

Louisiana State Board of Nursing

907 Pere Marquette Building
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New Orleans, Louisiana 70112-2382
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December 14, 1978

Ms. Janice Scott, R.N.
Director of Nursing Service
Lafayette General Hospital
P.O. Box 52009 O.C.S.
Lafayette, La. 70501

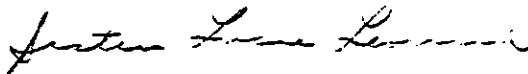
Dear Ms. Scott:

The Board of Nursing appreciated the opportunity to discuss with you and Diane Pennington the question regarding the placement of scalp electrodes and intrauterine monitoring catheters by registered nurses as part of its deliberation on the appropriateness of these activities within the legal definition of nursing practice in Louisiana. After due deliberation, the Board formulated the following declaratory statement:

It is the practice of nursing for the specifically prepared registered nurse with medical direction to attach scalp electrodes for internal fetal monitoring. Said special preparation should be properly documented in the practitioner's file. The insertion of an intrauterine catheter for fetal monitoring is not the practice of nursing.

Your efforts to promote safe and legal nursing care is commendable. If our office can assist you in the future, please contact us.

Sincerely,



Sister Lucie Leonard, R.N.
Nursing Practice Consultant

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