



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
Executive Office of Health and Human Services  
Department of Public Health  
Division of Health Professions Licensure  
Board of Registration in Nursing  
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Commissioner

February 14, 2018

To: Massachusetts Nursing and Professional Healthcare Organizations  
From: Laurie Talarico, MS, RN, CNP Nursing Practice Coordinator  
Re: Revised Advisory Ruling 9305: *Foot Care*

At the February 14, 2018 Board of Registration in Nursing (Board) meeting, the Board revised Advisory Ruling 9305: *Foot Care* to ensure compliance with current statutes, regulations and scope of practice standards.

AR 9305 guides the practice of Registered Nurses and Licensed Practical Nurses whose practice incorporates foot care to meet nursing and client goals including, but not limited to, health promotion, client teaching, health risk reduction, and promotion of safety and comfort.

Based on its review of relevant statutes and regulations, position statements published by professional nursing and health care organizations, scientific, peer-reviewed literature, the Board voted unanimously to revise AR 9305 to:

- 1) Require competency acquisition in:
  - a) Assessing health habits affecting feet and lower extremities (activity level, exercise, obesity, diet, smoking, etc.); and
  - b) Assessing pain and methods of relief.
- 2) Include the provision of off-loading or pressure relief devices for intact skin as a nursing measure, not requiring an order from a duly authorized prescriber.
- 3) Update technical revisions to grammar and style.
- 4) Update references.

Please take a moment to review the entire advisory ruling [AR 9305 Foot Care](#)