

Involuntary Commitment Orders: Nurse Practitioner & CNS Scopes-of-Practice

Psychiatric/Mental health Nurse Practitioners and Clinical Nurse Specialists are certified by the Board of Nursing as registered nurses who practice in an expanded specialty nursing role in the field of psychiatric care, diagnosis, and treatment. These Nurse Practitioners and Clinical Nurse Specialists are educationally prepared at a master's degree or doctoral level in mental health. They provide a broad range of mental health services to clients including psychotherapy; medication management; prescribing drugs; ordering tests, treatment modalities, interventions and medications which are carried out by other health care providers; consultation and referral to other treatment providers; and admitting their clients for inpatient treatment. These services are provided independently, without the supervision or oversight of another mental health professional.

It is the position of the Oregon State Board of Nursing that the scope of practice for Psychiatric/Mental health Nurse Practitioners and Clinical Nurse Specialists includes facilitating psychiatric treatment for their clients by signing involuntary commitment holds in conjunction with other authorized health professionals. Further, it is the Board's position that it is within the Psychiatric/Mental Health Nurse Practitioner and Clinical Nurse Specialist scope of practice to serve as involuntary commitment court examiners under the criteria of ORS 426.110.

Adopted 4/15/1993

Reaffirmed 2/1999

Amended 2/12/2009

References

Oregon Revised Statutes (2007). *ORS 426.110 Appointment of examiners; qualifications*. Retrieved 10/21/2008 from <http://www.leg.state.or.us/ors/>.

Oregon Revised Statutes (2007). *ORS 426.232 Physician emergency admission; notice, limit of hold*. Retrieved 10/21/2008 from <http://www.leg.state.or.us/ors/>.

Oregon Revised Statutes (2007). *ORS 426.234 Duties of professionals at facility where person is admitted; notification; duties of court*. Retrieved 10/21/2008 from <http://www.leg.state.or.us/ors/>.

The Oregon State Board of Nursing (OSBN) is authorized by Oregon Revised Statutes Chapter 678 to exercise general supervision over the practice of nursing in Oregon to include regulation of nursing licensure, education and practice in order to assure that the citizens of Oregon receive safe and effective care.

The OSBN further interprets statute and rule and issues opinions in the form of Board Policies, Policy Guidelines and Position Statements. Although they do not have the force and effect of law, these opinions are advisory in nature and issued as guidelines for safe nursing practice.