

November 20, 1996

Dorothy Krings, R.N.
Administrator
The Medical Team, Inc.
4354 S. Sherwood Forest Blvd.
Baton Rouge, LA 70816

Dear Ms. Krings:

Your request for an opinion of the Board of Nursing regarding a registered nurse delegating to the LPN the care of a ventilator dependent patient in the home setting was presented to the Board at its meeting on November 20, 1996.

The information you sent and related information were studied by the Nursing Practice Committee. On November 20, the Committee presented its recommendation to the Board, and, after due deliberation, the Board adopted the following opinion:

In response to Agenda Item #4.10, it is within the scope of practice for a registered nurse to delegate to an LPN the care of a ventilator dependent patient in the home setting provided that the LPN has the knowledge, skills, and continuing clinical competence documented in the file and provided that the registered nurse has assessed the patient prior to delegation.

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

Sincerely,

Barbara L. Morvant, MN, RN
Executive Director

BLM:PAL

npop96.30