



Wyoming State Board of Nursing  
 130 Hobbs Avenue, Suite B  
 Cheyenne, WY 82002  
 Phone (307) 777-7601 Fax (307) 777-3519  
 E-Mail: [wsbn-info-licensing@wyo.gov](mailto:wsbn-info-licensing@wyo.gov)  
 Home Page: <https://nursing-online.state.wy.us/>

**OPINION:** MA-C ROLE  
**APPROVED DATE:** October 10, 2013  
**REVIEWED DATE:**  
**REVISED DATE:** February 16, 2016  
**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 \_\_\_X\_\_\_CNA

**ADVISORY OPINION  
 MEDICATION ASSISTANT-CERTIFIED (MA-C) ROLE**

**Introduction:**

Each agency or institution may adopt policies and procedures which allow functions of a MA-C.

**Intent of Advisory Opinion:**

In accordance with W.S. 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 MA-C Role. The purpose of this opinion is to evaluate the role of the MA-C in providing safe patient care. (Disclaimer: If an activity is not listed in the MA-C Training and Competency Evaluation Course Advisory Opinion, it does not fall within the MA-C role.)

**Role of the MA-C:**

The role of the MA-C is as follows:

- All functions of the CNA;
- A MA-C works under the direction of a registered professional nurse/licensed practical nurse (RN/LPN) who must follow the principles of delegation. Only technical aspects of medication administration may be delegated.
- MA-C skills are specifically intended for adult patients with chronic, stable conditions where predictable outcomes are expected from these interaction.
- The MA-C and the RN/LPN may work as a team in the delivery or observation of the patient taking the medication.

- MA-C may provide routine medications by the following routes:
  - Oral
  - Inhalation
  - Topical
  - Instillation into the eyes, ears and nose
  - Rectal
  - Vaginal
- If the delegating professional is not on site, direction must be for recipient-specific procedures and must be in writing.
- Direction for PRN medication must be in writing and include the parameters for provision of the PRN medication. Direction for observing and reporting for monitoring medication must be in writing and include the parameters for the observation and reporting. A MA-C shall comply with the written directions.
- A MA-C shall not perform a task involving the administration of medication if:
  - Medication administration requires an assessment of the patient's need for medication, a calculation of the dosage of the medication or the conversion of the dosage;
  - Medication being administered is an initial dose and is new to the client;
  - RN/LPN directing/supervising care is unavailable to monitor the progress of the patient and the effect on the patient of the medication;
  - Patient/client has changing health/nursing needs.
- A MA-C who has any reason to believe that he or she has made an error in the administration of medication shall follow facility policy and procedure to report the possible or known error to the appropriate superior and shall assist in completing any required documentation of the medication error.
- MA-C shall report to the nurse directing/supervising care:
  - Signs or symptoms of a change in the client's condition;
  - Medications that produce no results or undesirable effects as reported by the patient or as observed by the MA-C.
- A RN shall review the following:
  - Authorized provider orders; and
  - Patient medication records.