

LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

630 Camp Street, New Orleans, LA 70130
www.lsbme.la.gov



Telephone: (504) 568-6820
FAX: (504) 568-8893
Writer's Direct Dial:

May 22, 2017

(504) _____

Re: Allergy Testing

Dear

During its most recent meeting, the Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners considered your request for its advice as to “. . .Who can do allergy testing in a physician’s office in the state of Louisiana.” As we understand, you have received interest in primary care physicians performing allergy testing in their offices and you are checking with various states about the governing rules.

Initially, there is no limitation on the scope of practice for Louisiana licensed physicians as a matter of state law. However, there are limitations as a matter of professional standards in that the Board fully expects physicians will not provide care or testing, including supervising these activities, that he or she is not fully qualified by education, training and experience to provide or perform. To do so may be considered unprofessional conduct by the Board and provide a basis for administrative disciplinary action against a physician’s license.¹

While we do not know if any of the physicians who have expressed an interest in offering these services have experience with allergy testing, the nature of your question suggest that such may not be the case. Again, the Board would caution any physician from offering services to his or her patients that he or she is not properly educated, trained or experienced to provide.

Finally, in the event that your model includes dispensing allergen extracts, the Board would expect the physician to have documented training in the preparation of allergy extracts. It would also require a physician to possess a dispensing registration from the Board and comply with the Board’s dispensing rules.²

¹La. Rev. Stat. §37:1285A provides that the Board may take action against the license of a physician for ‘(13) [U]nprofessional conduct . . .;’ and ‘(30) [V]iolation of any rules and regulations of the board . . .’ The Board’s Unprofessional Conduct Rules, provide: ‘[F]or illustrative purposes only, *unprofessional conduct* includes but is not limited to: 9. *Failing to Adhere to Accepted Practices*—Physicians shall practice within the scope of their education, training and experience.’ LAC 46:XLV.7603A(9).

²LAC. 46:XLV.6501 *et seq.* The rules provide, among other items, that ‘. . .[N]o physician shall dispense any medication, other than a bona fide medication sample, unless he is currently registered with the board as a

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I trust our advice is responsive. If not, please let us know.

Sincerely,

**LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF
MEDICAL EXAMINERS**

By:

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Keith C. Ferdinand MD". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath the name.

Keith C. Ferdinand, M.D.
Interim Executive Director

dispensing physician, in accordance with Subchapter C of this Chapter, and the physician's dispensation of medications is within the scope of such registration. LAC 46:XLV. 6505B.