Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners

630 Camp Street, New Orleans, LA 70130 (504) 568-6820



*** STATEMENT OF POSITION ***

Administration of Regional Anesthesia

August 24, 1984

Reviewed March 20, 2001

The administration of regional anesthesia (including intrathecal, extrathecal, epidural and peridural nerve injections) constitutes the practice of medicine as defined by La. Rev. Stat. 37:1262(1). Such procedures may therefore be performed only by a physician duly licensed by the Board under La. Rev. Stat. 37:1261-91, or under the personal direction and immediate (on-premises) supervision of a physician. A physician who directs and supervises a nonphysician in the administration of regional anesthesia must have adequate and appropriate training and experience in the performance of the procedure and a thorough knowledge of the potential untoward effects of the procedure and the anesthetic agents used therein, and in the proper management of such untoward effects. In any event, the physician is and remains responsible for the performance and results of regional anesthesia procedures.

In making this statement, the Board makes no distinction between initial injection and reinjection.

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