



# Nevada Academy of Physician Assistants

## AB 364

How is Optimal Team Practice (OTP) Different from Independence?

*What does OTP/AB 364 change?*

Current State Law Requirements	With Optimal Team Practice/ AB 364
PAs can only practice if a physician agrees to supervise the PA	Physicians are not required to agree to supervise PAs after 6000 hours of supervised practice
PAs shall only practice consistent with their training, education, and competency	Unchanged
PAs must consult or collaborate with a physician when a task exceeds the PAs competency or ability	Unchanged
Scope of Practice. PAs may provide medical services for which their education, training, and experience have prepared them and are competent to perform	Unchanged
Physician determines PA's practice parameters	PAs, physicians, and the practice/facility evaluate the PAs credentials and qualifications and determine the appropriate responsibilities
Physicians must accept legal responsibility for care provided by PAs they've agreed to supervise	Physicians are not required to accept legal responsibility for care provided by PAs they do not supervise
PAs must adhere to all professional and ethical standards	Unchanged
PAs must renew their license through the medical board and demonstrate continued competency through CME completion	Unchanged
PAs cannot independently open a practice	Unchanged

## How is Optimal Team Practice (OTP) Different from Independence?

PAs are not seeking to practice independently, nor do PAs desire or intend to practice independently. PAs are committed to team practice and collaborating with physicians and other healthcare professionals in accordance with the standard of care and the patient's condition. The *team* concept is at the core of Optimal Team Practice (OTP).

PAs believe Optimal Team Practice occurs when PAs, physicians, and other medical professionals work together to provide quality care without burdensome administrative constraints. PAs will continue to be legally and ethically obligated to consult with and refer patients to physicians based on the patient's condition, the standard of care, and the PA's education and experience. OTP enables practice-level decisions about patient care teams. Practices and facilities will continue to evaluate a PA's credentials and experience and determine the role and responsibilities that are appropriate for the PA, the same as they do today.

PAs that practice outside the scope of their education, training, experience, and competency are subject to discipline and license revocation by the licensing board.

### ***Why PAs Want Optimal Team Practice***

Optimal team practice increases patient access to care- and patients are the PA's priority. Eliminating the requirement for a PA to have an agreement with a specific physician will enable practice-level decisions about patient care teams.

### ***Does OTP Change PA Scope of Practice?***

No. For many PAs, the medical and surgical services they provide today would be exactly the same with OTP in place. PAs will continue to consult with physicians and other healthcare team members the same as they do today.