



South Carolina
Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation



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Board of Nursing

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ADVISORY OPINION # 26

- Formulated:** July 31, 1987
- Revised:** July 2017, November 2014, March 2011, July 2007, September 2002, September 2000, July 1993, January 1992, November 16, 1989
- Reviewed:** July 2022, October 2019, May 2006, July 2005, July 1998, May 1997
- Question:** Is it within the scope of practice of the selected licensed practical nurse (LPN) to manage existing arterial access lines/devices?

The State Board of Nursing for South Carolina acknowledges that it is within the scope of practice and is an additional act for selected licensed practical nurses (LPN) to manage arterial access lines/devices. See the applicable Nursing Management of Invasive Devices Chart-Cardiovascular LPN (<http://www.llr.state.sc.us/PO/Nursing/pdf/Charts/CardiovascularLPN.pdf>) for specific approved responsibilities. These practices are acceptable if the following stipulations are met.

1. Agencies establish written policies and procedures to include guidelines for patient monitoring, standing orders for potential complications and emergency situations and immediate availability of the registered nurse for supervision.
2. The LPN has completed an organized course of study relative to arterial access and management. The course must include didactic instruction and supervised clinical instruction with verification of skill competency. Verification of competency needs to be ongoing with periodic competency checks.

This is an advisory opinion of the Board of Nursing as to what constitutes competent and safe nursing practice.