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## **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:**

**APPROVED: 11/90 NOT APPROVED:**

**DATE: xx/xx**

**REVISED DATE: 11/03, 07/07, 01/11, 7/14**

**ORIGINATING COMMITTEE:**

**SCOPE OF PRACTICE COMMITTEE**

Within the Scope of Practice of  RN  LPN

### **ADVISORY OPINION BLOOD CELL SALVAGE: THE ROLE OF THE REGISTERED NURSE**

#### **STATEMENT OF SCOPE**

It is within the Scope of Practice of a Registered Nurse (RN) to operate blood cell salvage devices if the following requirements are met:

#### **I. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS**

- A. Written policy and procedures are maintained by the employer/agency.
- B. Only RNs who have satisfactorily completed an instructional program and have had supervised clinical practice may operate cell salvage devices.
- C. Documentation of satisfactory completion of the instructional program and supervised clinical practice is on file with the employer
- D. Auto-transfusion can be performed by the RN with the order of the physician.

#### **II. COURSE OF INSTRUCTION**

- A. Anatomy and physiology of the vascular system and hematology.
- B. Indications and contraindications for cell salvage.
- C. Potential adverse reactions
- D. How differing collection sites affect the shed blood collected
- E. Aseptic technique and infection control guidelines
- F. Nursing care responsibilities
- G. Utilization of sterile equipment
- H. Appropriate patient identification and documentation requirements.

#### **III. RATIONALE**

To ensure consistency and competency in operating blood cell salvage devices.

## REFERENCES

Specht, M. D., Hofer, J. E., Valentine, N. K., & Keturi, J. (1997). Development and implementation of a perioperative autologous service program. *AORN Journal*, 66(3), 486-492.

Xydas, S., Magovern, C.J., Slater, J. P., et al. Implementation of a comprehensive blood conservation program can reduce blood use in a community cardiac surgery program. *Journal of Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery*. 2012; 143(4):926-35.

Brown, C. V. R., Foulkrod, K. H., Sadler, H. T., et al. Autologous blood transfusion during emergency trauma operations. *Archives of Surgery*. 2010;145(7):690-94.

Innerhofer, P. et al, "Risk for post-operative infection after filtered allogeneic or autologous blood components in orthopedic patients undergoing primary arthroplasty," *Transfusion* 45 (January 2005) 103110.

Johnson, G. M., Bowman, R. J. (1992). Autologous blood transfusion: Current trends, nursing implications. *AORN Journal*. Vol. 56(2):282-98.

Denholm, B., AORN Perioperative Nursing Specialist, personal communication February 12, 2014. "The Association of Operating Room Nurses does not see a need to alter the current advisory opinion regarding the RN role in blood cell salvage." 1-800-755-2676, ext 261, bdenholm@aorn.org.