

Board Position Statement

Delegation of Medication Administration by an Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN) holding Announcement of Advanced Practice from the West Virginia Board of Examiners for Registered Professional Nurses and/or a Certified Nurse Midwife (CNM) to Qualified Medical Assistants in the Primary Care Setting.

Advanced Practice Registered Nurses holding Announcement of Advanced Practice from the West Virginia Board of Examiners for Registered Professional Nurses (APRN) and/or Certified Nurse Midwives (CNM) holding a license issued by the West Virginia Board of Examiners for Registered Professional Nurses, whose licenses and certifications are in good standing, are permitted to delegate medication administration to qualified medical assistants in primary care settings under the following conditions:

1. Patient safety is maintained;
2. In person patient assessment has been completed by the APRN and/or CNM;
3. Circumstances don't allow for further decision making by the qualified medical assistant;
4. Patients are determined to have a stable condition;
5. The administration of medication has an expected specific determined outcome; and,
6. Facility policies support the practice.

Prior to delegating any medication administration, the APRN and/or CNM is responsible for validating the credentials of the medical assistant to assure completion of a nationally recognized accredited program of study with a curriculum that included pharmacology and medication administration, the medication assistant has a current national certification through the American Association of Medical Assistants, and related competencies have been validated within the past twelve months. Each APRN and/or CNM must validate the competencies of the medical assistant. This validation includes direct observation of all routes of medication delivery to patients across the lifespan. This validation must be documented and verified by the signature of the APRN and/or CNM. Each APRN and/or CNM is responsible for the delegated act and related follow through.

Board Approved: October 21, 2011