

SANC POSITION ON INSERTION OF INTRAVENOUS INFUSION (IVI) AND TAKING OF BLOOD SPECIMEN BY REGISTERED NURSE PRACTITIONERS

PREAMBLE

The South African Nursing Council (SANC) is a statutory body established in terms of the Nursing Act, 2005 (Act no. 33 of 2005), to set and maintain the standards of nursing education and practice in the Republic of South Africa.

BACKGROUND

Professional Nurses and General Nurses are taught human anatomy and physiology and receive training in venepuncture. They further undergo competency assessment in venepuncture for purposes of inserting an intravenous line and drawing up of blood.

SANC POSITION

Having considered nursing regulations and a variety of nursing service delivery platforms, below is the SANC position on the matter.

The insertion of an intravenous infusion and taking of blood specimens is a duty shared by all health care professionals, who identify a need, prescribe such intervention and take an action, as per the identified need.

Professional Nurses and General Nurses should therefore, in an emergency or in the absence of a medical practitioner, initiate and maintain an intravenous infusion and take blood specimens in accordance with the institutional protocols.

NB. Enrolled nurses can only insert IVI infusion and take blood specimens under the supervision of a professional nurses.

The position statement was approved by Council at its meeting on 29-30 July 2020.

Kind regards,



MS SA MCHUNU

REGISTRAR AND CEO

S A NURSING COUNCIL

DATE: 18/10/2020



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