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New Jersey Office of the Attorney General

Division of Consumer Affairs
Audiology and Speech-Language
Pathology Advisory Committee
124 Halsey Street, 6th Floor, Newark, NJ 07102



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AUDIOLOGY AND SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY ADVISORY COMMITTEE PUBLIC SESSION MINUTES SEPTEMBER 20, 2012 MINUTES

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ROLL CALL

PRESENT Anne Eckert, Hilda Pressman, Nancy Schneider and Gerard Caracciolo

ABSENT Louis Conte, Sharon Shinkle Gardner

ALSO PRESENT Renee P. Clark, Executive Director
Carmen Rodriguez, DAG
Sonia Claudino, Administrative Staff

CALL TO ORDER The regular bimonthly meeting of the Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology Advisory Committee was called to order at 124 Halsey Street at 9:00 a.m., all members having been notified of the time, date and place and materials pertinent hereto having been provided.

SUNSHINE LAW In compliance with Chapter 231 the Public Law of 1975, notice of this meeting was sent to the Courier-Post and the Record.

I APPROVAL OF MINUTES

July 19, 2012

A motion was made by Hilda Pressman, seconded by Gerard Caracciolo to approve the public session minutes with minor changes. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

II ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Hilda Pressman made a motion to nominate Nancy Schneider as Committee President, the motion was seconded by Gerard Caracciolo. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

Hilda Pressman made a motion to nominate Gerard Caracciolo as the Committee Secretary, the motion was seconded by Anne Eckert. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

III 2013 MEETING DATES

A motion was made by Gerard Carracciolo, seconded by Hilda Pressman to approve January 17, 2013, March 7, 2013, May 16, 2013, July 18, 2013, September 19, 2013 and November 21, 2013 as the 2013 meeting dates. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

IV REGULATORY ANALYST

Charles Manning discussed proposed regulation in regards to identification tags. After discussion, a motion was made by Hilda Pressman, seconded by Gerard Caracciolo to approve new regulation N.J.A.C. 13:44-C-8.8 which states that a licensed Audiologist or Speech-Language Pathologist shall wear an identification tag when engaging in the practice for which he or she is licensed. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

V OLD BUSINESS

- a. The Committee reviewed Nancy Schneider's final draft of a letter to Alan R. Ehrlich of the Center for Listening Disorders and his proposal for a Listening Rehabilitation Specialist. After review a motion was made by Hilda Pressman, seconded by Gerard Caracciolo to send Mr. Ehrlich a letter stating that the Committee, established in 1983 in the Division of Consumer Affairs (DCA), serves as the advisory body to the Director of the DCA with respect to the licensure of audiologists and speech-language pathologists. This Committee regulates the professions of audiologists and speech-language pathologists in New Jersey with the overriding mission of protecting the public by ensuring that only qualified individuals are licensed to practice. It is not, however, within the purview of this Committee to "create licensing programs" on behalf of interested individuals or organizations. Creating a licensing program is a process that is initiated through contact with your State legislator to establish a bill to support your licensing goals. His proposal suggested that "there is no defined occupational category of people to assist the hearing disabled re-learn the critical human skill of listening – understanding the people who are talking to them." Please note that it is well within the scope of practice for audiologists and speech-language pathologists to provide counseling, consultation, habilitation and rehabilitation to individuals with hearing, speech or language disorders. The extensive educational and clinical experiences of licensed audiologists and speech-language pathologists in New Jersey include, at a minimum, a Master's degree; a passing score on the national exam and completion of a supervised clinical internship. In addition, our State requires that audiologists also obtain a Hearing Aid Dispensers license if they wish to provide amplification-related services to their patients. Maintenance of audiology, speech-language pathology and hearing aid dispensing licenses in New Jersey requires 20 continuing education hours every two years for each type of license. Since aural habilitation and rehabilitation are key components of both an audiologist and speech-language pathologist's scope of practice, it would seem duplicative to create another licensed profession that aims to provide similar services to individuals with hearing loss. Should the Center for Listening Disorders Research wish to pursue establishment for a separate license for the occupational entities noted in your proposal, it will be necessary to contact your State elected representatives to guide you through the legislative process of passing a bill on your organization's behalf.

V OLD BUSINESS (cont.)

