

## 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 North Dakota law.

My research has not revealed any language in North Dakota statutes or regulations that addresses what physicians can delegate to medical assistants. Nevertheless, it is my legal opinion that common law principles inherent in state licensure permit physicians to delegate a reasonable scope of clinical tasks (including venipuncture, taking vital signs, EKGs) to knowledgeable and competent medical assistants working under their direct/onsite supervision in outpatient settings.

Procedures which constitute the practice of medicine, or which state law permits only certain licensed health professionals to perform, however, may not be delegated to unlicensed professionals such as medical assistants.

Regulations implemented by the North Dakota Board of Nursing August 1, 2005, allow medical assistants who meet the qualifications and are registered in the Medication Aide III category to be delegated certain injections.

I hope this information is helpful. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have further questions or need additional assistance.

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