

February 4, 1998

Donna Fraley, R.N.
Director of Nursing
Green Clinic
1200 S. Farmerville Street
Ruston, LA 71270-5900

Dear Ms. Fraley:

Your request for an opinion of the Board of Nursing regarding the role of the registered nurse in administering Dobutamine for Dobutamine stress echocardiography was presented to the Board at its meeting on February 4, 1998.

The information you sent and related information was studied by the Nursing Practice Committee on January 5, 1998 and the Committee presented its recommendation to the Board on February 4, 1998, and, after due deliberation, the Board adopted the following opinion:

In reference to agenda item 6.5, that it is within the scope of practice for a registered nurse to administer a Dobutamine infusion for stress testing provided that the Dobutamine is regulated by a pump and that the physician remains at the bedside at all times in accord with RS 37:913(13) that prohibits an RN from making a medical diagnosis and provided that an RN has the knowledge, skills, and abilities documented in the said RN's file. Furthermore, an RN may not delegate the infusion of Dobutamine to an LPN.

If you have any questions regarding this communication, please contact me.

Sincerely,

Barbara L. Morvant, MN, RN
Executive Director

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