

Louisiana State Board of Nursing
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MEMORANDUM

DATE: December 12, 2001

TO: Crystal Cain, RN
School Nurse
Livingston Parish School Board
Post Office Box 1130
Livingston, LA 70754

FROM: Patricia Ladner, MN, RN
Nursing Consultant for Practice

RE: Nursing Practice

COPY

This will serve to acknowledge receipt of your request, received in the Board's office on November 28, 2001, regarding the scope of practice for registered school nurses *delegating certain specific tasks to LPNs and/or unlicensed school employees.*

1. Measuring carbohydrate intake requires the integration of scientific principles and decision making and, may not be delegated to either an unlicensed trained employee or an LPN since the amount of insulin to be administered is based upon the carbohydrate count.
2. The management of an insulin pump must be performed by a licensed nurse.
3. The Law and the Board's rules state that the RN is responsible for managing and supervising patient care, this cannot be delegated to an unlicensed trained employee. The RN may delegate certain nursing interventions to LPNs or trained unlicensed persons based on the complexity of the task, RN supervision, and the other criteria addressed in the Board's rules on delegation. Care of child on a ventilator in a school setting is a complex task that the RN may delegate to the LPN but not to a trained unlicensed school employee.

When considering the delegation of a nursing intervention to an LPN in the school setting, the RN must consider the degree of supervision as required in the Law governing the scope of practice of LPNs and the Nursing Board's rules on delegation. Enclosed is a copy of the Nursing Board's rules on delegation. Contact me if you have any questions regarding this communication.

Enclosure
cc: file