

May 23, 1989

Dee LeJeune, RN  
Associate Director of Nursing  
Woman's Hospital  
P.O. Box 95009  
Baton Rouge, LA 70895-9009

Dear Ms. LeJeune:

Your request for an opinion of the Board of Nursing to determine if it is within the legal realm of the practice of the registered nurse to remove a Jackson-Pratt drain was presented to the Board on May 19, 1989.

After due deliberation on your question and on the removal of other drains, the Board adopted the following opinion:

.06

It is within the realm of practice for the registered nurse to remove a drain from a patient provided that there is an appropriate order from a physician. This does not include chest tubes.

The members of the Board appreciated the contributions of Virginia Shiroda and Mary Ann Smith at the meeting.

Sincerely,

Sister Lucie Leonard, MSN, RN  
Nursing Practice Consultant