

EMERGENCY REGULATIONS

Regulations Governing the Licensure of Nurse Practitioners

18VAC90-30-10. Definitions.

The following words and terms when used in this chapter shall have the following meanings unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

"Approved program" means a nurse practitioner education program that is accredited by the Council on Accreditation of Nurse Anesthesia Educational Programs/Schools, American College of Nurse Midwives, Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education or the National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission or is offered by a school of nursing or jointly offered by a school of medicine and a school of nursing which grant a graduate degree in nursing and which hold a national accreditation acceptable to the boards.

"Boards" means the Virginia Board of Nursing and the Virginia Board of Medicine.

~~"Collaboration" means the process by which a nurse practitioner, in association with a physician, delivers health care services within the scope of practice of the nurse practitioner's professional education and experience and with medical direction and supervision, consistent with this chapter.~~

"Committee" means the Committee of the Joint Boards of Nursing and Medicine.

"Controlling institution" means the college or university offering a nurse practitioner education program.

"Licensed nurse practitioner" means a registered nurse who has met the requirements for licensure as stated in Part II (18VAC90-30-60 et seq.) of this chapter.

"Licensed physician" means a person licensed by the Board of Medicine to practice medicine or osteopathy.

~~"Medical direction and supervision" means participation in the development of a written protocol including provision for periodic review and revision; development of guidelines for availability and ongoing communications which provide for and define consultation among the collaborating parties and the patient; and periodic joint evaluation of services provided, e.g., chart review, and review of patient care outcomes. Guidelines for availability shall address at a minimum the availability of the collaborating physician proportionate to such factors as practice setting, acuity, and geography.~~

"National certifying body" means a national organization that is accredited by an accrediting agency recognized by the U. S. Department of Education or deemed acceptable by the National Council of State Boards of Nursing and has as one of its purposes the certification of nurse anesthetists, nurse midwives or nurse practitioners, referred to in this chapter as professional certification, and whose certification of such persons by examination is accepted by the committee.

"Preceptor" means a physician or a licensed nurse practitioner who supervises and evaluates the nurse practitioner student.

"Protocol" means a written statement, jointly developed by the collaborating physician(s) and the licensed nurse practitioner(s), that directs and describes the procedures to be followed and the delegated medical acts appropriate to the specialty practice area to be performed by the licensed nurse practitioner(s) in the care and management of patients.

18VAC90-30-120. Practice of licensed nurse practitioners other than certified nurse midwives.

A. A ~~licensed~~ nurse practitioner licensed in a category other than certified nurse midwife shall be authorized to engage in practices constituting the practice of medicine in collaboration with and under the medical direction and supervision of a licensed physician.

B. The practice of licensed nurse practitioners shall be based on specialty education preparation as a nurse practitioner and in accordance with standards of the applicable certifying organization and written protocols as defined in 18 VAC 90-30-10.

C. The written protocol shall include the nurse practitioner's authority for signatures, certifications, stamps, verifications, affidavits and endorsements provided it is:

1. In accordance with the specialty license of the nurse practitioner and with the scope of practice of the supervising physician;
2. Permitted by § 54.1-2957.02 or applicable sections of the Code of Virginia; and
3. Not in conflict with federal law or regulation.

D. A certified registered nurse anesthetist shall practice in accordance with the functions and standards defined by the American Association of Nurse Anesthetists (Guidelines and Standards for Nurse Anesthesia Practice, Revised 1998) and under the medical direction and supervision of a doctor of medicine or a doctor of osteopathy or the medical direction and supervision of a dentist in accordance with rules and regulations promulgated by the Board of Dentistry.

~~E. A certified nurse midwife shall practice in accordance with the Standards for the Practice of Nurse-Midwifery (Revised 1993) defined by the American College of Nurse-Midwives.~~

For purposes of this section, the following definitions shall apply:

"Collaboration" means the process by which a nurse practitioner, in association with a physician, delivers health care services within the scope of practice of the nurse practitioner's professional education and experience and with medical direction and supervision, consistent with this chapter.

"Medical direction and supervision" means participation in the development of a written protocol including provision for periodic review and revision; development of guidelines for availability and ongoing communications which provide for and define consultation among the collaborating parties and the patient; and periodic joint evaluation of services provided, e.g., chart review, and review of

patient care outcomes. Guidelines for availability shall address at a minimum the availability of the collaborating physician proportionate to such factors as practice setting, acuity, and geography.

18VAC90-30-121. Practice of nurse practitioners licensed as certified nurse midwives.

A. A nurse practitioner licensed as certified nurse midwife shall be authorized to engage in practices constituting the practice of medicine in collaboration and consultation with a licensed physician.

B. The practice of certified nurse midwives shall be based on specialty education preparation as a nurse practitioner and in accordance with standards of the applicable certifying organization and written protocols as defined in 18VAC90-30-10.

C. The written protocol shall include the nurse practitioner's authority for signatures, certifications, stamps, verifications, affidavits and endorsements provided it is:

1. In accordance with the specialty license of the nurse practitioner and with the scope of practice of the supervising physician;

2. Permitted by § 54.1-2957.02 or applicable sections of the Code of Virginia; and

3. Not in conflict with federal law or regulation.

D. A certified nurse midwife, in collaboration and consultation with a duly licensed physician, shall practice in accordance with the Standards for the Practice of Nurse-Midwifery (Revised 2003) defined by the American College of Nurse-Midwives.

E. For purposes of this section, the following definition shall apply:

"Collaboration and consultation" means practice in accordance with the Standards for the Practice of Nurse-Midwifery (Revised 2003) defined by the American College of Nurse-Midwives to include participation in the development of a written protocol including provision for periodic review and revision; development of guidelines for availability and ongoing communications which provide for and define consultation among the collaborating parties and the patient; and periodic joint evaluation of services provided, e.g., chart review, and review of patient care outcomes. Guidelines for availability shall address at a minimum the availability of the collaborating physician proportionate to such factors as practice setting, acuity, and geography.