



South Carolina Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation

**South Carolina Board of Nursing**

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**ADVISORY OPINION # 69**

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**QUESTION:** Is it within the scope of a registered nurse or licensed practical nurse to administer injectable lidocaine in dermatological procedures?

The State Board of Nursing for South Carolina acknowledges that it is within the role and scope of a registered nurse (RN) and a licensed practical nurse (LPN) to administer **injectable** lidocaine in preparation for dermatological procedures. This administration does not include nerve blocks and regional anesthesia. A licensed independent provider must be available for oversight during the administration of the medication.

The registered nurse (RN) and licensed practical nurse (LPN) shall complete appropriate education and demonstrated competency to ensure his/her practice is in compliance with the standards of safe nursing practice prior to administering local lidocaine infiltration.

For RNs and LPN's performing local anesthesia:

- i. Documentation of satisfactory completion of the instructional program and supervised practice by a qualified provider is on file with the employer.
- ii. The supervising licensed independent provider is available in the building while the procedure is performed and can respond to the RN / LPN within a medically reasonable timeframe.

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