

May 17, 1995

Dr. Ashok S. Rao, MD  
Chief of Anesthesia  
Willis-Knighton Medical Center  
2600 Greenwood Road  
Shreveport LA 71103

Dear Dr. Rao:

Your request for an opinion of the Board of Nursing regarding a CRNA inserting central venous lines, arterial lines, and performing spinal anesthesia (lumbar puncture) was presented to the Board at its May 12, 1995 meeting.

The Nursing Practice Committee studied your request and obtained additional information regarding the curriculum for nurse anesthesia educational programs, particularly from the Charity Hospital/Xavier University School of Nurse Anesthesiology. At its April 10, 1995 meeting, the Committee formulated a recommendation to the Board of Nursing. On May 12, 1995 the Committee presented its recommendation to the Board, and after due deliberation, the Board adopted the following opinion:

In reference to agenda item 4.1, it is within the realm of practice for CRNAs who have been properly educated, including didactic and clinical practice, and are credentialed, with documented skills and abilities, to insert central venous lines, arterial lines and perform spinal anesthesia (lumbar punctures).

If you have questions about this opinion, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Barbara L. Morvant, MN, RN

Executive Director

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