Within the Scope of Practice of  X 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 licensed independent practitioner (LIP)

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. In what way 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


