



Wyoming State Board of Nursing
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OPINION: Telephone & Electronic Nursing
APPROVED DATE: February 2017
REVIEWED DATE:
REVISED DATE:
ORIGINATING COMMITTEE: February 2017
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 ___X___RN ___LPN ___CNA

**ADVISORY OPINION
TELEPHONIC & ELECTRONIC NURSING**

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 Telephonic & Electronic Nursing.

Pursuant to the NPA, the practice of professional nursing means:

[T]he performance of professional services requiring substantial knowledge of the biological, physical, behavioral, psychological and sociological sciences, and of nursing theory as the basis for applying the nursing process which consists of assessment, diagnosis, planning, intervention and evaluation. The nursing process is utilized in the promotion and maintenance of health, case finding and management of illness, injury or infirmity, restoration of optimum function and achievement of a dignified death. Nursing practice includes but is not limited to administration, teaching, counseling, supervision, delegation, evaluation of nursing practice and execution of the medical regimen. The therapeutic plan includes the administration of medications and treatments prescribed by any person authorized by state law to prescribe. Each registered professional nurse is accountable and responsible for the quality of nursing care rendered[.] Wyo. Stat. Ann. § 33-21-120(a)(xi).

See also Telehealth Standards, Uniform Policy for the Appropriate Use of Telehealth Technologies in the Delivery of Healthcare.

Nursing practice occurs at the location in which the client is located at the time nursing service is rendered, regardless of the location of the nurse providing the service. If a nurse is providing any services defined in the NPA via telephone or any other electronic means to a client residing in Wyoming, the nurse must be licensed in the State of Wyoming. These nursing services include, but are not limited to: telephonic case management, electronically sending and receiving patient health data, telephone triage services, electronically initiating and transmitting therapeutic interventions and regimens, education, counseling, outcome evaluation, and disease monitoring.

This statement is in accordance with position statements from the American Nurses Association, the Case Management Society of America, the American Telemedicine Association, the Association of Telehealth Service Providers, and the National Council of State Boards of Nursing.

REFERENCES

Colorado Nursing Board Policy. (2009). *Telenursing*. Retrieved from: https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/dora/Nursing_Laws

Minnesota Board of Nursing. (2000). *Telenursing Across State Borders*. Retrieved from <https://mn.gov/boards/nursing/practice/topics/telenursing.jsp>

Nebraska State Board of Nursing. (2013). Advisory Opinion: *Telephonic & Electronic Nursing in Nebraska*. Retrieved from: www.dhhs.ne.gov/publichealth/Licensure/Documents/TeleElecNursing.pdf.

Vermont State Board of Nursing. (2012). *Licensing Requirements for Nurses Performing Telehealth Nursing Position Statement*. Retrieved from: http://vtprofessionals.org/opr1/nurses/position_statements/PS-Licensing%20Requirements%20for%20Nurses%20Performing%20Telehealth%20Nursing.pdf.