

May 21, 1998

Thomas Collins  
Director, Office of Management and Finance  
Department of Health and Hospitals  
P. O. Box 91030  
Baton Rouge, LA 70821-9030

Dear Mr. Collins:

Your request for an opinion of the Board of Nursing regarding whether or not certified nurse midwives (CNMs) may assist with Cesarean deliveries was presented to the Board.

The information you sent and related information was studied by the Nursing Practice Committee on April 7, 1998 and the Committee presented its recommendation to the Board of Nursing on May 13, 1998, and, after due deliberation, the Board adopted the following opinion:

In reference to agenda item 6.2, that it is within the scope of practice for a CNM to serve as first assistant during Cesarean deliveries, provided the CNM has additional knowledge, skills, and abilities with documentation of competency to said CNM's file.

Furthermore, CPT codes 59514-80 and 59620-80 are within the scope of practice for CNMs.

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

Sincerely,

Barbara L. Morvant, MN, RN  
Executive Director

cc: Celia Gascon  
Department of Health and Hospitals  
Kathleen Martin, CNM

BLM:PAL  
npop 98.07