



### **Interpretive Guideline**

**Title:** The Licensed Nurse's Role in the Care of Patients Receiving Intramuscular, Subdermal, or Subcutaneously Injected Medications for Cosmetic/Aesthetic Treatment

#### **Guidelines for licensed nurse administration of cosmetic/aesthetic injectable medications (Sections 4723.01(B) & (F), Ohio Revised Code (ORC)):**

- A. The scope of practice for licensed nurses may include the administration of cosmetic/aesthetic injectable medications, in circumstances where:
1. The safety and well-being of the patient can be ensured;
  2. There is a medical evaluation;
  3. There is an established medical regimen;
  4. There is nursing documentation of a valid order by a licensed health care provider who possesses specific knowledge, skills and abilities in cosmetic/aesthetic procedures that are actively incorporated into the health care provider's practice. The order may include nurse administration of analgesics, topical anesthetics, or subcutaneous infiltration of anesthetic agents consistent with the licensed nurse's scope of practice, education and competence;
  5. There is a supportive clinical environment that contains appropriate monitoring capabilities;
  6. The necessary health care personnel and equipment to address complications are available and utilized at all times;
  7. Infection control standards are utilized at all times.
- B. The administration of cosmetic/aesthetic injectable medications may be within the scope of nursing practice if the following guidelines are observed:
1. The nurse may execute the cosmetic/aesthetic injectable medication regimen with a valid authorized provider order. An authorized provider is an individual who is authorized to practice in this state and is acting within the course of the individual's professional practice.
  2. In executing the nursing regimen, the licensed nurse should communicate changes in patient status to the authorized provider directing and/or supervising the procedure and to other appropriate personnel.

An authorized provider is an individual who is authorized to practice in this state and is acting within the course of the individual's professional practice.

A licensed nurse should not independently select the medication or dosage to be administered during a procedure.

Locations such as beauty salons, non-medical spas, shopping malls, and private residences may not meet the requirements of a supportive clinical environment that contains appropriate monitoring capabilities, infection control standards, and the availability of the necessary health care personnel and equipment to address complications.

**Considerations in the licensed nurse’s administration of cosmetic/aesthetic injectable medications (Rules 4723-4-03 and 4723-4-04, Ohio Administrative Code (OAC)):**

1. The licensed nurse providing care to patients receiving cosmetic/aesthetic injectable medication administration should maintain documentation of his/her acquisition of education, demonstrated competency, and other documentation that ensures practice is in compliance with the standards of safe nursing practice.
2. The licensed nurse’s education and training should include, but is not limited to, the following that is learned through an organized, formal education program:
  - a. Age-specific physiologic parameters that pertain to the patient’s anatomy and physiology, including but not limited to:
    - i. Integumentary system and supporting structures;
    - ii. Muscular system and supporting structures of the face and neck;
    - iii. Vascular system and supporting structures of the face and neck;
    - iv. Nervous system and supporting structures of the face and neck;
    - v. Skeletal system, supporting structures, and associated landmarks and prominences of the face and neck.
  - b. Indications, contraindications, and potential complications related to cosmetic/aesthetic injectable medication administration;
  - c. Infection control standards pertaining to cosmetic/aesthetic injectable medication administration and the care of the cosmetic/ aesthetic patient.
3. The competence of the nurse’s knowledge and skill in the performance of administering cosmetic/aesthetic injectable medications should be validated by an authorized provider, whose practice includes cosmetic/aesthetic medicine, through a formalized authorized provider-precepted-return demonstration by the nurse.

**Accountability and Responsibility of Nurses**

Section 4723.01(B), ORC, defines the scope of practice for the registered nurse. Rule 4723-4-03, OAC, holds registered nurses responsible for maintaining and demonstrating current knowledge, skills, abilities, and competence in rendering nursing care within their scope of practice.

Section 4723.01(F), ORC, defines the scope of practice for the licensed practical nurse. Rule 4723-4-04, OAC, holds licensed practical nurses responsible for maintaining and demonstrating current knowledge, skills, abilities and competence in rendering nursing care within their scope of practice.

The licensed nurse must apply the Nurse Practice Act (Chapter 4723, ORC) and rules regulating the practice of nursing (Chapters 4723-1 to 4723-27, OAC) to the specific practice setting. Further, the licensed nurse must utilize good professional judgment in determining whether or not to engage in a given patient care related activity, consistent with the law, rules, and guided by the Board's *RN and LPN Decision Making Model*. It is critical to note that the law and rules require that the licensee provide nursing care only in circumstances that are consistent with the licensee's education, experience, knowledge, and demonstrated competency.

In this statement the Board does not announce a new rule but instead gives licensees specific guidelines regarding their obligations under existing law.

**Licensees should review the following:**

Section 4723.01, ORC

Rule 4723-4-03, OAC

Rule 4723-4-04, OAC

Rule 4723-4-06, OAC

Rule 4723-20, OAC

Utilizing Interpretive Guidelines

A complete copy of the Nurse Practice Act and the administrative rules are available for review and download from the Board website at [www.nursing.ohio.gov](http://www.nursing.ohio.gov) on the Law & Rules page. All Interpretive Guidelines and the Utilizing Interpretive Guidelines document are available on the Practice RN & LPN page.

Approved: July 18, 2008

Reviewed: March 18, 2011

Reviewed: March 21, 2013

Revised: March 12, 2015

Revised: March 9, 2017

Revised: March 13, 2019

Reviewed: March 17, 2021