

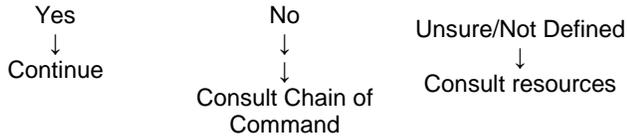
SCOPE OF PRACTICE DECISION TREE

Resource Documents*

- Georgia Nurse Practice Act O.C.G.A. §43-26
- Georgia Rules and Regulations
- Professional Standards of Practice (generally found through professional and specialty organizations (ANA, GNA, etc.))
- Organizational/Institutional policies, procedures and guidelines
- Assignment Decision Tree (when available)

*Please note the following: Not intended to be exclusive list and appropriate documentation is imperative at each step of this model consistent with your professional guidelines and institutions. At any point a written request or phone call may be sent to the Georgia Board of Nursing for an opinion.

1. Is activity/task in O.C.G.A. §43-26 (Georgia Nurse Practice Act), Georgia Board of Nursing Rules & Regulations?

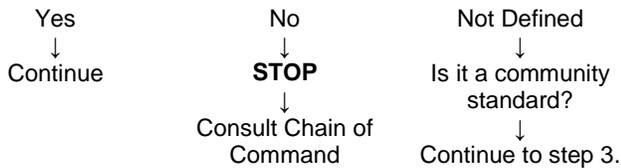


Yes – Continue

No – **Stop immediately.** Do the rules address your specific situation? Yes, proceed accordingly.

Unsure/Not Defined – Consult additional resources (examples listed). Consult qualified individuals such as: supervisor, colleague, professor, etc.

2. Is activity/task supported by research, position, and scope of practice statements by National Nursing Organizations or community or institutional related health field?



Yes – Continue to next step.

No – Stop immediately.

This activity is not within your scope of practice.

3. Is the activity/task consistent with organizational policies or procedures?



Yes – Continue to next step.

No – Stop and seek clarification of orders. If necessary, develop policies and procedures if appropriate in your organization.

4. Do you possess the current knowledge and skill required to perform the activity/task and is it documented in your work environment?



Yes – Continue.

No – Stop. It is important that your skills and ability are previously verified and documented in your file. If not, obtain the necessary education and demonstrate your competency. As appropriate, seek assistance from competent colleagues to accomplish task.

5. Would a reasonable and prudent nurse perform this activity in this setting?



Yes – Continue

No – Stop. The RN should consider the available human and material resources that may vary in practice settings such as in Long Term Care as compared to Hospice or other acute care settings.

6. Are you prepared to accept the responsibility for your action?



Yes – Perform the activity.

No – Stop! Document, communicate to appropriate sources.