

February 13, 1996

Karen K. Reynen
Chief Operating Officer
OptionCare of Acadiana
210 Magnate Drive, Suite 100
Lafayette, LA 70508

Dear Ms. Reynen:

Your request for an opinion of the Board of Nursing regarding if it is within the scope of practice for a registered nurse specially trained in pain management and treatment of spasticity to refill and reprogram Synchronmed Infusion Systems was presented to the Board at its February 1, 1996 meeting.

The Nursing Practice Committee studied the issue at its January 8, 1996 and formulated a recommendation to the Board of Nursing. On February 1, 1996 the Committee presented its recommendation to the Board, and after due deliberation, the Board adopted the following opinion:

In response to Agenda Item 4.5, adopted the following opinion:

That it is within the scope of practice for a registered nurse, educated and trained (beyond basis training) in programming and refilling of implanted intrathecal pumps to refill and reprogram, under specific protocols, such pumps in all settings where a physician is immediately available at a minimum by telephone in the event of a complication and such education and training shall be documented in the nurse's file.

The members of the Nursing Practice Committee appreciated your phone contributions to the discussion of this issue.

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

Sincerely,

Patricia K. Ladner, MN, RN
Nursing Consultant for Practice

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