

**NEW JERSEY BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS
PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT ADVISORY COMMITTEE
HUDSON CONFERENCE ROOM, 6TH FLOOR**

PUBLIC SESSION MINUTES

SEPTEMBER 17, 2004

Final

The September meeting of the Physician Assistant Advisory Committee was convened in accordance with its notice in the Secretary State, Bergen Record, Trenton Times, Star Ledger And Courier Post and was conducted in accordance with the provisions of the Open Public Meeting Act.

President Walsh called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M. A roll call was taken and the following attendance was recorded for these minutes.

PRESENT: Kevin Walsh
Mary Kral
Dr. Mary Ibrahim

Also in attendance: Dorcas K. O'Neal, Executive Director, Joe Donofria, Deputy Attorney General, Kathleen Griffith and Nermin Messiha, Staff.

PUBLIC ATTENDANCE: None.

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a. The Committee reviewed the Public Session Minutes of August 20, 2004. Upon motion made and seconded the Committee approved the Public Session Minutes as submitted.

II. OLD BUSINESS

There were no items of old business.

III. NEW BUSINESS

a. The Committee reviewed a letter from Thomas Geary, PA-C, inquiring as to whether a physician assistant in the State of New Jersey can perform hair removal, tattoo removal and resurfacing if the supervising physician is a D.O. The Committee determined that based on the limited facts presented, consistent with the determination made by the Board of Medical Examiners, physician assistants may not perform laser treatments as these procedures are deemed the practice of medicine and may not be delegated to a nurse, or any other licensed healthcare professional other than a "physician". The physician assistant in the State of New Jersey can only be supervised by a plenary physician (MD, D.O.). However, the Board is further investigating the matter and obtaining opinions from appropriate expert professionals. If the Board promulgates a regulation in this regard in the future it will be noticed in the New Jersey Register. A letter will be sent to Mr. Geary so advising along with a copy of the statutes and regulations which govern the practice of physician assistants in the State of New Jersey.

b. The Committee reviewed an e-mail from Fay M. Biernat, inquiring as to whether a licensed physician assistant in the State of New Jersey can dispense Methadone, Class II controlled substance, in a clinic setting. The Committee determined that based on the limited facts presented, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:9-27.19, Ordering of medications in inpatient setting; a physician assistant treating a patient in an inpatient or outpatient setting may order or prescribe medications, subject to the following conditions (a) no controlled dangerous substances may be ordered. Further, a physician assistant may dispense in a clinical setting, however, a physician assistant cannot

initiate an order for or prescribe controlled dangerous substances (CDS). A letter will be sent to Ms. Biernat so advising along with a copy of the regulations which govern the practice of physician assistants in the State of New Jersey.

c. The Committee reviewed the fax from Amy MacDonald, PA-C, inquiring as to whether a physician assistant perform physical therapy modalities, namely hot packs, electric muscle stimulation, ultrasound, massage or therapeutic exercise and kenetic activities. The Committee determined that based on the limited facts presented, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 13:35-6.14 1(c) A physician may direct a licensed health care provider with training and experience to administer to the physician's patients physical modalities including ultraviolet (B and C bands) and electromagnetic rays including, but not limited to, deep heating agents, microwave diathermy, shotwave diathermy, ultrasound, and those modalities listed in (d) below. The physician shall retain responsibility for examining the patient, determining the appropriate modalities, assessing training and experience, as well as providing the appropriate level of supervision consistent with practice standards, applicable to the specific licensed health care provider. A letter will be sent to Ms. McDonald so advising along with a copy of the statutes and regulations which govern the practice of physician assistants in the State of New Jersey. Also, a copy of the response will be mailed to Matthew McQuillan of the New Jersey State Society.

d. The Committee reviewed the fax from Michael Serle, PA-C, inquiring as to whether physician assistants in New Jersey can sign home wound care order; as to whether a physician co-signature is necessary; as to whether a physician assistant working with private surgeon can first assist a different surgeon and whether in such a procedure, the other surgeon would need to become the physician assistant's supervising physician as well. It was the consensus of the Committee that pursuant to N.J.A.C 13:35-2B.10 4(ii) In an outpatient setting, within a maximum of seven days of the physician assistant's entry of the order in the patient record, except that in the case of any medical order prescribing or administering medication, a physician shall review and countersign the order within 48 hours of its entry by the physician assistant. Further, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 13:35-2B10 (b) 1 and 2 The physician assistant shall not render care unless the following conditions are met: 1. In an inpatient setting, the supervising physician or physician-designee is continuously or intermittently present on-site with constant availability through electronic communications for consultation or recall: 2. In an outpatient setting, the supervising physician-designee is constantly available through electronic communications for consultation or recall. As to first assistants, in addition to the aforesated regulations regarding physician-designee pursuant to N.J.A.C. 13:35-4.1(b) and (c), Major Surgery; qualified first assistants, A major surgical procedure shall be performed by a duly qualified surgeon with a duly qualified assisting physician who may be a duly qualified resident in or rotating through a training program approved by the Accreditation Council on graduate Medical Education or the American Osteopathic Association . (c) In addition to those individuals listed in (b) (of this section) who may act as qualified first assistants, in a health care facility licensed by the Department of Health and Senior Services, a duly qualified registered nurse first assistant (RNFA) or duly qualified physician assistant may so act. Mr. Serle will be so advised.

