Within the Scope of Practice of   X  RN   ___ LPN

**ADVISORY OPINION**

**INFORMED CONSENT**

*Informed Consent process is defined as:*

- Advising a patient of a proposed treatment, surgical procedure, psychotropic drug or diagnostic procedure; alternatives to the treatment, surgical procedure, psychotropic drug or diagnostic procedure; and associated risks and possible complications; and
- Obtaining documented authorization for the proposed treatment, surgical procedure, psychotropic drug or diagnostic procedure from the patient or the patient’s representative (Arizona Department of Health Services, 2014).

**STATEMENT OF SCOPE**

It is NOT within the scope of practice of the RN to advise patients of any proposed treatment or procedure that the RN will not perform such as surgery, radiologic procedure etc. (i.e. a medical treatment plan).

It is NOT within the scope of practice of the LPN to advise patients of any proposed treatment or procedure.

It is within the scope of practice of the RN to advise patients of a proposed treatment plan or procedure that the RN will perform when the general requirements are met (i.e. PICC insertion).

It is within the scope of practice of an RN or an LPN to obtain documented authorization from a patient (signature) and to witness a signature, indicating that informed consent has been provided by a Licensed Independent Practitioner (LIP).

**I. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS**

A. A written policy and procedure specific to informed consent is maintained by the employer.

B. An order for the procedure is obtained by the LIP. An informed consent is obtained.
C. When the treatment or procedure requiring informed consent is performed by an RN, documentation of completion of the instructional program and supervised clinical practice for that procedure (e.g. PICC insertion) is on file with the employer.

II. COURSE OF INSTRUCTION

Course content requirements are specific to the procedure to be performed by the RN (e.g. PICC insertion).
1. Obtaining informed consent.
2. Reason for the procedure.
3. Purpose of the procedure.
4. Alternatives to the procedure.
5. Risks, benefits, uncertainties of each alternative to the proposed procedure.
6. Risks and benefits of not undergoing the treatment or procedure.

III. RATIONALE

The intent of this advisory opinion is to provide clarification for RNs who obtain informed consents for treatments and procedures for which they have demonstrated satisfactory instruction and supervised clinical practice, as permitted within the policies of the organization where the treatment or procedure will occur.

IV. REFERENCES


Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) Federal Register / Vol. 77, No. 95 / Wednesday, May 16, 2012 / Rules and Regulations