



South Carolina Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation

**South Carolina Board of Nursing**

P.O. Box 12367 • Columbia, SC 29211

Phone: 803-896-4550 • Fax: 803-896-4515 • [www.llronline.com/POL/nursing/](http://www.llronline.com/POL/nursing/)



**Advisory Opinion # 53**

**Formulated:** August 2007

**Revised:** November 2007

**Reviewed:**

**Question:** Is it within the role and scope of responsibilities of the registered nurse (RN) to advance the endoscope while assisting the physician during endoscopy procedures?

The Board of Nursing for South Carolina has determined that it is within the role and scope of an RN to assist the physician during endoscopy procedures with task such as: preparing the equipment for the procedure, suctioning during the procedure, and operating the camera (taking photographs). It is **NOT** within the role or scope of responsibilities of the RN to advance the endoscope during endoscopy procedures. This constitutes a medical act and can only be delegated to an Advance Practice Registered Nurse (APRN).

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