Arkansas Department of Health

Arkansas State Board of Nursing
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POSITION STATEMENT
95-2
Transmission and Acceptance of Verbal Orders

The Arkansas State Board of Nursing acknowledges that the best interests of all members of the health care team are served by having authorized prescribers holding active prescriptive authority write all orders on the patient's medical record. Although a licensed nurse relating verbal and telephonic orders to a licensed nurse may have become accepted practice, neither the Arkansas Nurse Practice Act nor the Arkansas State Board of Nursing Rules and Regulations specifically address this issue. Verbal orders transmitted over the phone place the licensed nurse at greater risk. Employing facilities should have policies and procedures to guide the licensed nurse.

However, the Rules and Regulations of the Arkansas State Board of Nursing do prohibit a licensed nurse from receiving or transmitting verbal orders to or from unlicensed personnel.

Adopted December 7, 1995
Revised May 12, 2012