



NORTH CAROLINA RESPIRATORY CARE BOARD

1100 Navaho Drive, Suite 242
Raleigh, NC 27609

October 14, 2011

Kelly Nowrey, RCP
Director
Washington County Hospital
PO Box 707
Plymouth, NC 27962

Dear Ms. Nowrey,

This letter is sent on behalf of the North Carolina Respiratory Care Board in response to your letter of October 7, 2011 requesting the Board's interpretation of state statutes and rules that relate to the administering of ACLS / PALS medications by Respiratory Care Practitioners (RCP's). Based on the information you furnished, the Board understands that the medication administration would be performed only in a health care facility and under the order and supervision of a licensed physician.

The Respiratory Care Board discussed your request during its regular scheduled meeting held on October 13, 2011 and has determined that the administration of ACLS / PALS medications by RCP's which are performed under the order and supervision of a licensed physician are within the scope of practice of the RCP.

To assure the quality and efficacy of the testing, the facility where these procedures are performed must: 1) maintain written policies and guidelines, as it would for any procedures provided by the RCP's that it employs; 2) limit the medications to the medications listed in the ACLS or PALS guidelines; 3) require each RCP providing the approved medications to complete a documented training course provided by the health care facility which employs the RCP; and 3) require each RCP to have a documented skills evaluation and documented annual competency reviews in the procedure.

Please advise if you have any other questions about this issue.

Regards,

Floyd E. Boyer, RRT, RCP
Executive Director