



## 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: CONTRAST MEDIA INJECTION  
INTO CORONARY ARTERIES**  
**APPROVED DATE: 10/88**  
**REVISED DATE: 5/97, 01/02, 1/06, 8/09, 7/12**  
**ORIGINATING COMMITTEE:**  
**SCOPE OF PRACTICE COMMITTEE**

Within the Scope of Practice of  RN  LPN

### ADVISORY OPINION CONTRAST MEDIA INJECTION INTO CORONARY ARTERIES

It is within the Scope of Practice of a Registered Nurse to inject contrast media into coronary arteries, in the presence of a physician, if the following requirements are met:

#### I. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

- A. A written protocol is maintained by the employer.
- B. The catheter must be placed by a physician who assumes responsibility for ensuring proper placement.
- C. Removal of the catheter shall be done by the physician
- D. The patient is placed on monitoring equipment for the length of time necessary to assure stability.
- E. Current certification appropriate to the patient population such as Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS)/Pediatric Advanced Life Support (PALS), Neonatal Resuscitation Program.
- F. Documentation of satisfactory completion of the agency's instructional program and demonstrated clinical proficiency is on file with the employer.

#### II. COURSE OF INSTRUCTION is to include:

- A. Anatomy and physiology of the heart, with emphasis related to the coronary arteries.
- B. Equipment set up and manipulation.
- C. Safety Measures: Manipulating line, proper flushing of the line, and decreasing the risk of air bubbles.
- D. Signs and symptoms of catheter misplacement.
- E. Side effects and untoward reactions to the substances.
- F. Management of complication.
- G. Nursing Care Responsibilities

#### III. RATIONALE

RN's with documented instruction on coronary arteries, line maintenance, as well as documentation of administration, side effects, complication management of contrast media can safely provide care to patients receiving contrast media through coronary arteries.

#### **IV. REFERENCES**

American College of Radiology (ACR). (2007). Practice Guideline for the use of Intravascular Contrast Media. Retrieved from [www.acr.org/~media/ACR/Documents/PGTS/guidelines/IV\\_Contrast.pdf](http://www.acr.org/~media/ACR/Documents/PGTS/guidelines/IV_Contrast.pdf)

Gorski, K. A. & Watson, S. (2010). *Invasive cardiology: A manual for cath lab personnel*. Sudbury, MA: Jones & Bartlett Publishers.

Stevens, C. M. (2005). Regulatory compliance associated with contrast media. *Radiology Management*, 27(6), 16-18, 20, 22-25. Retrieved from [www.ahraonline.org/AM/Downloads/OnlineED/2005NovDec.pdf](http://www.ahraonline.org/AM/Downloads/OnlineED/2005NovDec.pdf)

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