

**Louisiana State Board of Nursing**  
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Baton Rouge, LA 70809  
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[www.lsbn.state.la.us](http://www.lsbn.state.la.us)

January 12, 2006

Deborah V. Ritter, RN, BSN, CWOCN  
Clinical Director of Wound Care  
Synergy Healthcare Group  
122 Cornish Place  
Youngsville, LA 70592

Dear Ms. Ritter:

Pursuant to your request for an opinion as to whether Wound Vac dressing changes may be delegated to an LPN in the home setting for a stable wound provided the RN sees the patient at least one time per week for dressing change and wound assessment. And, provided there are no wound complications such as: s/s of infection, exposure of organs or other vital structures, excessive bleeding or anticoagulant therapy, the Practice Committee considered your petition and subsequently presented its recommendation to the Board of Nursing on December 7, 2005. After due deliberation, the Board adopted the following action:

That the RN may delegate to the LPN vacuum assisted closure (VAC) / Wound Vac dressing changes/negative pressure wound therapy in the home setting for stable wounds provided the following:

1. RN performs the initial wound assessment and determines that the wound is stable.
2. RN performs a wound assessment at least one time per week during dressing use; and
3. RN resumes wound care management immediately upon report/direct observation of wound complications such as signs and symptoms of infection, exposure of organs or other vital structures, excessive bleeding or anticoagulant therapy or other symptoms of an unstable wound.

Further, that the compliance with the rules on delegation LAC 46:XLVII.3703.a-c is maintained.

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 05.09