ADVANCED PRACTICE REGISTERED NURSE (APRN) SCOPE OF PRACTICE DECISION MAKING MODEL

1. Identify, describe or clarify the task/function under consideration.
2. Review the scope of practice for the APRN role based on the ASBN Nurse Practice Act and ASBN Rules, Chapter 4.
3. Is the task/function expressly prohibited by ASBN Nurse Practice Act, ASBN Rules, or any other law, rule or policy?
   - YES: STOP
   - NO: Proceed to the next step.
4. Is the task/function included in the scope of practice based on your educational preparation and national certification specialty area?
   - YES: Proceed to the next step.
   - UNSURE: Proceed to the next step.
   - NO: STOP
5. Is the task/function consistent with your APRN education, certification, population foci, national standards of practice, current APRN competencies, current nursing literature and research, policies and procedures, institution, accreditation standards, information on certification test content outline, or role delineation study?
   - NO: STOP
   - YES: Proceed to the next step.
6. Is the performance of the task/function within the accepted “standard of care” which would be provided in similar circumstances by reasonable and prudent APRNs who have similar training and experience?
   - YES: Proceed to the next step.
   - NO: STOP
7. Do you have the required knowledge, skill, education and experience to do the activity or task? Can you produce documentation/evidence that you have the knowledge, current skills, education and experience to do the activity or task?
   - YES: Proceed to the next step.
   - NO: STOP
8. Are you prepared to manage the consequences and accept accountability for your actions? Can you defend yourself if an adverse event occurs?
   - YES: Proceed to the next step.
   - NO: STOP
9. Is it reasonable to expect the patient will be safe/without harm as a result of your actions?
   - YES: You now must make a decision to perform or decline to perform the activity or task according to the currently accepted standards of care and in accordance with your institution’s policies and procedures.
   - NO: STOP

Acknowledgements: Adapted with permission from Kentucky Board of Nursing Scope of Practice Decision-Making Model for APRNs, 2/88; Iowa Board of Nursing Scope of Practice Decision Making Model for Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioners; American Nurses Association Scope-of-Practice Decision Making Model for CNPs and CNSs.