



AMERICAN ASSOCIATION
OF MEDICAL ASSISTANTS®

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Thank you for your inquiry concerning what tasks are delegable legally to medical assistants according to Minnesota law.

Note the following language from the Minnesota Statutes:

147A.08 EXEMPTIONS (a) This chapter does not apply to, control, prevent, or restrict the practice, service, or activities of...

...
(3) technicians, other assistants, or employees of physicians who perform delegated tasks in the office of a physician but who do not identify themselves as a physician assistant.

147.091 GROUNDS FOR DISCIPLINARY ACTION.

Subdivision 1. **Grounds listed.** The board may refuse to grant a license, may refuse to grant registration to perform interstate telemedicine services, or may impose disciplinary action as described in section [147.141](#) against any physician. The following conduct is prohibited and is grounds for disciplinary action:

.....
(i) Aiding or abetting an unlicensed person in the practice of medicine, except that it is not a violation of this paragraph for a physician to employ, supervise, or delegate functions to a qualified person who may or may not be required to obtain a license or registration to provide health services if that person is practicing within the scope of that person's license or registration or delegated authority.

It is my legal opinion that this language permits physicians to delegate a reasonable scope of clinical and administrative tasks (including venipuncture and intramuscular, intradermal, and subcutaneous injections—including immunizations/vaccinations) to knowledgeable and competent unlicensed professionals such as medical assistants working under their direct/onsite supervision in outpatient settings.

Tasks that constitute the practice of medicine or require the skill and judgment of a licensed health care practitioner, however, may not be delegated to unlicensed professionals such as medical assistants.

I have enclosed the Occupational Analysis of the CMA (AAMA), the entry-level competencies taught in medical assisting programs accredited by CAAHEP, and the Content Outline of the CMA (AAMA) Certification Examination. Although these documents do not have the force of law, they should offer some guidance on scope of practice.

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