



Wyoming State Board of Nursing

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**OPINION: IV CHELATION THERAPY**

**APPROVED DATE:** July 2007

**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  
IV CHELATION THERAPY**

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 IV Chelation Therapy.

The Food and Drug Administration has only approved chelation therapy as a treatment for the removal of heavy metal toxins by converting them to a chemically inert form that can be excreted in the urine. **It is within the scope of practice of an appropriately trained and competent RN to participate in chelation therapy 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 under the direction of 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**

- Centers for Disease Control. Deaths Associated with Hypocalcemia from Chelation Therapy – Texas, Pennsylvania, and Oregon, 2003-2005. Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Rpt, 55(08);204-207 (2006).
- ClinicalTrials.gov. Trial to Assess Chelation Therapy (TACT), updated 8/23/2012. (<http://clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/NCT00044213?term=chelation+therapy&rank=2>). Dans, A.L., Tan, F.N., and Villaruz-Sulit, E.C. Chelation therapy for atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease (review). The Cochrane Library 2008:4. Lewin, M. R. Chelation therapy for cardiovascular disease. Texas Heart Inst. Jnl., 24:2 (1997). National Institutes of Health, Questions and Answers: The NIH Trial of EDTA Chelation Therapy for Coronary Artery Disease (<http://nccam.nih.gov/health/chelation?lang=es>). Seely, D., Wu, P. and Mills, E. EDTA chelation therapy for cardiovascular disease: a systematic review. BMC Cardiovasc. Disord. 2005; 5:32 (2005). U.S. Food & Drug Administration. FDA press release: FDA issues warnings to marketers of unapproved 'chelation' products. October 14, 2010. (<http://www.fda.gov/NewsEvents/Newsroom/PressAnnouncements/ucm229320.htm>)
- Vogel, H.K., et. al. Integrating complementary medicine into cardiovascular medicine. Jnl. of the American College of Cardiology, 46:1 (2005)