



South Carolina Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation

## South Carolina Board of Nursing

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### **ADVISORY OPINION # 47**

**FORMULATED:** March 2004

**REVISED:** January 2018, May 2014, July 2007

**REVIEWED:** July 2005, May 2006

**QUESTION:** Is it within the role and scope of practice for the licensed registered nurse (RN) to perform an OSHA Respiratory evaluation questionnaire and approve Respirator use?

The State Board of Nursing for South Carolina acknowledges that it is within the role and scope of the licensed registered nurse (RN) to administer the OSHA Respirator Medical Evaluation Questionnaire in accordance with the OSHA Respiratory Protection Standard (29 CFR 1910.134). Once the individual has received the medical evaluation and has been medically cleared by an authorized licensed provider, it is also within the scope of practice of the licensed registered nurse (RN) to approve a client for ongoing respirator use if there are no reported changes to their health status.

The administration of the OSHA Respirator Medical Evaluation Questionnaire and approval of a client respirator fit-testing is **NOT** within the scope of practice for the licensed practical nurse (LPN).

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