



South Carolina Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation  
**South Carolina Board of Nursing**  
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## **ADVISORY OPINION # 7**

**FORMULATED:** January 29, 1988

**REVISED:** September 2016, March 2011, July 2007, April 2001

**REVIEWED:** March 2023, April 2021, July 2018, May 2006, July 2005, April 2003, March 1993, March 1992

**QUESTION:** Is it within the scope of practice of the registered nurse (RN) to administer medications, such as anti-neoplastic agents, intrathecally?

The State Board of Nursing for South Carolina acknowledges that it is within the scope of practice of the RN to administer medications, such as anti-neoplastic agents, intrathecally through established reservoirs.

Recognizing that this responsibility is an expanded role for the RN, appropriate policies, procedures, and standing orders should be developed which specify required special education and training. This special education and training should include documented safety practices and other didactic material as well as clinical skill competency components. The agency policies and procedures should address how the agency will assure an authorized licensed provider is proficient in the administration of anti-neoplastic agents' intrathecally. Medications to be administered by the RN and dose ranges are to be listed in the written policies, procedures, and standing orders. The nursing department is advised to obtain patient specific written medical orders which indicate mechanical and physiological parameters to be monitored and reported to the physician.

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