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**OPINION:** EXAM BY SEXUAL ASSAULT  
NURSE EXAMINER (SANE)

**APPROVED DATE:** January 2008

**REVIEWED DATE:** July 2016

**REVISED DATE:** July 2014

**ORIGINATING COMMITTEE:**  
Practice & Education Committee

An advisory opinion adopted by WSBN 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 WSBN 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.

Within the Scope of Practice/Role of  APRN  RN  LPN  CNA

**ADVISORY OPINION**  
**EXAM BY SEXUAL ASSAULT NURSE EXAMINER (SANE)**

In accordance with Wyo. Stat. Ann. § 33-21-122(c)(iii) of the Wyoming Nursing Practice Act (NPA), the Wyoming State Board of Nursing (WSBN) has approved the following Advisory Opinion on Pelvic and Colposcopy Exams.

**Exams by Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE)**

A Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner is a registered nurse specially trained to provide comprehensive, uninterrupted care to sexual assault survivors, including conducting the forensic collection of evidence. The goal of the SANE Program is to minimize the physical and psychological trauma to the victim and to maximize the probability of collecting and preserving the physical evidence of an assault for potential use in the legal system.

**It is within the scope of practice for an appropriately trained and competent RN to perform sexual battery examinations including speculum exams for the sole purpose of evidence/specimen collection as ordered by a physician, APRN or PA if the following criteria are met:**

- A. There are institutional policies and procedures to guide this practice;**
- B. The nurse has completed training and demonstrated continuing competency;**
- C. The agency/facility maintains documentation on training and competency for each nurse;**
- D. The care is provided as ordered by a physician, APRN or PA; and**
- E. The patient's condition is assessed prior to, during, and after the procedure to current standard of practice.**

**REFERENCES**

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