



## 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: INTRAVENOUS  
ADMINISTRATION OF CONTRAST MEDIA  
APPROVED DATE: 10/88  
REVISED DATE: 9/1996; 9/2002; 12/02, 3/03, 7/07  
ORIGINATING COMMITTEE:  
SCOPE OF PRACTICE COMMITTEE**

### ADVISORY OPINION INTRAVENOUS ADMINISTRATION OF CONTRAST MEDIA

It is within the Scope of Practice of a Registered Nurse (RN) to administer contrast media intravenously for diagnostic radiological procedures if the following requirements are met:

#### I. General Requirements

- A. A physician is available
- B. A written policy and procedure is maintained by the employer.
- C. Emergency equipment is immediately available.
- D. Only RN's who have satisfactorily completed an agency's instructional program and have had clinical supervision is allowed to administer intravenous contrast media.
- E. Documentation of satisfactory completion of the instruction and supervised practice is on file with the employer.
- F. Personnel holding current certification in Basic Life Support and in Advanced Life Support procedures suitable to the age of the patient (ACLS/PALS), are available.

#### II. Course of instruction to include, but not limited to:

- A. Anatomy and physiology indications/contraindications/complication management related to maintaining an intravenous access site for IV medication administration.
- B. Equipment set up and functioning.
- C. Safety measures appropriate for administration modality and technique.
- D. Complication and side effects management to include:
  1. Embolic phenomena
  2. Respiratory/cardiac crisis
  3. Anaphylactoid/non-anaphylactoid reactions to the substance administered
- E. Nursing Care Responsibilities

#### Rationale:

This procedure should be performed by health care professionals with additional education, skills, and demonstrated competence.

#### Reference:

Bartomei and Reefsnyder, Patient Care in Interventional Radiology, Chapters 1-3, November 2000.  
Policies and Procedures for Infusion Nursing, 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition, Infusion Nursing Society, 2006.  
Infusion Nursing Standards of Practice (2006), *Journal of Infusion Nursing*, 20 (1S), Lippincott Williams and Wilkins.

Core Curriculum for Radiological Nursing, 1999.  
Manual on contrast media. Edition 4.1 (2003). American College of Radiology.