### STANDING ORDERS: Health Professionals & Immunization Practice

**WASHINGTON**

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<th>Assessment</th>
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**NOTES:**

1. **Immunization Practice:** Includes the assessment of patient status, the prescription of appropriate vaccines, and the administration of vaccines

2. **Delegated Authority:** May include the following terms: standing orders, protocol, collaborative agreement, direct or indirect supervision, at the direction of another provider, as ordered by another provider, or as prescribed by another provider

3. **Legal Interpretation—Nurses:** Registered Nurses retain all authority granted to Practical Nurses and Vocational Nurses. Nurses engaging in advanced practice (Advanced Practice, Clinical Nurse Spec., and Nurse Practitioner) retain all authority granted to Registered Nurses, Practical Nurses, and Vocational Nurses.

4. **Legal Interpretation—Midwives:** Because midwives are not nurses in all states, they are identified as a separate professional category. When midwives are nurses, the following interpretations apply: Midwives who are identified as Registered Nurses retain all authority granted to Practical Nurses and Vocational Nurses. Midwives who engage in advanced practice retain all authority granted to Registered Nurses, Practical Nurses, and Vocational Nurses.

5. **Gray box:** Provider practices within the state, however the state has no relevant law addressing this element

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### MEDICAL ASSISTANT

The legislature finds that medical assistants are health professionals specifically trained to work in settings such as physicians' offices, clinics, group practices, and other health care facilities. These multiskilled personnel are trained to perform administrative and clinical procedures under the supervision of health care providers. . . .  


(1) A medical assistant-certified may perform the following duties delegated by, and under the supervision of, a health care practitioner . . . (f)(i) Administering medications. A medical assistant-certified may only administer medications if the drugs are: 
(A) Administered only by unit or single dosage, or by a dosage calculated and verified by a health care practitioner. For purposes of this section, a combination or multidose vaccine shall be considered a unit dose; (B) Limited to . . . vaccines . . . as authorized by a health care practitioner under the scope of his or her license and consistent with rules adopted by the secretary . . . and (C) Administered pursuant to a written order from a health care practitioner. (ii) . . . The secretary may, by rule, further limit the drugs that may be administered. . . .

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(4) A medical assistant-registered may perform the following duties delegated by, and under the supervision of, a health care practitioner . . . (f) Administering . . . vaccines, including combination or multidose vaccines. . . . Rev. Code of Wash. 18.360.050, amended by 2013 Wash. Legis. Serv. Ch. 128 (S.H.B. 1515) (2013) Medical assistant-certified—Authorized delegated duties

MIDWIFE
(1) An ‘advanced registered nurse practitioner (ARNP)’ is a registered nurse who has had formal graduate education and has achieved national specialty certification for the . . . nurse midwife role. A nurse with this preparation may qualify as an ARNP. . . . Wash. Admin. Code 246-840-010 (2013) Definitions

A midwife licensed under this chapter may . . . administer such other drugs or medications as prescribed by a physician. . . . Rev. Code of Wash. 18.50.115 (2012) Administration of drugs and medications—Rules

(2) . . . [L]icensed midwives may obtain and administer the following medications . . . (e) Measles, Mumps, and Rubella (MMR) vaccine to nonimmune postpartum women, HBIG and HBV for neonates born to hepatitis B+ mothers. . . . Wash. Admin. Code 246-834-250 (2012) Legend drugs and devices

(3) ARNP practice is grounded in nursing and incorporates the use of independent judgment as well as collaborative interaction with other health care professionals when indicated in the assessment and management of wellness and health conditions as appropriate to the ARNP’s area of practice and certification. . . . (6) Performing within the scope of the ARNP’s knowledge, experience and practice, the licensed ARNP may perform the following: (a) Examine patients and establish diagnoses by patient history, physical examination and other methods of assessment . . . (e) Prescribe therapies and medical equipment; (f) Prescribe medications when granted authority under this chapter. . . . Wash. Admin. Code 246-840-300 (2012) Advanced registered nurse practitioner (ARNP) scope of practice

Upon approval by the commission, an advanced registered nurse practitioner may prescribe legend drugs. . . . Rev. Code of Wash. 18.79.050 (2012) ”Advanced registered nursing practice” defined -- Exceptions

An advanced registered nurse practitioner under his or her license may perform . . . nursing care, as that term is usually understood, of the ill, injured, or infirm, and in the course thereof, she or he may do the following things . . . (2) Prescribe legend drugs. . . . Rev. Code of Wash. 18.79.250 (2012) Advanced registered nurse practitioner – Activities allowed

(1) An ARNP . . . may prescribe drugs . . . pursuant to applicable state and federal laws . . . Wash. Admin. Code 246-840-400 (2012) ARNP prescriptive authority


