

September 24, 1987

Patricia Fuenzalida, RN, BSN
Assistant Supervisor, SICU/PAR
Charity Hospital of Louisiana at New Orleans
1532 Tulane Avenue
New Orleans, LA 70140

Dear Ms. Fuenzalida:

At its regular meeting on September 22, 1987, the Board of Nursing deliberated on your request for an opinion of the Board regarding registered nurses inflating and deflating gastric and esophageal balloons of the Sengstaken/Blakemore Tube initially and on a routine basis as ordered by the physician. After due deliberation, the Board adopted the following opinion.

.34

In reference to Agenda Item 2 d, it is not within the realm of practice of a registered nurse to inflate and deflate gastric and esophageal balloons of a Sengstaken/Blakemore Tube initially or on a routine basis.

The members of the Board of Nursing appreciated the materials you sent prior to the meeting, as well as the opportunity to discuss this matter with you and Paola Zambito at the meeting.

Sincerely,

Sister Lucie Leonard, MSN, RN
Nursing Practice Consultant