

March 28, 1988~

Rose Patin, RN~
Divisional Nursing Director~
Our Lady of the Lake Regional Medical Center~
5000 Hennessy Boulevard~
Baton Rouge, LA 70809~

Dear Ms. Patin:~

You request for opinions of the Board of Nursing was presented for the Board's deliberation at the Board meeting on March 24, 1988. After due deliberation, the Board adopted the following opinions:~

.05

In reference to agenda item 3b, it is within the scope of practice for the registered nurse to remove the Swan Ganz catheter with pacing leads no longer being used either as a pulmonary artery pressure monitoring line or pacing catheter, provided the registered nurse has knowledge, preparation and skill supporting his/her ability to do so and that (s)he maintains educational preparation in performing such task.

and

.06

In reference to agenda item 3c, it is within the realm of the registered nurse practice to disconnect an auto transfusion device from a mediastinal chest tube and reconnect the tube to a closed chest drainage system, provided that registered nurse has knowledge, preparation and skill supporting said nurse's ability to perform this task and that such knowledge, preparation and skill be maintained.

The members of the Board appreciated your input, as well as that of Ricky Dicapò, during the deliberations on these questions.

Sincerely,~

Sister Lucie Leonard, MSN, RN~
Nursing Practice Consultant~