

Louisiana State Board of Nursing

Ellen T. Kyle, R.N.
President

MISS MERLYN M. MAILLIAN, R.N.
Executive Director

907 Pere Marquette Building
150 Baronne Street
New Orleans, Louisiana 70112
568-5464

December 16, 1981

Mrs. Frankie Nail, R.N.
Assistant Administrator for Nursing
Jo Ellen Smith/F.Edward Hebert Hospital
#1 Sanctuary Drive
New Orleans, LA 70114

Dear Mrs Nail:

The Board of Nursing held its scheduled meeting on December 10-11, 1981. Your request for an interpretation of the legal definition of nursing practice in regards to registered nurses performing endotracheal intubation, inserting esophageal obturator and performing veni-puncture and/or injection of medication into the external juglar, was presented to the Board.

The Board reaffirmed its previous opinion relative to registered nurses performing endotracheal intubation, which opinion was sent to you on November 16, 1981. After due deliberation on your other two questions, the Board formulated the following opinions:

It is within the legal practice of the registered nurse to perform the insertion of an esophageal obturator when there is individual documented evidence of appropriate knowledge, skills and experience.

In selected situations, it is not illegal for the registered nurse to perform the veni-puncture and/or injection of medication into the external juglar vein.

In each case, the Board had your assurance that special training will be provided to the nurses prior to performing the above procedures.

The Board members appreciated the opportunity to engage in dialogue with you and Janna Nixon prior to formulating their opinion on the questions.

If you have further questions relative to these matters, or any other nursing practice matters, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Sister Lucie Leonard

Sister Lucie Leonard, R.N.
Nursing Practice Consultant

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