

Louisiana State Board of Nursing

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Declaratory Statement

COSMETIC AND AESTHETIC DERMATOLOGICAL PROCEDURES AND TREATMENTS PERFORMED BY REGISTERED NURSES AND ADVANCED PRACTICE REGISTERED NURSES

Introduction

The purpose of the Louisiana State Board of Nursing is to safeguard life and health of the citizens of Louisiana. Louisiana law (Revised Statutes of 1950, R.S. 37:911 et seq., as re-enacted and amended) delegates responsibility to the Board to establish and publish standards of nursing practice, to regulate the practice of nursing by the registered nurse and the advanced practice registered nurse, to provide for examination and licensure of the nurse practicing as a registered nurse and an advanced practice registered nurse, and to establish standards for educational programs preparing individuals for nursing practice.

The Louisiana State Board of Nursing issues declaratory statements as guidance for licensees committed to providing safe and effective nursing care to the citizens of Louisiana. Declaratory statements do not have the force and effect of law; however, declaratory statements represent the Board's expert opinion relative to specific practice situations which may have widespread nursing application. The safety and welfare of the citizens of Louisiana is given primary consideration in the issuing of a Declaratory Statement.

Accountability and Responsibility of Nurses

Louisiana Nursing Law holds each nurse individually accountable for delivering safe and effective care. The Declaratory Statement is applicable only to nurses who have documented training, knowledge, skills, and the institution or practice setting has a written policy in place. Any nurse who engages in nursing practice where competency has not been achieved, maintained and documented may be subject to disciplinary action.

Declaratory Statement

It is within the scope of practice for a registered nurse (RN) who is appropriately trained and qualified to perform the following cosmetic and aesthetic dermatological procedures and treatments as ordered by a duly licensed prescriber for treatment of dermatologic conditions:

- Light treatments, such as:
 - Topical photodynamic therapy (PDT),
 - Infrared light,
 - Magenta light,
 - UVB light,
 - UVA light;

LSBN Declaratory Statement
Dermatological and Cosmetic Procedures (Cont'd)

- Laser treatments, such as:
 - Laser skin resurfacing with non-ablative lasers,
 - Laser hair removal.
- Injectable treatments (using FDA approved products only), such as:
 - Sclerotherapy of superficial veins,
 - Botox (or similar FDA approved products) injections for cosmetic purposes,
 - ***Note: RN scope excludes all dermal fillers (Collagen, Restylane, Juvederm, etc.).***
- Chemical Peels
 - Superficial (including: salicylic acid, glycolic acid),
- Microdermabrasion
- Medical procedures that are not within the scope of a registered nurse include:
 - Ablative laser,
 - Dermal fillers,
 - Sclerotherapy other than superficial veins,
 - Hair transplants/implants.

Duly licensed prescribers for purposes of this statement include:

Nurse Practitioners (NP) - It is within the scope of practice for the NP who is duly qualified to provide cosmetic/aesthetic services as a subspecialty provided the NP has a current collaborative practice agreement with a *qualified physician* that has been approved by the Board and provided the clinical practice guidelines delineate the procedures and treatments the NP has the knowledge, skills and abilities to perform. The NP who performs cosmetic/aesthetic procedures must be nationally-certified in specialty area of care with a valid, unencumbered Louisiana license with no disciplinary action pending. Cosmetic/aesthetic procedures may be performed independently within approved clinical practice guidelines as a sub-specialty by nurse practitioners with the exception of the Acute Care NP, the Neonatal NP and the Psychiatric NP, who may perform cosmetic/aesthetic procedures under same conditions delineated for the RN.

Physicians - A qualified physician is one who is trained to perform cosmetic and aesthetic procedures and who is actively engaged in providing aesthetic and cosmetic services in the State of Louisiana. The qualified physician holds a current, unencumbered, unrestricted and valid medical license issued or recognized by the Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners and is in good standing with no pending disciplinary proceedings, and practices in accordance with rules of the Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners.

Course of Instruction:

The course of instruction must include both didactic and hands on training. In order to ensure patient safety, the nurse should secure and demonstrate the following knowledge and skills prior to engaging in cosmetic and dermatological procedures:

- A. Anatomy, physiology, pathophysiology regarding the integumentary system as well as systems specific to the procedure(s) being performed.
- B. Proper technique for each dermatologic procedure.
- C. Proper client selection, history taking, physical assessment parameters, indications and contraindications for treatment.
- D. Pharmacology including drug actions/interactions, side effects, contraindications, and untoward effects.
- E. Proper selection, maintenance and utilization of equipment.
- F. Ability to articulate realistic and expected outcomes of the procedure.
- G. Ability to describe potential complications and side effects.
- H. Nursing care required and appropriate nursing interventions in the event of complications or untoward outcomes.
- I. Management of complications or adverse reactions.
- J. Infection control.
- K. Safety precautions.
- L. Documentation appropriate to the type of the procedure being performed.

Practice Setting:

Any registered nurse who is going to engage in medical aesthetic cosmetic or dermatologic procedures should ensure that the following criteria are met prior to participating in those procedures:

- A. Medical aesthetic treatment has been prescribed or ordered by a qualified physician or NP practicing in collaboration with a qualified physician who possesses the specific knowledge, and ability to perform the procedure(s) independently;
- B. The RN has been appropriately trained and is qualified to perform the prescribed medical aesthetic procedures;
- C. Medical aesthetic procedures must be preceded by a history, an appropriate physical exam conducted by a qualified physician or NP practicing in collaboration with a qualified physician, a diagnosis which confirms that any treatment recommended is appropriate for the patient's condition, informed consent, availability and instructions for emergency and follow-up care and the preparation of an appropriate medical record. The registered nurse may apply standing orders and protocols for each procedure prescribed.

LSBN Declaratory Statement
Dermatological and Cosmetic Procedures (Cont'd)

Practice Setting (cont'd):

- D. All treatments and procedures must be performed in a medical facility or medical office. **The physician or NP must be physically present on the premises and immediately available at all times that the RN is engaged in the provision of patient care covered by this statement.**
- E. The institution or practice setting maintains written policies and procedures applicable standards of practice, and evidence based practice, which includes, but is not limited to, provision of specific direction on equipment, patient monitoring, and directions for dealing with complications of procedures.
- F. The institution or practice setting has in place educational/competency validation procedures. In addition, evaluation and documentation of competence occurs on a periodic basis according to institutional policy.

Adopted: March 2, 2011

LSBN Declaratory Statement
Dermatological and Cosmetic Procedures (Cont'd)

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