

December 11, 2003

Meryl Slowik, BSN, CNN, RN
DAVITA Corporation
4427 South Robertson
New Orleans, LA 70115

Dear Ms. Slowik:

Pursuant to your request regarding the scope of practice registered nurses delegating to non-RN caregivers the accessing and terminating of double-lumen permacaths and central line catheters in the outpatient setting, the Practice Committee studied your request on October 14, 2003. The Committee presented its recommendation to the Board of Nursing on December 3, 2003, and after due deliberation, the Board adopted the following opinions:

That in reference to agenda item 6.3, it is within the scope of practice for an RN to delegate to an LPN the accessing and terminating of double-lumen permacaths and central line catheters used for hemodialysis in the outpatient/chronic setting. Furthermore, the Declaratory Statement will be expanded to provide for education/training specifications of the LPN to access/terminate these devices and the role of the RN assessing the patient prior to delegation; and furthermore staff will incorporate in the Declaratory Statement the revision date.

Contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Barbara L. Morvant, MN, RN
Executive Director, LSBN

PAL