



Insertion, Maintenance and Removal of Peripherally Inserted Central Catheters (PICC)

POSITION STATEMENT

The Mississippi Board of nursing is a consumer protection agency with the authority to regulate the practice of nursing provided for by Mississippi Code of 1972, Annotated, Title 73, Chapter 15.

A position statement is a scope of practice determination made by the Board, as to whether performance of an action by a licensed nurse is within acceptable standards. Position statements are administrative and educational tools that can be used to assist providers, licensed nurses, and other interested parties in scope of practice determinations. Position statements of the Mississippi Board of Nursing are formulated in response to the Board's legally mandated charge to protect the public through safe nursing practice.

SCOPE OF PRACTICE

The appropriately prepared Registered Nurse may insert, maintain, and remove a peripherally inserted central catheter (PICC) provided:

1. The Registered Nurse is trained and competent in the procedure. The training should have all components of a formal certification course to include but not be limited to: indication for use, insertion technique, care, maintenance, discontinuation, identification of complications, interventions, and appropriate trouble shooting;
2. The Registered Nurse's training and competence are documented initially and on an ongoing basis;
3. The Registered Nurse practices according to generally accepted standards of care;
4. There is a medical order for the procedure;
5. All necessary resources are available;
6. The placement of the PICC and mid-clavicular lines are verified by x-ray prior to initiating the prescribed therapy. Radiographic confirmation must be by a physician or radiologist. An approved flush solution must be used to maintain patency of the line until prescribed therapy is begun; and
7. The facility/agency has policies and procedures in place addressing all aspects of this issue to include, but not limited to:
 - a) specific guidelines/criteria for candidates for this procedure (especially in the home setting);
 - b) a mechanism of data collection for quality control; and
 - c) guidelines for PICC removal (only uncomplicated PICC lines may be removed in the home setting).

Although the determination for a medical procedure and the patient's medical status is a medical decision, the Registered Nurse has the right and the obligation to question orders and decisions, which are contrary to acceptable standards, and to refuse to participate in procedures, which may result in harm to the patient.

HISTORY

Revised: 04/06/2000

