

May 17, 1999

Gwendolyn W. Miller, BSN, RN
Supervisor, School Nurses
East Baton Rouge School Board
1050 S. Foster Drive
Baton Rouge, LA 70806

Dear Ms. Miller:

Pursuant to your request for an opinion of the Louisiana State Board of Nursing regarding school registered nurses delegating the administration of glucagon to an unconscious student (emergency situation) to unlicensed school personnel, your request and the information you submitted was studied by the Nursing Practice Committee on April 7, 1999. The Committee presented its recommendation to the Board of Nursing on May 12, 1999, and, after due deliberation, the Board adopted the following opinion:

In reference to agenda item 6.3, that it is within the scope of authorized practice for a registered school nurse to delegate to an unlicensed school employee the administration of Glucagon in the school setting where there is a written policy and a protocol that identifies the blood glucose level of hypoglycemia (below 60 mg/dl, unless otherwise specific by the attending physician's written order) as a life threatening situation; the student's specific signs and symptoms of hypoglycemia (unresponsive and unable to swallow or is unconscious), and directs the step-by-step actions of a trained unlicensed school employee, that trained unlicensed school employee may administer Glucagon in a life threatening situation (immediate emergency). This is based on the premise that all other criteria have been met: the person has been adequately trained; the person has demonstrated that the task has been learned; the person can perform the task in the given nursing situation; the student's parents and physician have approved the protocol; the task is an established policy of the school and, that the policy is written, recorded and available to all.

If you have any questions regarding this communication, please contact me.

Sincerely,

Barbara L. Morvant, MN, RN
Executive Director
BLM:PAL
npop 99.07