



March 9, 2012

Mr. Andrew Sharp, FPMHNP
Ms. Jeanene Toombs-Robb, APMHNP
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Dear Mr. Sharp and Ms. Toombs-Robb:

Pursuant to your request regarding the authorized scope of practice of advanced practice registered nurses using telemental health to evaluate and treat clients, the Louisiana State Board of Nursing considered your petition at the February 15, 2012 Board Meeting.

That in reference to Board agenda item # **6.1** and in accordance with R.S. 37:913 (3)(b) which states:
§913 (3)(b):

“Advanced practice registered nursing may include certain acts of medical diagnosis, in accordance with R.S. 37:913 (8)[“Collaborative Practice”] and (9)[“Collaborative Practice Agreement”]...

After due deliberation, the Board adopted the following actions:

That it is within the scope of practice of a Louisiana licensed **psychiatric mental health nurse practitioner** to utilize telemental health technology to deliver mental health services to rural clients in a school setting in Louisiana and such practices are held to the same regulatory standards as those in face-to-face settings. Alternate clinic sites other than the school setting are approved during the summertime to allow for continuity and appropriate follow-up care.

Telemental health technology is identified as the health care delivery of diagnosis, consultation, treatment, and transfer of nursing and medical data using interactive telecommunication technology that enables the APRN and patient at two locations separated by distance to interact via two-way video and audio transmissions simultaneously.

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

Sincerely,

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

BLM/bck

Npop 12.01