

Louisiana State Board of Nursing

Mrs. Margie D. Gibbs, R.N.
President

907 Pere Marquette Building
150 Baronne Street
New Orleans, Louisiana 70112-2382
504-568-5464

Miss Merlyn M. Maillian, R.N.
Executive Director

June 13, 1985

Shirley Brown, R.N.
Nursing Director
St. Tammany Parish Hospital
1202 S. Tyler Street
Covington, LA 70433

Dear Mrs. Brown:

This is to provide you with written confirmation of the opinions of the Board of Nursing regarding the three situations which you described. On May 30, 1985, the Board adopted the following opinions:

1. Advancing endoscopes for physician by RN. (Physician looking through scope instructing RN.)

It is not within the legal realm of nursing to advance endoscopes.

2. Biopsing of lesion (etc.). (RN is told to manipulate forceps only (open and close). Physician chooses area to biopsy and directs forceps.)

Assisting the physician to biopsy lesions thru colonoscope, gastroscopes and sigmoidoscopes as the physician directs and manipulates the forceps is within the realm of the practice of nursing, provided the R.N. has the appropriate knowledge and skills to do so.

3. Advancing and withdrawing of Arteriogram wires (after physician has inserted it into vessel.). (Physician is looking at fluoroscope instructing RN to advance.)

Assisting the physician with the advancement and withdrawal of arterial guide wires within the arterial catheters is within the realm of the practice of nursing provided that the R.N. has the knowledge and skills to do so.

The Board appreciated the opportunity to discuss these situations with you and Kenny Laborde prior to formulating the above opinions.

Sincerely,



Sister Lucie Leonard, R.N.
Nursing Practice Consultant

SLL:hj

ngp 85.07
85.06
85.05