



Arizona State Board of Nursing

4747 North 7th Street, Suite 200
Phoenix, AZ 85014-3655
Phone (602) 771-7800 Fax (602) 771-7888
E-Mail: arizona@azbn.gov
Home Page: 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: NEW
APPROVED: 1/31/14
REVISED DATE:
ORIGINATING COMMITTEE:
SCOPE OF PRACTICE COMMITTEE

Within the Scope of Practice of ___ RN ___ LPN

ADVISORY OPINION IONIZING RADIATION FOR DIAGNOSTIC AND THERAPEUTIC PURPOSES

It is **not within** the scope of practice for a Registered Nurse or Licensed Practical Nurse to perform any of the following acts during a radiologic procedure, either independently or under the direction or supervision of a practitioner licensed to perform such acts:

1. Position the patient
2. Position the x-ray tube
3. Set exposure factors or initiate the exposure

Only licensed practitioners (MD, DO, Chiropractor, Podiatrist, and Naturopath) are exempt and may perform the actions described above without certification from the Medical Radiologic Technology Board of Examiners (MRTBE).

I. RATIONALE

Only persons licensed by the MRTB, or those specifically exempt (MD, DO, Chiropractor, Podiatrist, or Naturopath), may initiate exposure to ionizing radiation for diagnostic or therapeutic purposes. The statute and rules of the Arizona Radiation Regulatory Agency (ARRA) regulate the practice and supervision of radiography/fluoroscopy, by the X-ray machine registrant, specifically, R12-1-603.B.1., which states: "The registrant shall not permit any individual to engage in the practice of 'Healing Arts Radiography' using equipment under the registrant's control, unless the individual possesses a valid certificate issued by, or is exempt from, the Medical Radiologic Technology Board of Examiners."

"Registrant" means any person who is registered with the Agency and is legally obligated to register with the Agency pursuant to these rules and the Act.

II. REFERENCES

Arizona Administrative Code: Radiation Regulatory Agency, Title 12, Chapter 1. Authority: A.R.S. § 30-651 et seq.

Medical Radiologic Technology Board of Examiners, letter dated October 02, 2012, Re: Scope of Practice of Radiography and Fluoroscopy.