



Ohio Board of Nursing

www.nursing.ohio.gov

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DECISION MAKING MODEL

Registered Nurses and Licensed Practical Nurses

The Decision Making Model is a guide for registered nurses (RNs) and licensed practical nurses (LPNs) to use when determining whether a specific procedure, task or activity is within the RN's or LPN's scope of practice and, if so, whether the specific procedure, task or activity is consistent with standards of practice, appropriate to perform based on the individual nurse's knowledge and skills, and is appropriate based on the clinical setting.

The Board also publishes Interpretive Guidelines that address specific practices and these are available on the Board website: www.nursing.ohio.gov. However, since it is not possible for the Board to establish Interpretive Guidelines for every procedure, task or activity performed by nurses, the Decision Making Model was developed so nurses could apply it as needed for their specific practices.

All nurses are responsible for knowing and practicing within the legal scope of practice set forth in Section 4723.01(B), Ohio Revised Code (ORC) for RNs and in Section 4723.01(F), ORC, for LPNs. In addition, RNs and LPNs are responsible for knowing and following the Standards of Practice for RNs and LPNs established in Chapter 4723-4, Ohio Administrative Code.

The Nurse Practice Act and the Administrative Rules are available for review in their entirety on the Board of Nursing website under the "Law and Rules" link.

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RN and LPN Decision Making Model

