

BACKGROUND

The Nevada State Board of Nursing's "mission is to protect the public's health, safety, and welfare through effective nursing regulation. It is a government agency established by Nevada law to protect the public from unsafe practice by nurses" (NSBN, n.d.).

In the State of Nevada, there are Nevada Revised Statutes (**NRS**) which are the current laws. There is also The Nevada Administrative Code (**NAC**) which is the administrative regulations of the Executive Branch (Nevada Legislature, 2023). The Nevada State Board of Nursing fall under the executive branch of the state government, and the seven-member board is appointed by the Governor (NSBN, n.d.).

NAC 632.225 is an administrative code that speaks to additional duties in an area of specialization. For a nurse to perform these specialized skills, assessments, and interventions, the nurse must follow written policies and procedures approved by the medical staff, the nursing administration, and the administration of the employer. These policies and procedures should speak to a comprehensive program of study that provides the nurse with the additional knowledge, skill, and ability to perform specialized duties (NSBN, 2012).

To protect the public's health, safety, and welfare, a nurse could request a practice decision be considered by the State Board of Nursing.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this poster is to discuss the process that a Pediatric Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN) Clinical Nurse Specialist (CNS), with the support of the Chief Nursing Officer (CNO), took to recommend a practice decision for the use of nitrous oxide (N₂O/O₂) outside of the operating room in the State of Nevada.

CONTACTS

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METHODS

To submit a practice decision request requires a nurse to visit the Nevada State Board of Nursing website, proceed to the Practice Decisions section, and obtain the list of ten (10) questions that must be answered to beginning a practice decision request.

Once the ten (10) questions are answered they are forwarded to the Executive Director of the Nevada State Board of Nursing in Reno, Nevada. The nurse must attach copies of evidence-based references that will be used to support a draft practice decision. Once the request is received it will be placed on the next available agenda for the Nursing Practice Advisory Committee meeting. The nurse is welcomed and encouraged to participate in the committee process.

Nevada State Board of NURSING

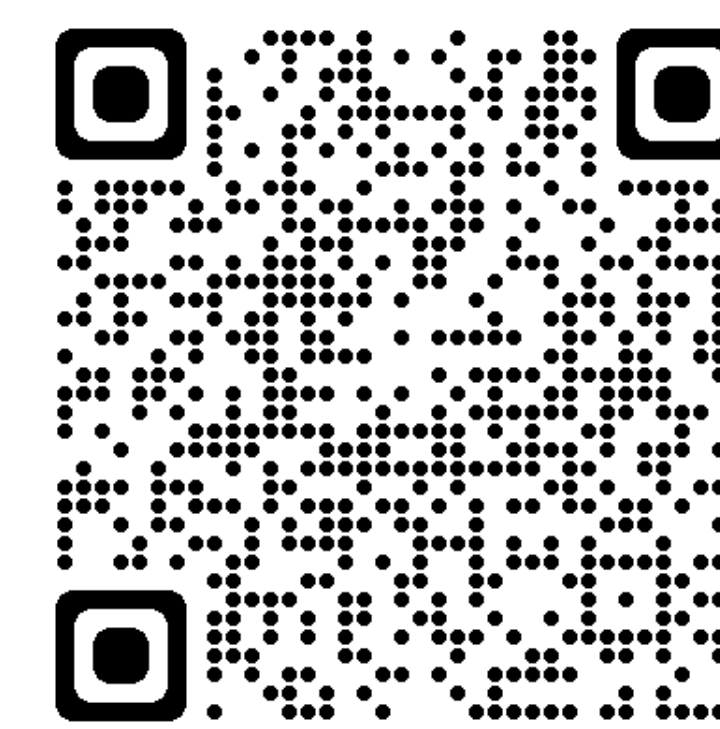
Practice Decision Request

1. State the practice question. Example: "Is it within the scope of practice for an (LPN, RN, APRN, CRNA, EMS-RN) to do . . ."
2. How is this in the best interest of the consumer (the recipient of the nursing service)?
3. Describe the current trends, standards (community, state, and national), nursing research, data and rationale that support this request.
4. Describe the impact on the nurse. Include how the scope of practice will be expanded and whether the practice would be considered independent, interdependent, or dependent.
5. Describe your view of the overall economic and manpower impact this practice would have on the State of Nevada. Include the impact on nurses, consumers, and the health care industry.
6. Propose the standardized procedure of this practice.
7. Describe and analyze the risks, benefits and alternatives.
8. Describe the education components and/or requirements for initial and on-going competency.
9. Describe the relationship of this practice to current and previous practice decisions, statutes, regulations, and advisory opinions.
10. Include your name, place of employment and a phone number where you can be reached.

[://nevadanursingboard.org/practice-information/](https://nevadanursingboard.org/practice-information/)



Image from: <https://nevadanursingboard.org/message-from-the-executive-director/>



Scan me to take you to the NSBN Practice Information

RESULTS

The Pediatric APRN-CNS and the CNO submitted the ten (10) questions to the Executive Director on September 26, 2022. The practice decision request was placed on the agenda for the Nurse Practice Advisory Committee (NPAC) Meeting on October 4, 2022, and the Pediatric APRN-CNS and CNO attended. At the October meeting, a subcommittee was formed to include NPAC members, the Pediatric APRN-CNS, and CNO to continue working collaboratively to draft this practice decision.

Eight (8) Meetings were held between October 2022 and June 2023 between the NPAC and the APRN Advisory Committee to develop a practice decision to protect the public's health, safety, and welfare. On June 6, 2023, a consensus was reached in the NPAC meeting, and the practice decision was moved to the Nevada State Board of Nursing, which would hold a meeting in July 2023.

CONCLUSIONS

On July 21, 2023, the practice decision titled **Requirements for the Registered Nurse in the Administration of Nitrous Oxide Outside of the Operating Room** was approved by the Nevada State Board of Nursing and adopted as a new practice decision. The work completed supports UMC's vision to be a premier academic health center.

The practice decision offers guidance on safe nursing practice by outlining general requirements, required training, required skills, and safety considerations that must be followed for this specialized therapy. Nitrous Oxide can now be used as a single sedative agent for anxiolysis/analgesia to support short, planned, or emergent clinical procedures outside of the operating room, including maternal self-administration of nitrous oxide during labor.

With this practice decision approved by the NSBN, UMC will implement Nitrous Oxide in the Pediatric Emergency Department, Pediatric Sedation, and the Labor Room, with a plan for future clinical research to be conducted here at UMC.

REFERENCES

Available upon request