NURSES
Nurse Practitioner
(1) An ‘advanced registered nurse practitioner (ARNP)’ is a registered nurse who has had formal graduate education and has achieved national specialty certification for the nurse practitioner. . . . A nurse with this preparation may qualify as an ARNP. . . . Wash. Admin. Code 246-840-010 (2013) Definitions
... (3) ARNP practice is grounded in nursing and incorporates the use of independent judgment as well as collaborative interaction with other health care professionals when indicated in the assessment and management of wellness and health conditions as appropriate to the ARNP's area of practice and certification. ... (6) Performing within the scope of the ARNP's knowledge, experience and practice, the licensed ARNP may perform the following: (a) Examine patients and establish diagnoses by patient history, physical examination and other methods of assessment ... (e) Prescribe therapies and medical equipment; (f) Prescribe medications when granted authority under this chapter. ... Wash. Admin. Code 246-840-300 (2012) Advanced registered nurse practitioner (ARNP) scope of practice

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... (4) ... The department does pay ... advanced registered nurse practitioners (ARNP) ... a fee for administering the vaccine. Wash. Admin. Code 182-530-7250 (2012) Reimbursement-Miscellaneous

Practical Nurse
“Licensed practical nursing practice” means the performance of services requiring the knowledge, skill, and judgment necessary for carrying out selected aspects of the designated nursing regimen under the direction and supervision of a licensed physician and surgeon, dentist, osteopathic physician and surgeon, physician assistant, osteopathic physician assistant, podiatric physician and surgeon, advanced registered nurse practitioner, registered nurse, or midwife. ... Rev. Code of Wash. 18.79.060 (2012) “Licensed practical nursing practice” defined—Exceptions

A licensed practical nurse under his or her license may perform nursing care, as that term is usually understood, of the ill, injured, or infirm, and in the course thereof may, under the direction of a licensed physician and surgeon, osteopathic physician and surgeon, dentist, naturopathic physician, podiatric physician and surgeon, physician assistant, osteopathic physician assistant, advanced registered nurse practitioner, or midwife acting under the scope of his or her license, or at the direction and under the supervision of a registered nurse, administer ... inoculations, whether or not the piercing of tissues is involved and whether or not a degree of independent judgment and skill is required, when selected to do so by one of the licensed practitioners designated in this section, or by a registered nurse who need not be physically present; if the order given is reduced to writing within a reasonable time and made a part of the patient's record. Such direction must be for acts within the scope of licensed practical nurse practice. Rev. Code of Wash. 18.79.270 (2012) Licensed practical nurse—Activities allowed

... (2) The nursing process ... consists of a series of phases: Assessment and planning, intervention and evaluation with each phase building upon the preceding phases. ... (b) Licensed Practical Nurse ... (i) ... (A) Assessment: The licensed practical nurse makes basic observations, gathers data and assists in identification of needs and problems relevant to the clients, collects specific data as directed, and, communicates outcomes of the data collection process in a timely fashion to the appropriate supervising person. ... Wash. Admin. Code 246-840-700 (2012) Standards of nursing conduct or practice
Registered Nurse

(1) "Registered nursing practice" means . . . (a) The observation, assessment, diagnosis, care or counsel, and health teaching of individuals with illnesses, injuries, or disabilities, or in the maintenance of health or prevention of illness of others . . . (e) The executing of medical regimen as prescribed by a licensed physician and surgeon, dentist, osteopathic physician and surgeon, podiatric physician and surgeon, physician assistant, osteopathic physician assistant, or advanced registered nurse practitioner, or as directed by a licensed midwife within his or her scope of practice . . .  Rev. Code of Wash. 18.79.040  (2012) "Registered nursing practice" defined -- Exceptions

. . . (2) The nursing process . . . consists of a series of phases: Assessment . . . (a) Registered Nurse: Minimum standards for registered nurses include the following . . . (i) . . . (A) Assessment and Analysis: The registered nurse initiates data collection and analysis that includes pertinent objective and subjective data regarding the health status of the clients. The registered nurse is responsible for ongoing client assessment. . . (B) Nursing Diagnosis/Problem Identification: The registered nurse uses client data and nursing scientific principles to develop nursing diagnosis and to identify client problems in order to deliver effective nursing care . . . Wash. Admin. Code  246-840-700  (2012) Standards of nursing conduct or practice

