

GUIDELINES RELATIVE TO L.R.S. 37:930 and LAC 46:XLVII.3711
See 1990 Revision

1. In accord with L.R.S.37:930 and LAC 46:XLVII.3711, registered nurses in special areas of nursing, e.g., obstetrics, operating room, postanesthesia care unit, are responsible for monitoring patients within their scope of practice. Some of their parameters may overlap those measured during anesthesia, e.g., blood pressure, pulse, respiration. Registered nurses should assume responsibility for tasks within their scope of practice.

It should be noted that a registered nurse who is not a C.R.N.A. may not administer anesthesia nor may that registered nurse monitor the effects of the anesthetic, but that registered nurse may monitor the recovery of the anesthetic.

2. It is within the realm of practice for the RN to remove epidural catheters as directed by the attending physician, provided that said nurse has appropriate knowledge, education, and skills to do so, with documentation to that effect maintained in his/her file.

Anesthesia personnel should participate in the inservice education programs for staff RNs performing this function. This is classified as a complex task and cannot be delegated.

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7-21-89