



PAMBANSANG SAMAHAN NG MGA NARS NG PILIPINAS, INC.

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**THE PHILIPPINE NURSES ASSOCIATION'S
POSITION PAPER ON THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT OF
BOARD REGULATION No. 3, Series 2003
"The Licensing and Control Measures for Nurses and Midwives
Administering Dangerous Drugs and Controlled Chemical Preparations"
August 13, 2010**

The Philippine Nurses Association respects and upholds the right of the clients to safe and quality health care services. As nurses we swear by this oath and performs with this as a guiding principle. Given PNA's mandate to protect and promote the socio-economic and welfare rights of Filipino nurses as frontline health care providers, it is very important to consider the work environment where they perform their functions as nurses. Therefore, cognizant of the fact that nurses in the country operates through health team approach, no dangerous drugs and/or controlled substances can be administered by a nurse to her client/patient without a prescription from S-2 licensed physician.

Secondly, while there may be cases when stocks of certain drugs no longer needed by the patient can be diverted for other purposes not beneficial to the client/patient, licensing of nurses nor midwives does not at all address the problem. Indeed, the presence of well-defined policies within the hospital systems would be a more efficient preventive measures to remove risk factors for diversion of drug use.

Licensing nurses to administer dangerous drugs and/or controlled substances will only put the nurses in a very disadvantaged situation of being sanctioned unjustly or unnecessarily in cases where there is life and death situation and nurses are left with no other recourse except to give the dangerous and/or controlled drugs for their patient's benefits as ordered by a S-2 license physician.

Now, therefore, the Philippine Nurses Association firmly oppose the licensing of nurses in administering dangerous drugs and/or controlled substances.