- b. The Committee reviewed St. Joseph's response in regards to the "Interpreting Modified videofluoroscopic Swallow Studies: Subacute & Long Term Care Populations. The Committee stated that, per ASHA, the course had not been approved for ASHA CEU's. After review a motion was made by Gerard Caracciolo, seconded by Hilda Pressman to send Ms. Janet M. Zicarelli a letter thanking her for her explanation and advising her that if a course is not on the ASHA website as approved or given credit by ASHA the public would need to call to verify that the course has been approved by ASHA. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

VI NEW BUSINESS

- a. The Committee discussed continuing education requirements for dual licensees, but made no determination and tabled the subject.
- b. Anne Eckert submitted information in regards to Hearing Test, First Step in Successful Hearing Aid Fitting. After review, Chair directed, Dr. Eckert to make changes and submit to staff for review by the Director's Office.
- c. The Committee reviewed newsletter submitted by Hilda Pressman in regards to sensory processing disorder for informational purposes.
- d. The Committee reviewed FAQ's for NJSHA newsletter in regards to continuing education submitted by Hilda Pressman. After review, Chair directed Ms. Pressman to make changes and send to staff to be added to the next scheduled Committee meeting.
- e. Joseph Cordoma did not attend to discuss the renewal process. Chair directed to contact Mr. Cordoma and schedule him for the next Committee meeting.

VII WEBSITE REVIEW

- a. The Committee reviewed two FAQ's in regards to how 4th year AuD students can expedite the process for obtaining a New Jersey Audiology License. After review Nancy Schneider to make changes and send to Executive Director to be added to the Committee's website.

In addition FAQ's need to be sent to Montclair State University, Center for Audiology & Speech-Language Pathology Montclair State University, attention Janet Koehnke, PhD, CCC-A since they are the only ones who have a program for AuD's in New Jersey.

VII WEBSITE REVIEW (cont.)

- b. Executive Director to have the following changes made to the Committee's website:
 1. Under the Consumer Information Section
 - a. Remove licensee FAQ's
 - b. Add New Jersey Early Intervention System flyer.
 - c. Add Consumer Top Frequently Asked Questions
 2. Under Online Services
 - a. Under Consumer Top Frequently Asked Questions under number 3, paragraph 1 line 4 change website from <http://www.nj.gov/health/fhs/ehdi> to www.hearinghelp4kids.nj.gov.
 - b. Add question where can I get a list of Audiologists or Speech-Language Pathologists in my area?

For children, birth through 21 years of age, a list of pediatric Audiologists throughout New Jersey is provided in the New Jersey Pediatric Hearing Healthcare Directory (produced by the New Jersey Early Hearing Detection and Intervention Program of the New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services) which can be found at <http://www.nj.gov/health/fhs/ehdi> (this directory is easy to use, but it is not all-inclusive and it only provides a listing of Audiologists and Hearing Aid Dispensers).
 3. Under Dates
 - a. Change meeting start time to 9:00 a.m.
 4. On Committee's Home page remove the statement that says please be advised of the addition of the Cerumen Management to the scope of practice for an Audiologist in the State of New Jersey.
 5. Under Consumer Top Frequently Asked Questions remove the word seniors on questions number 2.

VIII CORRESPONDENCE

- a. The Committee reviewed correspondence from Joshua Boxer in regards to an Audiologist performing intraoperative neurophysiologic monitoring.

After review a motion was made by Gerard Caracciolo, seconded by Hilda Pressman to send Mr. Boxer a letter stating that it is not within the jurisdiction of the Committee and advise him to contact the State of New York where he is licensed. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

- b. The Committee reviewed correspondence from Weilyn Tsai as to whether or not her supervisor needs to sign off on letter to a developmental pediatrician.

After review a motion was made by Gerard Caracciolo, seconded by Hilda Pressman to send Ms. Tsai a letter stating that the Committee cannot answer her questions due to the fact that it depends on the policies of the facility she works for and the Committee recommends that she direct her question to her facility supervisor. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

IX FYI

- a. The Committee reviewed information in regards to use of cell phones or cameras for video or photography of patients from the Department of Health for informational purposes.
- b. Cheryl A. Drains complied with Uniform Penalty requirements. The Committee reviewed for informational purposes.
- c. Kara Amalfitano complied with Uniform Penalty requirements. The Committee reviewed for informational purposes.

ADJOURNMENT

Hilda Pressman made a motion to proceed to Executive Session, seconded by Anne Eckert, to consider and review, applications, consumer complaints and other information received pursuant to the Committee's investigative authority in order to determine whether violations of law, including Committee regulations, have occurred. The results of these deliberations will be made known when, and if, the Committee determines to initiate disciplinary or other enforcement actions. If the Committee chooses to issue a Uniform Penalty Letter, the action will be taken in Public Session immediately after the Executive Session.

Respectfully submitted
AUDIOLOGY AND SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY
COMMITTEE

Renee P. Clark, Executive Director