

**GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH**

**Health Regulation & Licensing Administration  
Board of Nursing**

Written: May 1, 2013  
Approved: September 4, 2013  
Originating Committee: Practice Committee

**Board of Nursing Advisory Opinion**

**Supra Pubic Catheter:**

QUESTION: Is it within the role and scope of responsibilities of the registered nurse (RN)/licensed practical nurse (LPN) to replace a supra pubic catheter?

The Board of Nursing for the District of Columbia acknowledges that it is within the role and scope of responsibilities of the RN/LPN to replace supra pubic catheter. The initial replacement of the catheter is usually by the physician, advanced practice registered nurse or physician's assistant.

The Board of Nursing recommends the employer verify competency in the performance of this skill.

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

Reference:

SUNA Society of Urology Nurses and Associates. (2005). Clinical Guidelines Task Force: Clinical Practice Guidelines of Supra Pubic Catheter Replacement. Retrieved from <http://www.suna.org/sites/default/files/download/suprapubicCatheter.pdf>

Bullman, S. (2011) Ins and Outs of Supra Pubic Catheters- A Clinicians Experience. *Urologic Nursing*. 31(5):259-263. Retrieved from <http://www.suna.org/sites/default/files/download/education/2013/article3105259263.pdf>