

**NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS  
PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
HUDSON CONFERENCE ROOM, 6TH FLOOR  
PUBLIC SESSION MINUTES - FINAL  
MAY 19, 2006**

The May meeting of the Physician Assistant Advisory Committee was convened in accordance with its notice to the Secretary of State, The Record of Hackensack, the Trenton Times, Star-Ledger and Courier Post and was conducted in accordance with the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act.

**PRESENT:** George Argast, Jeffrey Maas, Todd Newman, and Claire O'Connell

**EXCUSED OR ABSENT:** Jeffrey Berman, M.D.

Also in attendance: Carmen Rodriguez, Deputy Attorney General, Dorcas O'Neal, Executive Director, and Kathleen Griffith, staff.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The Committee reviewed the Public Session Minutes of April 21, 2006. On a motion made and seconded, the Committee unanimously approved the Public Session Minutes as submitted.

**OLD BUSINESS**

There were no items of old business.

**NEW BUSINESS**

The Committee reviewed a fax from Kathy O'Reilly, PA-C asking whether physician assistants in the State of New Jersey have to have their prescriptions co-signed. The Committee determined that prescriptions do not have to be co-signed. A letter will be sent to Ms. O'Reilly so advising.

The Committee reviewed an email from Amy Hodak wanting clarification on whether physician assistants in New Jersey must hold CDS and/or DEA registrations.

The Committee determined that physician assistants are not required to obtain a CDS or DEA registration. Further, this matter is being referred to the Board of Pharmacy advising that physician assistants in New Jersey are not required to but may obtain DEA registrations.

**REVIEW OF BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS MINUTES AND AGENDA**

The Committee reviewed as informational agendas and ratified minutes as follows:

- 2/8/06 Open Public Session
- 2/8/06 Open Disciplinary
- 2/22/06 Open Disciplinary
- 2/23/06 Open Disciplinary
- 3/8/06 Open Public Session
- 3/8/06 Open Disciplinary
- 4/19/06 Open Agenda
- 4/19/06 Open Disciplinary Agenda
- 5/10/06 Open Agenda
- 5/10/06 Open Disciplinary Agenda

## **LICENSURE ACTION**

The Committee reviewed as informational the Summary Report of Licensure Action taken from April 14, 2006 to May 11, 2006.

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

President Argast appointed Todd Newman and Claire O'Connell to review the physician assistant application and to recommend any needed changes.

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Christopher Hanifin, physician assistant and President of the New Jersey State Society of Physician Assistants (NJSSPA) made the following comments: The Society recently posted to their Web site FAQs addressed previously by the Committee. He sent an additional series of questions and answers to the Committee and received a letter back advising that the Committee could not endorse that list as submitted. President Argast stated that he believes the Committee is responsible for answering questions regarding scope of practice and requirements for licensure. Mr. Hanifin said that even after he answers applicants' questions and sends them a copy of the statutes and regulations, some applicants still cannot interpret the regulations. He had concerns regarding restrictions being placed on out-of-state applicants and suggested that placing applications and verification of supervision/employment forms on the Committee's Web site would cut costs. He also asked whether there is a way to find out if someone is a physician assistant in another state.

Vice President Newman indicated that the onus is on the applicant to establish and provide relevant history and all requisite documents and to ask any necessary questions. He stated that when one answers a question one way based on a set of facts, the answer may be different if the facts change. Mr. Newman further stated that a progress note ends up being an order when it indicates things like "Continue present care."

Mr. Hanifin stated that the statutes as printed are not very clear concerning co-signature. Mr. Argast stated that some people interpret the statutes differently. He further stated that all physician assistants have a supervising physician who is responsible for the physician assistant.

Ms. O'Connell stated that orders include anything that is included in the plan (e.g., "Come back next week"), not just medications. Mr. Hanifin wants to have the statutes changed; Mr. Newman advised that the Committee is not in a position to change them.

There being no other business to come before the Committee in Public Session, on a motion by Claire O'Connell, seconded by Todd Newman, the Public Session was adjourned and the Committee convened in Executive Session to receive counsel, review eight items of old business, one item of new business, three statistical reports and 21 applications.

The Committee reconvened in Public Session and announced the following licensure actions approved in Executive Session.

## **APPROVED (PERMANENT)**

The Committee certifies that the following persons have applied for licensure, that each

application has been reviewed in detail, that all statutory requirements have been met, and that the applications have been approved by the Committee for licensure.

Bram, Susan  
Haenn, Mindy

## **PROVISIONAL APPROVALS**

The Committee certifies that the following applications have been reviewed and were provisionally approved pending receipt of certain information. Upon receipt of the requested information, the Committee has authorized the Executive Director to review the documents for compliance with statutory requirements and approve for licensure.

**PROVISIONALLY APPROVED (PERMANENT)**

Angelitis, David  
Meehan, Debra

**PROVISIONALLY APPROVED (TEMPORARY)**

Albrigo, Andrea Fecci, Alyson  
Amsellem, Melissa Gatta, Marisa  
Celmer, Christina Roth, Lori  
Childs, Lauralee Smith, Jason  
Chui, Joey

**DEFERRALS**

The Committee reviewed and deferred the following applications found to be lacking specific documents required by law. All deferred permanent and temporary applications must return to the Committee for review.

**DEFERRED (PERMANENT)**

Auguste, Gerard  
Leveque, Ordith  
Papini-Tennyson, Christina  
Peccerelli, Cosme  
Yang, Heather

**DEFERRED (TEMPORARY)**

Augerbach, Max  
Rogaski, Krista  
Spronk, Ginger

The next scheduled meeting of the Committee will be held on June 16, 2006. There being no other business to come before the Committee in Public Session, the meeting was adjourned at 12:00 noon.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Physician Assistant Advisory Committee

Dorcas K. O'Neal Executive Director