



Ohio Board of Nursing

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*****DRAFT***** Interpretative Guideline*****DRAFT*****

Title: Registered Nurses Role in Emergent Intubation Performed by a Physician.

Guidelines for Registered Nurse Administration of Medication(s) and Monitoring of a Patient During the Performance of Emergent Intubation (Section 4723.01(B) Ohio Revised Code (ORC):

The scope of practice for registered nurses may include the administration of medication(s) as a part of an emergency intubation regimen as ordered by an authorized physician who is immediately present with the patient and is actively optimizing the patient's respiratory status. The administration of medication(s) during an emergent intubation and monitoring of the patient may be within the scope of registered nursing practice if the following guidelines are observed:

- A. The registered nurse who has acquired the necessary knowledge and competency, may administer medication(s) as a part of the emergent intubation regimen as ordered by an authorized physician who is immediately present with the patient and who would otherwise be administering the medication(s) if he/she were not actively engaged in inserting an artificial airway at the time that the medication(s) are to be administered. An authorized physician is a physician who is authorized to practice in this state and is acting within the course of the individual's professional practice that also includes, but is not limited to, adherence to the institution's credentialing requirements for the provider to perform emergent intubation procedures.
- B. In executing the emergent intubation regimen as specifically directed and ordered by the authorized physician, the registered nurse should:
 1. Monitor the patient's parameters that include, but are not limited to:
 - a. Hemodynamic measurements and status
 - b. Respiratory parameters
 - c. Mobility
 - d. Level of consciousness and perception of pain
 2. Communicate changes in patient status to the physician performing the procedure and to other appropriate personnel;
 3. Implement, as required, emergency measures to optimize the patient's respiratory and circulatory status until other qualified

- health care personnel assume care of the patient.
4. Maintain continuous intravenous access.

C. A registered nurse **MAY NOT**:

1. Independently select the medication(s) or dosage to be administered during emergent intubation.
2. Administer medications to induce deep sedation or anesthesia unrelated to emergent intubation.

Considerations in the registered nurse's administration of medications for emergent intubation and monitoring of the patient (Rule 4723-4-03, OAC):

- A. The registered nurse providing nursing care to patients during an emergent intubation 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.
- B. The registered nurse's education/training and demonstrated competence should include, but is not limited to, the following:
 1. Age-specific physiologic parameters that pertain to the patient's:
 - a. Oxygen delivery, transport and uptake;
 - b. Airway management;
 - c. Utilization of appropriate monitoring modalities, infusion devices, and emergency equipment;
 - d. Cardiac arrhythmia recognition and intervention;
 2. Indications, contraindications, and potential complications related to emergent intubation;
 3. Pharmacology pertaining to age-appropriate and weight appropriate medications used for and their respective reversal agents;
 4. Registered nurse responsibilities prior to, during and following the procedure as defined in employer/institutional policy and approved emergency protocols.

Accountability and Responsibility of Nurses

Section 4723.01(B) of the Ohio Revised Code (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.

The registered nurse must apply the Nurse Practice Act (Chapter 4723, Ohio Revised Code) and rules regulating the practice of nursing (Chapters 4723-1 to 4723-27, Ohio Administrative Code) to the specific practice setting. Further, the registered 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 *Decision-Making Model, Publication OBN-103*. It is critical to note that the law and rules require that the licensee provide nursing

care only in circumstances that are consistent with their 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:

§ 4723. 01, ORC

Rule 4723-4-03, OAC

Rule 4723-4-06, OAC

A complete copy of the Nurse Practice Act and the rules adopted thereunder is available for review and download from the Board of Nursing website:

www.nursing.ohio.gov in the Law and Rules section.