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OPINION: Suprapubic Catheter Insertion
APPROVED DATE: April 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 **Suprapubic Catheter Insertion**

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 suprapubic catheter insertion. The purpose of this opinion is to guide safe practice.

Introduction: For the purposes of this advisory opinion, insertion of a suprapubic catheter is a bedside surgical procedure, whereupon a large gauge needle is inserted through an abdominal wall into the bladder. In some cases, a catheter is placed over the needle and left in place for repeated access. The WSBN acknowledges that suprapubic catheter insertion requires extensive clinical skills and training and therefore, is within the scope of practice for the APRN; providing he/she has the additional education and skills, and has demonstrated competency. Facilities must also have a policy and procedure guide in place. WSBN also acknowledges that an RN may re-insert a catheter in a patient that has an established stoma.

Suprapubic catheter placement is a procedure that has medium to high risks; requires sedation, risk of infection, bleeding, puncturing of internal organs. The APRN has the right and responsibility to refuse to perform this procedure if they do not have adequate educational preparation or if they determine the patient or facility does not meet the requirements outlined in this Advisory Opinion.