

Ear Nose and Throat Scope of Practice Guidelines

The following categories define the intended scope of practice for the physician assistant as delegated by a supervising physician. The physician assistant understands the primary supervising physician may delegate care differently within the general scope of practice outlined below. The physician assistant will not perform a task not delegated by a supervising physician, nor will the physician assistant perform a new task without direct physician supervision.

Ear:

- Scope includes diagnosis and management of common diseases of the ear.
- Removal of cerumen and/or foreign body in ear canal.
- External ear cartilage biopsy.

Nose/Paranasal Sinuses:

- Scope includes diagnosis and management of common diseases of the nose and facial sinuses.
- Removal of nasal foreign body.
- Nasal cautery.
- Intranasal steroid injection.
- Anterior/posterior nasal packing.

Head, Neck, Skin of Head/Neck:

- Scope includes diagnosis and management of common diseases presenting as neck masses.
- Incision and drainage of simple abscesses/hematomas (skin, cysts, helical hematoma).
- Excision and/or biopsy, and treatment of skin lesions requiring local anesthetic.
- Scar revision.
- Incision and drainage of simple abscesses/hematomas (skin, cysts, helical hematoma).
- Wound debridement/dressing changes.
- Fine needle aspiration.
- Common dermatoses.

Oropharynx/larynx:

- Scope includes diagnosis and management of common diseases of the oral cavity and pharynx.
- Assist or laryngeal stroboscopy as directed and interpreted by physician and/or speech pathologist.

Other:

- Allergy testing (epidermal, intradermal, or in vitro (RAST, ELISA, etc.)
- Allergy immunotherapy injections.