

March 18, 2003

Janet Morse, RN
Director, Critical Care Services
North Oaks Medical Center
15790 Paul Vega, MD Drive
Hammond, LA 70403

Dear Ms. Moore:

Pursuant to your request regarding the authorized scope of practice of registered nurses accessing a lifeport in the subcutaneous area of the abdomen for recurrent ascites your petition was studied by the practice Committee on February 14, 2003. The Committee presented its recommendation to the Board of Nursing on March 12, 2003, and, after deliberation, the Board adopted the following:

That in reference to agenda item 6.6 that it is within the scope of practice for an RN to access a life-port in the subcutaneous area of the abdomen to remove recurrent ascites in accordance with a medical order provided that the said RN has documented knowledge, skills, and abilities.

Contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Barbara L. Morvant, MN, RN
Executive Director, LSBN

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