



**Doug Ducey**  
Governor

**Joey Ridenour**  
Executive Director

## **Arizona State Board of Nursing**

4747 North 7<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 200  
Phoenix, AZ 85014-3655  
Phone (602) 771-7800 Fax (602) 771-7888  
Home Page: [www.azbn.gov](http://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: BONE MARROW  
ASPIRATION & BIOPSY  
APPROVED: 11/94  
REVISED DATE: 1/06, 8/09, 9/12, 11/15  
ORIGINATING COMMITTEE:  
SCOPE OF PRACTICE COMMITTEE**

Within the Scope of Practice of  X  RN   LPN

### **ADVISORY OPINION BONE MARROW ASPIRATION AND BIOPSY**

It is within the Scope of Practice for a Registered Nurse (RN) to perform bone marrow aspiration (BMA) and biopsy if the following requirements are met:

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

- A. Written policy and procedures are maintained by agency\employer.
- B. Only RNs who have satisfactorily completed an agency's instructional program, and have had supervised clinical practice are allowed to perform bone marrow aspirations and biopsy procedures.
- C. Documentation of satisfactory completion of the instructional program and supervised practice is on file with the employer.

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

- A. Anatomy and physiology specific to selected bone marrow aspiration sites
- B. Physiology of blood formation (to understand the purpose of BMA)
- C. Indications and contraindications
- D. Informed consent
- E. Potential adverse reactions and/or complications
- F. Techniques and use of equipment for bone marrow aspiration & biopsy, including all types of equipment including power devices
- G. Additional training for use of power devices
- H. Selection of appropriate site and preparation of slides
- I. Appropriate pain management techniques (pharmacological and non-pharmacological) and psychological
- J. Patient education and after care instructions.

#### **III. RATIONALE**

Based on national and local evidence it is recognized that an RN who has satisfactorily completed an instructional program/supervised clinical practice in bone marrow aspiration and biopsy, can safely perform bone marrow aspiration and biopsy.

#### IV. REFERENCES

- Collins, J. (2010). Audit of a nurse-led bone marrow biopsy clinic. *Cancer Nursing Practice*, 9(4), 14-19, retrieved from <http://journals.rcni.com/doi/pdfplus/10.7748/cnp2010.05.9.4.14.c7763>
- McNamara, L. (2011). Bone marrow biopsy training for nurses. *Cancer Nursing Practice* 10(9), 14-19, retrieved from <http://journals.rcni.com/doi/pdfplus/10.7748/cnp2011.11.10.9.14.c8802>
- Naegele, M., Leppla, L. Kiote-Schmidt, C., Ihorst, G., Rebafka, A., Koller, A., ...Engelhardt. (2015). Trained clinical nurse specialists proficiently obtain bone marrow aspirates and trephine biopsies in a nearly painless procedure: A prospective evaluation study. *Annals of Hematology* (online), Doi 10.1007/s00277-015-2405-0