

LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF NURSING

Pere Marquette Bldg.—Office No. 907

150 Baronne Street

New Orleans, Louisiana 70112

Elizabeth B. Kirkham, R.N.

April 5, 1978

Mrs. J. B. Hickey, R.N., M.P.H.
Chief
Nursing Services Section
Louisiana Health and Human Resources Administration
Division of Health
P.O. Box 60630
New Orleans, Louisiana 70160

Dear Mrs. Hickey:

At its March 31, 1978 meeting, the Board of Nursing completed its deliberation on the legality of delegating the "finger sticks" to obtain blood for determining hemoglobin levels. Following is the official opinion of the Board on this matter:

Determining hemoglobin levels can be a function of nursing within the context of health maintenance. It is a selected function which may be delegated to appropriate persons, that is, persons who have been taught the task by the registered nurse. The supervising registered nurse retains the responsibility for the delegated function.

If you have further questions regarding this matter, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,



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

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