

Scope of Practice Decision Tree

The purpose of this diagram is to help you decide whether or not to perform a specific action.

1. Describe the act to be performed, then review the Scope of Practice for your licensure level.

RN

LPN

APRN

2. Does the Nurse Practice Act expressly permit or prohibit this act for the license you hold?

Unsure

Permitted
(within scope for your license)

Go to
#4

Prohibited

3. Is the act consistent with your scope of practice?

Yes

No



4. Do you personally possess the depth and breadth of knowledge to perform the act safely and effectively?

Yes

No



until you gain additional knowledge

5. Do you personally possess current clinical skills to perform the act safely?

Yes

No



until you attain the clinical skills

6. Is the performance of the act within the accepted standard of care?

Yes

No



because performing the act may place both you and your patient/client at risk!!!

7. Does the agency have a policy and procedure in place for this activity?

Yes

No



because performing the act may place both you and your patient/client at risk!!!

8. Are you prepared to accept the consequences of your action?

Yes

No



because accountability is not assumed!

Perform the act

Notify appropriate person(s).