Registered Nurse Scope of Practice

Registered nurses (RNs) in the United States are licensed health care professionals who can perform medical exams and other duties, and who can supervise and delegate activities to other professionals. This dataset identifies variations in state laws that govern what activities registered nurses are authorized to perform, whether they are authorized to delegate medical activities to other professionals, what activities they can and cannot delegate, who the RNs can delegate to, and what level of supervision is required for this delegation.

Additional maps and tables are available by visiting www.lawatlas.org.

### Can perform a nursing diagnosis

Thirty-five states and the District of Columbia allow registered nurses to perform a nursing diagnosis.

Jurisdictions: 36 (AK, AZ, CO, CT, DC, DE, FL, GA, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, ME, MO, MI, NC, ND, NE, NH, NJ, NM, NV, NY, OK, OR, PA, SC, SD, TX, VT, WA, WY)

### Delegation to licensed practical nurses

Twenty-eight states allow registered nurses to delegate medical activities to licensed practical nurses.

Jurisdictions: 28 (AK, AL, AZ, CO, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, LA, ME, MI, MS, MT, ND, NJ, NM, NY, OH, OK, OR, SC, SD, VA, VT, WI, WV, WY)

### Continuous supervision

Seventeen states and the District of Columbia require registered nurses to provide continuous supervision to the health care professionals they delegate to.

Jurisdiction: 18 (CO, DC, KY, MS, MD, ME, MT, NJ, NM, NV, OK, OR, RI, TX, UT, WA, WI, WY)