

Louisiana State Board of Nursing

Elizabeth B. Kirkham, R.N.
President

MISS MERLYN M. MAILLIAN, R.N.
Executive Director

907 Pere Marquette Building
150 Baronne Street
New Orleans, Louisiana 70112
December 15, 1977

Mrs. Jean W. Gentry, R.N.,
Associate Hospital Director and
Director of Nursing Service
Ochsner Foundation Hospital
1516 Jefferson Highway
New Orleans, Louisiana 70121

Dear Mrs. Gentry:

The Louisiana State Board of Nursing completed its deliberation on the functions of the Neonatal Transport Nurse at its December 8-9, 1977 meeting. Following is the official opinion of the Board relative to this role:

The prepared registered nurse member of a Neonatal Transport Team, in order to stabilize and maintain an ill infant during transport, may carry out appropriate treatments when in collaboration with and under the direction of a Neonatologist. This Neonatal Transport Nurse would be functioning within the legal practice of nursing in performing these procedures, namely:

- a) bagging and peeping
- b) administering oxygen
- c) starting peripheral I.V.'s
- d) drawing blood and obtaining cultures
- e) peripheral venous cutdowns
- f) arterial punctures
- g) preparing and administering medications
- h) resuscitation measures that may be performed by the transport nurse:
 - 1) bag and mask ventilation
 - 2) external cardiac massage
 - 3) intubation
 - 4) insertion of needle or tube into chest to relieve pneumothorax
 - 5) insertion of venous and/or arterial catheter.

The Board wishes to emphasize that the above procedures and functions would be considered within the practice of nursing when performed under the aforementioned conditions.

The Board commended the members of the Ochsner Neonatal Transport Team for their efforts, advances and service.

Sincerely,

Merlyn M. Maillian, R.N.,
Executive Director

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