

November 24, 1998

Kristie Scheen, RN
Willis Knighton Medical Center
Department of Anesthesia
2600 Greenwood Road
Shreveport, LA 71103

Dear Ms. Scheen:

Pursuant to your request for an opinion of the Louisiana State Board of Nursing regarding a registered nurse placing indwelling arterial catheters in the operating room under the supervision of an anesthesiologist was presented to the Board of Nursing.

The information you sent and related information was studied by the Nursing Practice Committee on October 20, 1998 and the Committee presented its recommendation to the Board of Nursing on November 18, 1998, and, after due deliberation, the Board adopted the following opinion:

In reference to agenda item 6.2, it is within the scope of practice for a registered nurse to insert an indwelling radial arterial catheter in the holding area or operating room under the supervision of an anesthesiologist provided that the said registered nurse has demonstrated the necessary knowledge, skills, and abilities with documented competency to the said registered nurse's file.

The Board expressed appreciation for your presence at the Committee meeting to answer questions relative to the request. If you have any questions regarding this communication, please contact me.

Sincerely,

Barbara L. Morvant, MN, RN
Executive Director

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