

Louisiana State Board of Nursing

DECLARATORY STATEMENT ON DIFFERENTIATION BETWEEN THE ROLE OF THE NEONATAL NURSE AND THE ROLE OF THE ADVANCED PRACTITIONER OF NEONATAL NURSING

The Neonatal Clinical Nurse Specialist and Primary Nurse Associate have satisfactorily completed a program of studies as required by LAC 46:XLVII.3705; therefore, these registered nurses are authorized to perform advanced nursing functions within their scope of preparation.

The Neonatal Clinical Nurse Specialist and Primary Nurse Associate shall possess the knowledge and skills to:

1. Use selected assessment procedures, formulate plans and initiate therapeutic regimes (both invasive and assessment related) according to protocols developed jointly by nursing and medicine within the institution.
2. Initiate appropriate diagnostic, therapeutic and educational interventions, including consultations and referrals with other health care professionals.
3. Assess the benefits and risks of diagnostic and therapeutic interventions utilized in provision of neonatal health care.
4. Evaluate and document responses to interventions and modify the plan of care as indicated.
5. Interpret current research findings to determine appropriateness for application to practice and standards of care.
6. Utilize adult learning principles to teach the family, nursing staff, other health care providers and the community about the care, growth and development of the high risk neonate.

Adopted: July 2, 1987