

Louisiana State Board of Nursing  
3510 North Causeway Blvd., Suite 501  
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## MEMORANDUM

**DATE:** July 15, 1998

**TO:** Jennie Fowler  
Director of Health Services  
Jefferson Parish Public Health System  
1407 Virgil Street, Building 4  
Gretna, LA 70053-2340

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

**RE:** Nursing Practice

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Pursuant to your request regarding the instillation of artificial tears/Hypotears to the left eye every two hours for a student to provide lubrication and prevent drying of the cornea by a school employee who is not a licensed health care professional, the Medication Policy for Louisiana Public Schools does not prohibit a registered nurse from delegating eye hygiene to an unlicensed school employee when the school nurse has determined that the employee can safely perform the task for a specific student, and provided that the employee's file has documented competence of such. Since the health care needs of the child is the joint responsibility of the child's parents, physician and school nurse, seeking the permission of the child's parents and physician for an unlicensed school employee to perform eye hygiene is necessary to provide continuity of care and documentation to the child's record.

With regards to your second request relative to similar situations involving wetting solution eye drops necessary eye hygiene, a registered nurse in the school setting may delegate to an unlicensed school employee eye hygiene provided the above provisos are in place.

cc: Lavonne Smith  
file

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