

August 12, 1992

Kerry Milton  
Administrative Director Nursing Service  
St. Tammany Parish Hospital  
1202 South Tyler Street  
Covington, LA 70433

Dear Ms. Milton:

Your request for an opinion of the Board of Nursing regarding a registered nurse delegating the function of setting up a patient controlled analgesia pump with a syringe of narcotic and activating the pump was presented to the Board at its meeting on August 7, 1992.

The Nursing Practice Committee reviewed the information you sent and discussed the matter with a representative of the Board of Practical Nurse Examiners. At the August 7 meeting, the Committee presented its recommendation to the Board. After due deliberation, the Board adopted the following opinion:

In reference to agenda item 4.2 a registered nurse may delegate to a LPN the function of setting up and activating a patient controlled analgesia pump provided the LPN has the necessary knowledge, skills and abilities documented in his/her personal file. A formal education program shall be documented and the knowledge, skill and abilities have been demonstrated by the LPN. This does not include IV bolus, the delegation of which is prohibited by LAC 46:XLVII.4111.A.3.

If you have questions about this matter, please feel free to contact us.

Sincerely,

Barbara L. Morvant, MN, RN  
Executive Director

BLM:sll

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