

December 13, 1995

Karen Silady
Clinical Instructor,
Emergency Department
East Jefferson General Hospital
4200 Houma Blvd.
Metairie, LA 70011

Dear Ms. Silady:

Your requests for an opinion of the Board of Nursing regarding:

- 1) "Is it within the scope of practice for an RN to apply steri-strips?"
 - 2) "Can this task be delegated, and if so, to whom";
- were presented to the Board at its meeting on November 17, 1995.

The Nursing Practice Committee studied the issues, and, at its October 16, 1995 meeting, the Committee formulated recommendations to the Board of Nursing. On November 17, 1995 the Committee presented its recommendations to the Board, and after due deliberation, the Board adopted the following opinions:

In reference to agenda item 4.5.1, that it is within the realm of nursing practice for the registered nurse to apply wound taping, e.g. steri-strips, provided the said nurse has the necessary knowledge, skills, and abilities to do so; and this information is in the record; and

In reference to agenda item 4.5.2 that it is within the administrative rules on delegation for registered nurses to delegate the application of wound taping, for example, steri-strips, to licensed practical nurses and unlicensed personnel provided that the registered nurse is available to assess the wound prior to and following the application of the wound taping when delegated to an unlicensed personnel; and that the licensed practical nurse and unlicensed personnel shall have the documented necessary knowledge, skills, and ability.

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

Sincerely,

Barbara L. Morvant, MN, RN
Executive Director

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