

May 29, 1990

Vickey F. Morris, RN
RN Supervisor MICU
LSU Medical Center
1501 Kings Highway
Shreveport, LA 71130

Dear Ms. Morris:

Your request for an opinion of the Board of Nursing regarding a registered nurse performing the placement of indwelling radial arterial catheters in emergency situations was presented to the Board of Nursing at its meeting on May 25, 1990.

The Nursing Practice Committee had reviewed all of the information you sent and had studied the issue. Although there was no need to call you, the members of the Committee appreciated your availability for a conference at the meeting to further clarify your situation. At the May 25 meeting, the Committee presented its recommendations to the Board. After due deliberation, the Board adopted the following opinion:

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In reference to agenda item #12, in an emergency (life-threatening) situation, the registered nurse may perform the placement of an indwelling radial arterial catheter, provided said nurse has the prerequisite knowledge and skills and is appropriately credentialed by the agency.

The members of the Board appreciated you and Dr. Steven Conrad being present at the meeting to respond to questions regarding this opinion.

If you have questions about this matter, please contact me.

Sincerely,

Sister Lucie Leonard, MSN, RN
Nursing Practice Consultant
cc: Kerry M. Powell, RN

Steven A. Conrad, MD
Director, Medical Intensive Care Unit