e. The Committee raised its concerns as it relates to continuing medical education credits for renewal of the physician assistant license and the credits required for the National Commission on Certification of Physician Assistants (NCCPA) which run off-cycle to one another. It was the consensus of the Committee to schedule a dialogue with Eugene Brenycz, Regulatory Analyst, to discuss and decide if something can be included in the regulations which will clarify to licensees the requirements for license renewal. Mr. Brenycz will be advised to attend the next meeting.

IV. REVIEW OF THE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS MINUTES AND AGENDA

a. The Committee reviewed the (Ratified) Open Board Minutes of the Board of Medical Examiners for July 14, 2004, as informational.

b. The Committee reviewed the (Ratified) Open Board Minutes Disciplinary- Matters of the Board of Medical Examiners for July 14, 2004, as informational.

c. The Committee reviewed the Open Board Agenda of the Board of Medical Examiners for September 8, 2004,

as informational.

d. The Committee reviewed the Open Board Agenda of the Board of Medical Examiners for September 8, 2004, as informational.

V. LICENSURE ACTION

a. The Committee reviewed the Summary Action Report for Licensure Action taken from August 13, 2004 to September 9, 2004, as informational.

VI. FOR YOUR INFORMATION

a. The Committee reviewed the Summer 2004, Volume 5, No. 2, National Commission on Certification of Physician Assistants (NCCPA) as it relates to action against PANCE Cheaters, as informational.

VII. LEGISLATION/REGULATIONS

a. The Committee reviewed Assembly Bill No. 2319 and Amendments, which requires reporting of suspected abuse, neglect or exploitation against vulnerable adults. Upon motion made and seconded the Committee supports the Bill as written and believe that it is adequately protective of the public's interest.

There being no other business to come before the Committee in Public Session, on a motion by Mary Kral, seconded Dr. Mary Ibrahim, the Public Session was adjourned, and the Committee convened in Executive Session for the purpose of receiving counsel, to review one statistical reports and to review 33 applications.

The Committee reconvened in Public Session. The following licensure action was taken.

The Committee certifies that the following persons have applied for licensure; that the applications have been reviewed in detail; that all statutory requirements have been met; and that the applicants have been approved by the Committee for licensure.

APPROVED (PERMANENT)

Braun, Karen
Carone, Erica
Dabissierre, Marinique
Gamao, Anne
Khmelnitsky, Yelena
Lee, Athena
Mohrman, Heather
Simonetti, Sabrina
Vaynberg, Inna
Weisman, Dayna

The Committee certifies that these persons have applied for temporary licensure; that each application has been reviewed in detail; that all statutory requirements have been met, with the exception of the passing of the National Commission on Certification of Physician Assistants (NCCPA) examination; that the Committee recommends each applicant for temporary license with a permanent license to issue only upon successful completion of the National on Certification of Physician Assistants (NCCPA) examination; that in the event of an unsuccessful result, the temporary license shall expire immediately upon notification to the licensee and practice as a physician assistant must cease.

APPROVED (TEMPORARY)

Schmitt, Dana

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)

Dave, Amy
Hazelton, Renee
Klahr, Raizy
Sullivan, Jill
Ziegler, Melissa

PROVISIONALLY APPROVED (TEMPORARY)

Baker, Amy
Campenella, Brian
Campenella, Lisa
Capelli, Linda
D'Arco, Patrick
O'Neal, Hasana
Patel, Sona
Stead, Julianne
Yonych, Laura

The Committee reviewed the following applications which were deferred due to lack of specific documents required by law. All deferred permanent and temporary applications must return to the Committee for review.

DEFERRED (PERMANENT)

Brown, Carlene
Ceesay, Kitabu
Evola, Peter
Merkel, Ann

DEFERRED (TEMPORARY)

Browarek, Tara
Kothari, Meenal
Orlov, Vadim
Stern, Alyse

The next scheduled meeting is October 15, 2004. There being no other business to come before the Committee the meeting was adjourned at 12:00 noon.

Respectfully submitted,

Physician Assistant Advisory Committee
Dorcas K. O'Neal
Executive Director
