITTEE:
SCOPE OF PRACTICE COMMITTEE**

Within the Scope of Practice of X RN X LPN

ADVISORY OPINION DELEGATION OF NURSING ASSISTANT TASKS

STATEMENT OF SCOPE

It is within the Scope of Practice of RN's & LPN's to delegate to and supervise certified nursing assistants who perform nursing assistant skills for which they have received didactic and clinical instruction for. In addition, it is the responsibility of nursing administration to verify that the CNA has received age specific training, demonstrating competency, and is qualified to care for the client population specific to the area / facility the CNA is assigned.

I. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

The basic CNA curriculum approved in AZ is focused on the care of older adults residing in long term care facilities. The ability to perform tasks on older adults does not ensure that the CNA is competent to perform the task on a different population.

II. COURSE OF INSTRUCTION

A. Additional training should be provided by the facility to enable the CNA to:

- Meet the unique physical and psychosocial needs of the population,
- Compare and contrast variations in performance of nursing assistant tasks based on client population needs, and
- Safely perform population specific nursing assistant tasks in a laboratory and clinical setting while being evaluated by licensed nurse prior to performing the task independently.

B. Written policy on required training is maintained by the employer / agency.

C. Satisfactory completion of an instructional program and documentation is on file with employer / agency.

D. Demonstrated clinical proficiency / documentation is on file with the employer / agency.

III. RATIONALE

The delegating nurse must provide appropriate supervision and observation to verify that the nursing assistant has the necessary knowledge and skills to safely perform assigned tasks on the specific population. Examples include pediatrics which would require age specific training and clients with cognitive disabilities where training would be needed to provide quality care for a client population specific to the area.

IV. REFERENCES

Nurse Practice Act R4-19-813. Performance of Nursing Assistant tasks.