

Louisiana State Board of Nursing

3510 N. Causeway Blvd., Suite 601

Metairie, LA 70002-3531

Telephone: (504) 838-5332 Fax: (504) 838-5433

www.lsbn.state.la.us

March 29, 2005

Linda Horn-Thompson, RNC, BSN

P.O. Box 45896

Baton Rouge, LA 70895

Pursuant to your request regarding the authorized scope of practice of registered nurses regarding the removal of an ON-Q Soaker Catheter (narcotic-free post-surgical pain relief system that has been approved by the FDA to deliver anesthetic agents to the surgical wound site), the Practice Committee considered your petition at the January 25, 2005 Practice Committee meeting. The Committee presented its recommendation to the Board of Nursing on March 16, 2005, and after due deliberation, the Board adopted the following action:

That in reference to agenda item 6.2 and in accordance with R.S. 37:913(14)(1) that it is within the scope of practice for the RN to remove the narcotic-free post-surgical pain relief systems such as the "ON-Q Soaker Catheter" provided the RN has documented knowledge, skills, and abilities.

Please contact me if you have any questions regarding this communication.

Sincerely,

Barbara L. Morvant, MN, RN
Executive Director
Louisiana State Board of Nursing

Npop 05.05