



Wyoming State Board of Nursing  
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**OPINION:** Certification of Death  
**APPROVED DATE:** June 2017  
**REVIEWED DATE:**  
**REVISED DATE:**  
**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 DEATH CERTIFICATES**

#### **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 the practice of certifying death. The purpose of this opinion is to guide safe practice.

**Introduction:** For the purposes of this advisory opinion, the Wyoming Legislature has passed Enrolled Act Number SEA No. 0066 which allows Advanced Practice Registered Nurses to complete medical certification of death forms. All APRN roles are eligible to register and encouraged. WSBN acknowledges signing a death certificate is within the scope of practice for the APRN.

The Wyoming Department of Health utilizes an electronic record system for which an APRN must first register. The contact at the Department of Health, Office of Vital Statistics is Laurie Holtz at 307-777-6040.