

**BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS
HEARING AID DISPENSERS EXAMINING COMMITTEE
PUBLIC SESSION MINUTES
FEBRUARY 1, 2008**

ROLL CALL

PRESENT Charles A. Herb, David Weesner, Jack Ivey, Bruce Romanczuk and Jennifer Schaal

ABSENT Melvin Snyder

ALSO PRESENT Renee P. Clark, Executive Director
Sonia Claudino, Administrative Staff
Debra Levine, DAG

CALL TO ORDER The regular bimonthly meeting of the Hearing Aid Dispensers Examining Committee was called to order at 124 Halsey Street at 10:00 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 given to the Trenton Times, the Star Ledger, the Courier-Post and the Record.

I APPROVAL OF MINUTES

December 7, 2007

A motion was made by Jack Ivey to accept the minutes as amended. The motion was seconded by David Weesner. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

II REGULATORY ANALYST

This matter has been tabled for the next schedule Committee Meeting.

III CORRESPONDENCE

Committee reviewed Ms. Suehnolhlz questions. The Committee's answers were as follows:

1. Do children under 18 need to be evaluated every time a new earmold is needed?

No, an earmold is not considered a hearing aid.

2. Does a child in this age group (18 to 21) have the same rights as an adult to be able to sign a written waiver re. The right to be examined by a medical doctor if they so choose?

Yes, persons between 18 and 21 can sign a waiver, since the Committee's statute only mentions children up to 18 years. The Committee suggests that she may want to look at the requirements of other agencies as third party payers since they may require additional information.

3. Developmentally disabled or multiply disabled child, even if they are a provider for that child's insurance?

This question is not within the Committee's jurisdiction.

4. Between the referring clinician and the hearing aid dispenser to address a potential change in prescription?

The Committee does not have a particular protocol in this matter. However you should contact the prescribing physician that made the recommendation to address this. All members providing care should always communicate appropriately for the best patient outcome.

5. Type of hearing loss in one or both ears, or does referral to the dispenser to be delayed until all data is obtained?

Yes, in early intervention you want to fit children as soon as possible so there are no delays. Additional information is provided as the child develops. The overall goal is early intervention and continuing care for the best fit possible.

David Weesner made a motion to proceed to Executive Session, seconded by Jennifer Schaal, to consider and review advertisement, 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
HEARING AID DISPENSERS EXAMINING COMMITTEE

Renee P. Clark, Executive Director