

November 13, 1992

Nanette Couvillion Patin, RN
Nurse Educator
Baton Rouge Health Care
134 Mc GeHee Drive
Baton Rouge, LA 70815

Dear Ms. Patin:

Your request for an opinion of the Board of Nursing regarding a registered nurse in home health accepting verbal or telephone orders for patient care from a social worker or from someone in the physician's office who is not a nurse was presented to the Board at its meeting on November 6, 1992.

The Nursing Practice Committee studied the information you sent and reviewed related previous actions of the Board, particularly the declaratory statement on transmission and acceptance of verbal physicians' orders, adopted on September 23, 1987. The Board's records reflect input from representatives of the Board of Medical Examiners in the formulation of that statement.

At the November 6, 1992 meeting of the Board, the Committee presented its recommendation to the Board. After due deliberation, the Board adopted the following opinion:

In reference to agenda item 4.5, the Board reaffirms the previous declaratory statement on transmission and acceptance of verbal physicians' orders, dated September 23, 1987, which states, in part, that registered nurses may, based on their individual judgment of each situation, accept verbal orders initiated by a licensed physician or dentist and transmitted through a licensed or certified health care practitioner, **provided the order is related to the said practitioner's scope of practice.**

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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