



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.

Within the Scope of Practice of RN LPN

**OPINION: INTRAUTERINE PRESSURE
CATHETERS**
APPROVED: X
DATE: 11/02
REVISED DATE: 3/03, 3/06, 11/09
ORIGINATING COMMITTEE:
SCOPE OF PRACTICE COMMITTEE

ADVISORY OPINION INTRAUTERINE PRESSURE CATHETERS

It is within the scope of practice for a Registered Nurse (RN) to insert an intrauterine pressure catheter if the following requirements are met:

I. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

- A. Written policy and procedures are maintained by the agency/employer.
- B. Only RNs who have satisfactorily completed an agency's instructional program, and have had supervised clinical practice are allowed to apply electrodes.
- C. Documentation of satisfactory completion of the instructional program and demonstrated clinical proficiency is on file with the employer.

II. COURSE OF INSTRUCTION includes but is not limited to:

- A. Anatomy and physiology of the pregnant woman, including the placenta and membranes and the fetal presentation.
- B. Indications for direct measurement of uterine contractions.
- C. Relative and absolute contraindications to direct, invasive intrauterine contraction monitoring.
- D. Recognition of and evaluation for extra ovular catheter placement.
- E. Potential adverse reactions.
- F. Technique for safe insertion of an intrauterine pressure catheter.
- G. Documentation.
- H. Post IUPC insertion nursing care responsibilities.

III. RATIONALE

The IUPC provides a direct method for measurement of uterine activity during labor and is the only objective method for measuring uterine intensity. This procedure can be performed by RNs with validated competency in order to provide assessment data on which to base interpretation and appropriate nursing actions.

IV. REFERENCES

Alabama Board of Nursing. (n.d.). Procedures approved by the Alabama Board of Nursing prior to the standardized procedures rule. Retrieved August 11, 2009, from www.abn.state.al.us/ain/news/CNO/Procedures%20Approved%20before%20SPs.doc

Kentucky Board of Nursing. (2007, April). Advisory opinion statement # 10. Roles of nurses in the care of intrapartum patients. Retrieved August 11, 2009, from www.kbn.ky.gov/NR/rdonlyres/A13B46DC-A4E4-4C06-AE6E-5F8F66B51A1A/0/aos10.pdf

Murray, M. (2007). *Antepartal and intrapartal fetal monitoring*. (3rd Ed.). New York: Springer Publishing Company.

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