

November 24, 1998

Melanie Benedict, RN
Supervisor
Earl K. Long Medical Center
5825 Airline Highway
Baton Rouge, LA 70805

Dear Ms. Benedict:

Pursuant to your request for an opinion of the Louisiana State Board of Nursing regarding a registered nurse delegating cast application and removal to a nursing assistant 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 6.3, it is within the scope of practice of a registered nurse to apply and remove a cast when the said registered nurse has demonstrated the necessary knowledge, skills, and abilities with documented competency to the said registered nurse's file; and furthermore, the registered nurse may delegate these tasks to unlicensed personnel who have been trained and when registered nurse supervision is available during cast application and/or removal.

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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