



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: INJECTION OF
LIDOCAINE**

APPROVED: X

NOT APPROVED:

DATE: 11/89

REVISED DATE: 9/96; 6/11/02; 11/02; 1/08

ORIGINATING COMMITTEE:

SCOPE OF PRACTICE COMMITTEE

ADVISORY OPINION

INJECTION OF TUMESCENT LIDOCAINE: ROLE OF THE RN

It is **NOT** within the scope of practice of the Registered Nurse (RN) to administer tumescent Lidocaine.

Rationale:

The injection of tumescent lidocaine is a high risk anesthesia procedure involving large quantities of drug combinations that require the knowledge and skills of an anesthesiologist. It is beyond the knowledge and skills of the RN and would create a significant risk to patient safety including loss of life.

References:

1. Breunig, Jan, 2003. Safe Use of Lidocaine for Liposuction, Plastic Surgical Nursing, Vol. 23 No. 3, p. 130-131.
2. Clayman, Mark and Brent Seagle, 2006. Office Surgery Safety: The Myths and Truths behind the Florida Moratoria – Six Years of Florida Data, American Society of Plastic Surgeons, Vol. 118 No. 3, p. 775-785.