

Louisiana State Board of Nursing

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December 23, 2010

Billy G. Conerly, RN
Director of Emergency Department
Lane Regional Medical Center
6300 Main Street
Zachary, LA 70791

Dear Mr. Conerly,

Pursuant to your request regarding the authorized scope of practice of registered nurses to take a verbal or telephone order to write medications or treatments on a prescription pad with the Rx signed as “*verbal order (Doctor’s Name) MD / (Nurse’s name) RN*”; the Practice Committee considered your petition at the October 20, 2010 Practice Committee meeting. The Committee presented its recommendation to the Louisiana State Board of Nursing on December 8, 2010.

That in reference to Board agenda item # **6.2** and in accordance with R.S. 37:913 (14) which states: **§913 (14):**

“Registered nursing” means the practice of the scope of nursing which is appropriate to the individual’s educational level, knowledge, skills, and abilities...

After due deliberation, the Board adopted the following actions:

That the issue of Registered Nurse’s signing prescriptions with verbal order (V.O.) is not a scope of practice issue, but instead falls within the realm of legal prescriber status as defined in:

- Pharmacists Rules and Regulations: L.A.C.46:LIII:2511-2513 – Prescriptions / Prescription Receipt and Verification;
- Code of Federal Regulations, Title 21, Chapter II, Section 1306.03 – Persons Entitled to Issue Prescriptions;
- Nursing Rules and Regulations: L.A.C.46:XLVII:4513.D – Authorized Practice / Prescriptive and Distributing Authority.

Please contact me if you have any questions regarding this communication.

Sincerely,



Barbara L. Morvant, MN, RN
Executive Director
Louisiana State Board of Nursing

BLM/bck

CC: Katherine Pate, RN, Telemetry Unit Director – Lane Regional Medical Center

Npop 10.04