

December 11, 2000

Joan Rooney, RN
Director Women's Services
Meadowcrest Hospital
2500 Belle Chasse Hwy.
Gretna, LA 70056

Dear Ms. Rooney:

Pursuant to your request regarding the scope of practice of a registered nurse applying fundal pressure during the second stage of labor, especially upon physician request for the delivery of a large infant, your request was studied by the Nursing Practice Committee on October 24, 2000. The Committee presented its recommendation to the Board of Nursing on December 6, 2000 and, after due deliberation, the Board adopted the following opinion:

In reference to agenda item 6.5, that it is **not** within the scope of authorized practice for an RN to routinely apply fundal pressure during second stage of labor; however, in the case of immediate emergency such as fetal distress, **when the vaginal delivery is not complicated by shoulder dystocia** and when the physician is physically present and directing the application of fundal pressure, the RN may apply fundal pressure during the second stage of labor.

The Board expressed their appreciation for your attendance at the Committee meeting to answer their questions.

If you have any questions regarding this communication, please contact me.

Sincerely,

Barbara L. Morvant, MN, RN
Executive Director

BLM:PAL

cc: file

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