



## South Carolina Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation

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### ADVISORY OPINION # 49

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**QUESTION:** Is it within the role and scope for a Registered Nurse or Licensed Practical Nurse to supervise Emergency Medical Technicians (EMT's) and Paramedics in the Emergency Department (ED) of an agency functioning as EMT's and Paramedics?

**It is not within the role and scope of the Registered Nurse or Licensed Practical Nurse to supervise and delegate nursing functions to EMT's or Paramedics. In the state of South Carolina, the Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC), Division of Emergency Medical Services (EMS), authorizes EMT's and Paramedics to perform certain described procedures and acts. They perform these procedures and acts while employed by a licensed Emergency Medical Services provider, and under the guidance of an approved Medical Control physician. The EMT or Paramedic Certification does not apply within a medical facility or agency. EMT's and Paramedics are not allowed to wear any designation of such certification while working as an employee of a hospital or healthcare facility. When employed by the hospital or healthcare facility, they should follow the guidelines for unlicensed assistive personnel related to nursing supervision and oversight.**

**This statement is an advisory opinion of the Board of Nursing as to what constitutes competent and safe nursing practice.**