Arkansas Department of Health

Arkansas State Board of Nursing
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POSITION STATEMENT
18-1
APRN Scope of Practice Decision-Making Model

Advanced practice nursing is dynamic and fluid. Scope of practice can evolve and change through experience, clinical competency, evidence-based practice, research, technology, legislation, and changes in the health care system (Kleinpell et al., 2012; LACE, 2012; NCSBN, 2008). All licensed nurses share a common knowledge base of responsibility and accountability defined as the practice of nursing. However, advanced practice registered nurses (APRNs) have advanced skills and knowledge obtained in their graduate education programs that can leave some uncertain. Defining scope of practice for APRNs isn't always black and white. Their scope encompasses their educational preparation, certification, population foci, and attained and maintained competence. Individual scope of practice will vary between APRNs, even with like specialty areas. APRNs are responsible and accountable, both professionally and legally, for practicing within their individual scope of practice. The mission of the ASBN is to protect the public. Holding APRNs accountable to practice within their scope is an important responsibility of ASBN.

See attached APRN Scope of Practice Decision-Making Model.

References:

Kleinpell, R. M., Hudspeth, R., Scordo, K. A., & Magdic, K. (2012). Defining NP scope of practice and associated regulations: Focus on acute care. *Journal of the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners, 24*(1), 11-18.

LACE Network. (2012). *LACE Statement on Age Parameters for APRNs*. Retrieved from http://login.icohere.com/connect/d_connect_itemframer.cfm?vsDTTitle=Clarifying%20Statement%20on%20Age%20Parameters%20for%20APRNs&dseq=11071&dtseq=63052&emdisc=2&mkey=public935&vbDTA=0&viNA=0&vsDTA=%27%27&PAN=1&bDTC=0&MTB=true&blog=0&dtxtseq=353237&rss=1

National Council of State Boards of Nursing. (NCSBN). (2008). *Consensus Model for APRN Regulation: Licensure, Accreditation, Certification & Education.* Retrieved from https://www.ncsbn.org/Consensus_Model_Report.pdf

Adopted September 13, 2018

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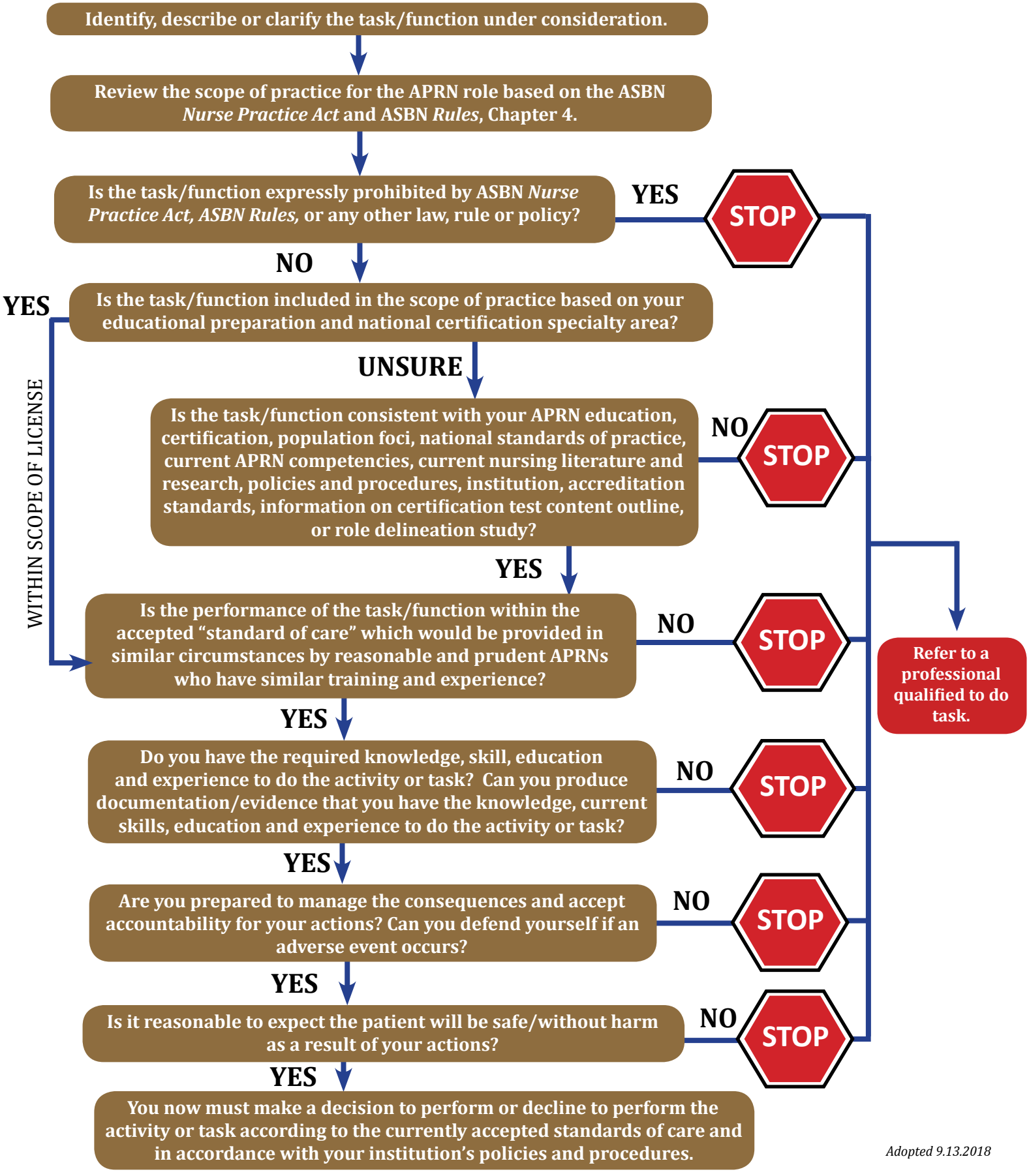
ADVANCED PRACTICE REGISTERED NURSE (APRN) SCOPE OF PRACTICE DECISION MAKING MODEL



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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.