

Digest for Adopted Regulation R_190-12

Existing law makes the State Board of Osteopathic Medicine responsible for administering and enforcing provisions relating to the licensure and discipline of osteopathic physicians and physician assistants and the supervision of medical assistants. (NRS 633.131, 633.291, 633.522)

Sections 3 and 4 of this regulation prescribe the circumstances in which an osteopathic physician or physician assistant is authorized to delegate to a medical assistant the performance of a task on a patient. **Section 3** also requires the osteopathic physician or physician assistant who delegates a task to be immediately available to exercise oversight in person if the task involves an invasive procedure. Pursuant to **section 4**, if an osteopathic physician or physician assistant determines that a patient with whom the practitioner has established a practitioner-patient relationship requires immediate attention and the patient is being treated in certain rural areas, the osteopathic physician or physician assistant may delegate the performance of a task on the patient if the osteopathic physician or physician assistant is immediately available by telephone or other means of instant communication. **Section 5** of this regulation requires the osteopathic physician or physician assistant to retain responsibility for the safety and performance of each task which is delegated to a medical assistant.

Existing regulations make it unethical for an osteopathic physician or physician assistant not to adequately supervise a medical assistant. (NAC 633.350) **Section 6** of this regulation clarifies that this includes supervision in accordance with **sections 3 and 4**. **Section 6** also removes the definition of “medical assistant.” Because NRS 0.024 makes the definition set forth in NRS 633.075 applicable to NAC, the definition is unnecessary.