



Wyoming State Board of Nursing
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OPINION: APRN Population Focus

APPROVED DATE: January 2007

REVIEWED DATE: July 2016

REVISED DATE: July 2014

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
APRN POPULATION FOCUS

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 APRN Population Focus.

WSBN's Rules and Regulations define the scope and standards of nursing practice for the APRN as follows:

- (i) The APRN is subject at all times to the standards and scope of practice established by national professional organizations and/or accrediting agencies representing the various core, role and population focus areas for APRNs, and the NPA.
- (ii) The Board recognizes APRN core, role and population focus areas described in the scope of practice statements for APRNs issued by national professional organizations and/or accrediting agencies.
- (iii) Role and population focus of the APRN shall be declared, and the role and population focus to be utilized shall be the title(s) granted by nationally recognized professional organization(s) and/or accrediting agency(ies) or the title(s) of the role and population focus of nursing practice in which the APRN has received postgraduate education preparation.
- (iv) In order to practice in one of the four roles and in a defined population, the APRN shall be recognized by the Board in that particular role with a population focus of advanced practice nursing.

Rules Wyo. Dept. of Admin. & Info., Bd. of Nursing, Ch. 3, § 2(a)(i-iv) (Dec. 2013). Therefore, an APRN may only practice within the role and population focus for which he/she is licensed and recognized by the WSBN.