(1) A registered nurse under his or her license may perform for compensation nursing care, as that term is usually understood, to individuals with illnesses, injuries, or disabilities.  (2) A registered nurse may, at or under the general direction of a licensed physician and surgeon, dentist, osteopathic physician and surgeon, naturopathic physician, optometrist, podiatric physician and surgeon, physician assistant, osteopathic physician assistant, advanced registered nurse practitioner, or midwife acting within the scope of his or her license, administer medications . . . and inoculations, whether or not the severing or penetrating of tissues is involved and whether or not a degree of independent judgment and skill is required.  Such direction must be for acts which are within the scope of registered nursing practice. . . Rev. Code of Wash. 18.79.260  (2012) Registered nurse--Activities allowed--Delegation of tasks

It is not a violation . . . for a registered nurse, at or under the general direction of a licensed physician and surgeon, or osteopathic physician and surgeon, to administer prescribed . . . inoculations . . . whether or not the piercing of tissues is involved.  Rev. Code of Wash. 18.79.280  (2012) Medication, tests, treatments allowed

PHARMACIST


PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT

A physician assistant may issue written or oral prescriptions as provided herein when approved by the commission and assigned by the supervising physician(s).  (1) . . . A physician assistant may issue prescriptions for legend drugs for a patient who is under the care of the physician(s) responsible for the supervision of the physician assistant. . . Wash. Admin. Code 246-918-030  (2012) Prescriptions issued by physician assistants

A certified physician assistant may issue written or oral prescriptions as provided herein when approved by the commission or its designee. . . . Wash. Admin. Code 246-918-035  (2012) Certified physician assistant prescriptions

Source: GWU/SPHHS STANDING ORDERS: Health Professionals & Immunization Practice—Summer 2013

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### STANDING ORDERS: Health Professionals & Immunization Practice

**PRACTICE SETTINGS**

**WASHINGTON**

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<th>Health Professional</th>
<th>Practice Setting</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Medical Assistant</td>
<td>Physicians' offices; clinics; group practices; other health care facilities; rural and small medical practices and clinics</td>
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<tr>
<td>Advanced Practice Nurse</td>
<td>See Nurse Practitioner</td>
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<tr>
<td>Clinical Nurse Specialist</td>
<td>Reviewed immunization practice laws did not address practice settings</td>
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<tr>
<td>Midwife</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nurse Practitioner</td>
<td>Reviewed immunization practice laws did not address practice settings</td>
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<tr>
<td>Practical Nurse</td>
<td>Community based long-term care; in-home settings</td>
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<tr>
<td>Registered Nurse</td>
<td>Community based long-term care; in-home settings; home health agency; hospice agency; hospital; hospital district; in-home service agency; community-based care setting, medical clinic; office</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vocational Nurse</td>
<td>Reviewed immunization practice laws did not address practice settings</td>
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<td>Pharmacist</td>
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### MEDICAL ASSISTANT

The legislature finds that medical assistants are health professionals specifically trained to work in settings such as physicians' offices, clinics, group practices, and other health care facilities. . . . The legislature further finds that rural and small medical practices and clinics may have limited access to formally trained medical assistants. . . .  


### NURSES

**Practical Nurse**

. . . (2) . . . (b) . . . (ii) . . . (D) In community based long-term care and in-home settings . . . the practical nurse may delegate only personal care tasks to qualified care givers. . . . Wash. Admin. Code 246-840-700 (2012) Standards of nursing conduct or practice

**Registered Nurse**

. . . (2) . . . (a) . . . (ii) . . . (D) The registered nurse may delegate certain additional acts to certain individuals in community-based long-term care and in-home settings . . . (E) In a home health or hospice agency . . . a registered nurse may delegate the application, instillation, or insertion of medications to a registered or certified nursing assistant under a plan of care. . . . Wash. Admin. Code 246-840-700 (2012) Standards of nursing conduct or practice

(1) “Registered nursing practice” means . . . (c) The administration, supervision, delegation, and evaluation of nursing practice. However, nothing in this subsection affects the authority of a hospital, hospital district, in-home service agency, community-based care setting, medical clinic, or office, concerning its administration and supervision. . . . Rev. Code of Wash. 18.79.040 (2012) “Registered nursing practice” defined--Exceptions

### PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT

. . . (2) A physician assistant employed or extended privileges by a hospital, nursing home or other health care institution may, if permissible under the bylaws, rules and regulations of the institution, order pharmaceutical agents for inpatients under the care of the physician(s) responsible for his or her supervision. . . Wash. Admin. Code 246-918-030 (2012) Prescriptions issued by physician assistant
. . . (2) A certified physician assistant employed or extended privileges by a hospital, nursing home or other health care institution may, if permissible under the bylaws, rules and regulations of the institution, order pharmaceutical agents for inpatients under the care of the sponsoring physician(s). . . Wash. Admin. Code 246-918-035 (2012) Certified physician assistant prescriptions

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Rev. Code of Wash. 18.79.050 (2012) "Advanced registered nursing practice" defined—Exceptions


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