

September 24, 1987

Theresa Walker, RN
Director of Nursing Service
West Calcasieu-Cameron Hospital
P.O. Box 2269
Sulphur, LA 70664-2269

Dear Ms. Walker:

At its regular meeting on September 22, 1987, the Board of Nursing deliberated on your request for two opinions of the Board: 1) regarding the registered nurse removing a temporary epidural catheter; and 2) regarding the registered nurse administering morphine sulfate (containing selected preservatives) via an epidural catheter. After due deliberation, the Board adopted the following opinions.

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In reference to Agenda Item 2 e, it is within the realm of practice of registered nurses to remove temporary epidural catheters provided said nurses have the appropriate knowledge and skills, and provided these are documented in their individual files.

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In reference to Agenda Item 2 e, a registered nurse may administer morphine sulfate (with selected preservatives) via an epidural catheter provided a medical evaluation has been done approving the same.

The members of the Board appreciated all of the materials which you and Dr. Walter Ledet sent prior to the meeting. Your presence at the meeting was also appreciated.

Sincerely,

Sister Lucie Leonard, MSN, RN
Nursing Practice Consultant

cc: Dr. Walter P. Ledet, Jr., MD