

EXCERPTS FROM THE MISSOURI NURSE PRACTICE ACT

NURSING 335.016: (7) "Practical nursing" is the performance for compensation of selected acts for the promotion of health and the care of persons who are ill, injured, or experiencing alterations in normal health processes. Such performance requires substantial specialized skill, judgment, and knowledge. All such nursing care shall be given under the direction of a person licensed in this state to prescribe medications and treatments or under the direction of a registered professional nurse.

(8) "Professional nursing" is the performance for compensation of any act which requires substantial specialized education, judgment, and skill based on knowledge and application of principles derived from the biological, physical, social and nursing sciences, including, but not limited to:

(c) The administration of medications and treatments as prescribed by a person licensed in this state to prescribe such medications and treatments;

335.081. Exempted practices and practitioners - So long as the person involved does not represent or hold himself out as a nurse licensed to practice in this state, no provision of sections 335.011 to 335.096 shall be construed as prohibiting:

(2) The services rendered by technicians, nurses' aides or their equivalent trained and employed in public or private hospitals and licensed long-term care facilities except the services rendered in licensed long-term care facilities shall be limited to administering medication, excluding injectables other than insulin.

Interpretation - Under 335.016 only a nurse may administer medications. However, 335.081 (2) makes an exception and allows trained aides (CMT's) to administer medications in licensed long-term care facilities excluding injectables other than insulin. However, in order to give insulin, special training is required.