

February 24, 1992

Sis Theuerkauf, RN, MEd
Divisional Rehabilitation Clinical Manager
and Anne Stewart, MSN, RN
Divisional Rehabilitation Associate Clinical Manager
Kimberly Quality Care, Midwest Division
12770 Merit Drive, Suite 918
Dallas, TX 75251

RE: Nursing Practice Opinion

Dear Mesdames Theuerkauf and Stewart:

Your request for an opinion of the Board of Nursing regarding the performance of digital stimulation of the rectum, under physician directive, by a home health aide who has successfully completed training and been deemed competent by the supervising RN was presented to the Board at its meeting on February 21, 1992.

The Nursing Practice Committee appreciated the detailed information you sent to clarify the issue. The members of the Committee had reviewed all of the information you sent and had reviewed additional relevant literature. At the February 21 meeting, the Committee presented its recommendation to the Board. After due deliberation, the Board adopted the following opinion:

In reference to Agenda Item 3 4.1, digital stimulation of the rectum, under physician directive, may be performed by a home health aide on patients who are not at risk for dysreflexia, provided the aide has successfully completed training which includes recognition of and response to complications to the procedure, and has been deemed competent by the supervising RN.

If You have questions about this matter, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Barbara L. Morvant, MN, RN
Executive Director

BLM:sll

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