



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: SWAN-GANZ CATHETERS
APPROVED: X
DATE: 1/90
REVISED DATE: 11/94, 1/02, 1/06, 8/09
ORIGINATING COMMITTEE:
SCOPE OF PRACTICE COMMITTEE

ADVISORY OPINION PULMONARY ARTERY (PA)

It is within the Scope of Practice for a Registered Nurse to remove Pulmonary Artery catheters in the critical care setting if the following requirements are met:

General Requirements

- a. Written policy and procedures are maintained by the employer.
- b. Only RNs who have satisfactorily completed an agency's instructional program and have had supervised clinical practice are allowed to remove Pulmonary Artery catheters.
- c. Documentation of satisfactory completion of the instruction program and documented clinical proficiency is on file with the employer.

Course of Instruction is to Include:

- a. Anatomy and physiology of the circulatory system.
- b. Indications and contraindications.
- c. Potential adverse reactions.
- d. Technique for removal of the device.
- e. Nursing care responsibilities.

RATIONALE:

Pulmonary Artery catheters can be safely removed by a RN who has completed an instructional program and has had supervised clinical practice.

REFERENCE:

Lynne-McHale, Wiegand, D.J. and Carlson, K.K., American Association of Critical Care Nurses, Procedure Manual for Critical Care, 5th Edition, 2005, Saunders Elsevier, inc., pp. 570 - 590.