

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

Ms. Gail Dunn, R.N.,  
Director of Nurses  
Minden Medical Center  
# 1 Medical Plaza  
Minden, La. 71055

Dear Ms. Dunn:

Your request for an opinion of the Board of Nursing relative to the legality of Registered Nurses performing selected tasks in the procedure for instilling Nitrogen Mustard into the abdominal cavity was presented to the Board at its meeting on March 31, 1978. Following is the official opinion of the Board on this matter:

Insertion of the angio cath into the abdominal cavity is a medical function as you indicated. Steps two, three and four (rotating the "needle", instilling the Nitrogen Mustard and removing the "needle" followed by bandaging) are within the realm of nursing as practiced by a registered nurse provided the following conditions are met:

1. The "needle" is a plastic needle or catheter;
2. The instillation is to be made into the abdominal cavity and not into an artery for perfusion of a diseased organ.

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

Sincerely,



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

MMM:mtl

ngop 78.02