



South Carolina Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation

South Carolina Board of Nursing

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ADVISORY OPINION #65

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Question: Is it within the role and scope of responsibility of the Registered Nurse (RN) to obtain informed consent for a Peripherally Inserted Centralized Catheter (PICC) if the RN will be the one performing the procedure, based on an authorized licensed provider's written order?

The State Board of Nursing for South Carolina acknowledges that it is within the role and scope of responsibility of the performing registered nurse (RN) to obtain informed consent for Peripherally Inserted Centralized Catheter (PICC) insertion, based on the written order of an authorized licensed provider. Informed consent for the procedure should involve the patient verbalizing a clear understanding of the relevant medical facts and risks involved.

The Board recognizes that this responsibility is an additional act and requires special education and training for the RN in both obtaining consent and performing the procedure. If the organization and nursing department determine that implementation is in order, an appropriate policy and protocol must be developed. The policy must specify necessary qualifications, special education, training for skill performance and obtaining informed consent, and include both didactic and clinical competence.

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