

Louisiana State Board of Nursing

Mary Ann Kohnke, R.N.
President

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

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

September 8, 1980

Ms. Ginger A. Hunt, R.N., BSN, MS
Director of Education
East Louisiana State Hospital
Jackson, Louisiana 70748

Dear Ms. Hunt:

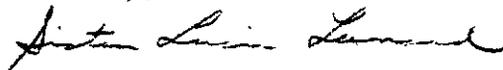
The Board of Nursing held its scheduled meeting on September 4-5, 1980. Your question regarding the legality of nurses copying or updating Doctor's Medication Orders was presented to the Board. After due deliberation on all of the conditions which you provided in your letter and in our telephone conference, the Board formulated the following statement:

Copying of physicians' orders by a registered nurse is not illegal. However, hospital policy relative to alterations of original physicians' orders should be specific and enforced.

Recopying of orders is a poor utilization of registered nurse time.

The Board of Nursing appreciates your efforts to protect the health and welfare of your patients and to utilize registered nurse time toward that end. If we can further assist you, please feel free to contact us.

Sincerely,



Sister Lucie Leonard, R. N.
Nursing Practice Consultant

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