

March 28, 1988~

Jennifer S. Johnson, RN~
Clinical Coordinator of Inpatient Services~
Lane Memorial Hospital~
6300 Main Street~
Zachary, LA 70791~

Dear Ms. Johnson:~

You request for an opinion of the Board of Nursing on whether or not a registered nurse may perform a carotid massage on a patient either in the presence or in the absence of the physician was presented for the Board's deliberation at the meeting on March 24, 1988.~

After due deliberation, the Board of Nursing adopted the following opinion:~
.04

In reference to agenda item 3a, it is within the realm of nursing practice for a registered nurse to perform carotid massage within the presence of the physician, in an I.C.U. or telemetry setting, or in the absence of the physician in either setting, provided the registered nurse has knowledge, preparation and skill supporting her/his ability to do so, and that (s)he maintain educational preparation in performing such task, and that these privileges are outlined according to accepted hospital protocols within the institution.

The members of the Board appreciated the materials you sent prior to the meeting.~

Sincerely,~

Sister Lucie Leonard, MSN, RN~
Nursing Practice Consultant~