

STATE OF FLORIDA
DEPARTMENT OF PROFESSIONAL REGULATION
BOARD OF NURSING

FILED
SEP 05 1990
FLORIDA BOARD OF NURSING

IN RE: THE PETITION FOR DECLARATORY
STATEMENT OF:

CAROLYN A. GLADDING, R.N.
CASE NO. BON-DS-90-6

FINAL ORDER

This matter came before the Board of Nursing pursuant to Chapter 120.565, Florida Statutes, and Chapter 28-4, Florida Administrative Code on August 17, 1990, in Tallahassee, Florida for the purpose of considering the petition for Declaratory Statement filed by Carolyn A. Gladding. Having considered the Petition and supporting documentation provided by Petitioner, the Board makes the following findings and conclusions:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Petitioner is a registered nurse in the State of Florida, employed by Halifax Medical Center, Daytona Beach, Florida.
2. Petitioner is in doubt whether or not a registered nurse in a hospital intensive care unit or post anesthesia unit may inject epidural catheters with a narcotic medication for post operative surgical pain management. She asks whether Section 464.003(3), Florida Statutes, which defines the practice of professional nursing, can be construed to permit such a procedure.

3. The hospital practice includes placement of the epidural catheter by the anesthesiologist prior to the patient entering the intensive care or post anesthesia unit. Anesthesia is not immediately available to the patient or the nurse during the administration of the narcotic in the intensive care or post anesthesia unit.

4. The Petition was noticed by the Board in the March 2, 1990, issue of the Florida Administrative Weekly, Volume 16, No. 9, page 1049.

5. Petitioner's particular question goes to Section 464.003(3)(a)2, Florida Statutes, which includes within the practice of professional nursing:

The administration of medications and treatments as prescribed or authorized by a duly licensed practitioner authorized by the laws of this state to prescribe such medications and treatments.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The Board has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to Section 120.565, Florida Statutes, and Chapter 28-4, Florida Administrative Code.

2. The Petition filed by the Petitioner is in substantial compliance with the provisions of Section 120.565, Florida Statutes, and Rule 28-4.001, Florida Administrative Code, and petitioner has the requisite interest to maintain this proceeding.

3. The Board is of the opinion that it is within the scope of practice under Section 464.003(3)(a)(2), Florida Statutes, for a registered nurse to inject epidural catheters with prescribed narcotic medications for post operative surgical pain management.

Petitioner is notified that she may appeal this order by filing one copy of the Notice of Appeal with the Clerk of the agency, and by filing a filing fee and one copy of the Notice of Appeal with the District Court of Appeal within thirty (30) days of the date this order is filed.

Done and Ordered this 5th day of SEPTEMBER,
1990.

BOARD OF NURSING

Natalia N. Cruz

Natalia N. Cruz, A.R.N:P.
Chairman

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a true and correct copy of the foregoing Final Order has been furnished by certified mail to Carolyn A. Gladding, Administrator of Nursing, Halifax Medical Center, 303 North Clyde Morris Boulevard, Daytona Beach, Florida 32015 this 5th day of SEPTEMBER,
1990.

Judie K. Ritter
Judie K. Ritter
Executive Director