

November 24, 1998

Floyd Benoit, Jr.
Medicaid/E.P.S.D.T. Coordinator
Lafourche Parish School System
Post Office Box 879
Thibodaux, LA 70302

Dear Mr. Benoit:

Pursuant to your request for an opinion of the Louisiana State Board of Nursing regarding a registered nurse administering and/or delegating rectal Diastat in a school setting to a student 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 6.5, it is within the scope of practice for a registered nurse to instill rectal diastat in a school setting provided that the school system provides a registered nurse to be only assigned to the school where the student is attending and based on the registered nurse's assessment and in collaboration with the student's parents and physician determine the necessary plan of care, inclusive of emergency equipment, to be provided by the school system, to ensure the student's safety in the event that the student has an adverse reaction to the Diastat. Furthermore, the registered nurse may not delegate the instillation of rectal Diastat to an unlicensed school employee.

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

Sincerely,

Barbara L. Morvant, MN, RN
Executive Director

cc: Steven Miller

BLM:PAL
npop 98.21