

July 23, 1990

Martez Robinson, RN
Director of Nursing Service
P.O. Box 748
Oak Grove, LA 71263

RE: Nursing Practice Opinion

Dear Ms. Robinson:

Your request for an opinion of the Board of Nursing regarding a registered nurse changing a tracheostomy tube on a ventilator-dependent patient in a home setting was presented to the Board at its meeting on July 19, 1990.

The Nursing Practice Committee had reviewed all of the information you sent and had studied the issue. The members of the Committee appreciated your availability for a conference at the meeting to further clarify your situation. At the July 19 meeting, the Committee presented its recommendations to the Board. After due deliberation, the Board adopted the following opinion:

.18

In reference to Agenda Item # 11, it is not within the legal realm of the practice of a registered nurse to change a tracheostomy tube on a ventilator dependent patient in the home setting.

If I can further assist you with nursing practice matters, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Sister Lucie Leonard, MSN, RN
Nursing Practice Consultant