

January 24, 1990

Gloria Bernard, RN  
Instructor, Education Department  
Pendleton Memorial Methodist Hospital  
5620 Read Boulevard  
New Orleans, LA 70127

Dear Ms. Bernard:

Your request for an opinion of the Board of Nursing regarding the delegation to a licensed practical nurse selected IV tasks related to an extension tube of a venous access port was presented to the Board at its meeting on January 19, 1990.

The Nursing Practice Committee had reviewed all of the information you sent and had studied the issue. At the January 19 meeting, the Committee presented its recommendations to the Board. After due deliberation, the Board adopted the following opinion:

.03

In reference to Agenda Item 4c, the delegation, to a licensed practical nurse, of the flushing of and administration of medications into an extension tube connected to a subcutaneously implanted venous access device is not within the legal realm of the practice of a registered nurse because the performance of the task requires complex assessment and nursing judgment.

Sincerely,

Sister Lucie Leonard, MSN, RN  
Nursing Practice Consultant