



Wyoming State Board of Nursing
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OPINION: Telephone & Electronic Nursing
APPROVED DATE: February 2017
REVIEWED DATE:
REVISED DATE: January 2018
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 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 **practical** nursing means:

(x) "Practice of practical nursing" means the performance of technical services and nursing procedures which require basic knowledge of the biological, physical, behavioral, psychological and sociological sciences. These skills and services are performed under the direction of a licensed physician or dentist, advanced practice registered nurse or registered professional nurse. Standardized procedures that lead to predictable outcomes are utilized in the observation and care of the ill, injured and infirm, in provision of care for the maintenance of health, in action directed toward safeguarding life and health, in administration of medications and treatments prescribed by any person authorized by state

law to prescribe and in delegation to appropriate assistive personnel as provided by state law and board rules and regulations; Wyo. Stat. Ann. § 33-21-120(a)(x)

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

(xi) "Practice of professional nursing" means the 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)

Nursing practice occurs at the location in which the client or student 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 or aggregate residing in Wyoming, the nurse must be licensed in the State of Wyoming or hold a multi-state license from his/her home state under the enhanced nurse licensure compact. 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 of any population or group, counseling, providing expert opinions that have an effect on practice, outcome evaluation, disease monitoring, simulation or instructing/facilitating or mentoring an on-line course for students, disease monitoring or care plan explanation.

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.

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

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>

The National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN®) Position Paper on Telehealth Nursing

Practice Approved August 1997 by the Delegate Assembly Editorial Update - April 2014

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.