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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: Peripherally Inserted
External Jugular Catheters**
APPROVED DATE: 9/21/05
REVISED DATE: 9/08, 9/11
ORIGINATING COMMITTEE:
SCOPE OF PRACTICE

Within the Scope of Practice X RN LPN

ADVISORY OPINION

EXTERNAL JUGULAR CANNULATION FOR PERIPHERAL IV (EJ PIV) AND/OR PERIPHERALLY INSERTED CENTRAL CATHETER (EJ PICC)

It is within the Scope of Practice for a Registered Nurse (RN) to insert a peripheral IV into the external jugular (EJ PIV) or for a validated Peripherally Inserted Central Catheter (PICC) RN to insert a PICC line into the external jugular vein (EJ PICC) if the following requirements are met:

I. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

- A. Written policy and procedures for insertion of an EJ PIV or EJ PICC into the external jugular vein.
- B. Only RN's who have satisfactorily completed an instructional program and have had supervised clinical practice, & have maintained competency, are allowed to insert the external jugular catheters.
- C. Documentation of satisfactory completion of the instructional program and supervised clinical practice is on file with the employer.

II. COURSE OF INSTRUCTION

- A. Anatomy and physiology related to the head and neck
- B. Selection criteria, contraindications and vascular assessment techniques
- C. Insertion techniques specific to insertion device
- D. Complications, risks and management techniques to include potential adverse reactions
- E. Techniques for external jugular peripheral line insertion, removal and maintenance
- F. Nursing responsibilities

III. RATIONALE

The external jugular vein is considered a peripheral site. Peripheral catheters can be placed into the external jugular vein. The expertise of the nurse trained to insert external jugular lines is consistent with the scope of practice as outlined by the Infusion Nursing Society and the Infusion Nurse Standards of Practice, to ensure safe practice and continuity of care for patients.

IV. REFERENCES

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- North Carolina State Board of Nursing, Infusion Therapy/Access Procedures: Position Statement for RN, LPN and NAII Practice 12/2009.
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