

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

PUBLIC SESSION MINUTES

MARCH 19, 2010

FINAL

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

George Argast 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: George Argast
Todd Newman
Claire O'Connell
Jeffrey Maas

ABSENT: Dr. Jeffrey Berman
Dorcas K. O'Neal, Executive Director

Also in attendance: Debra Levine, Deputy Attorney General and Kathleen Griffith, Staff.

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a. The Committee reviewed the Public Session Minutes for January 15, 2010. **On a motion by Todd Newman, seconded by Jeffrey Maas the Minutes were unanimously approved as submitted.**

II. NEW BUSINESS

a. The Committee reviewed an e-mail from **Beth Bosticco, physician assistant**, inquiring as to whether physician assistants credentialed in a hospital to work in one area of surgery, can first assist in a different area of surgery within the same hospital; whether a credentialed general surgery physician assistant can first assist an orthopedic surgeon within that hospital and whether any special forms are required.

The Committee determined that a letter be sent to Ms. Bosticco advising that the matter of credentialing is the responsibility of the facility in which the physician assistant has been granted privileges and that the inquiry should be directed to the Medical Executive Committee of the specific facility. Further, the physician assistant must be appropriately trained in the practice and the physician assistant must be supervised at all times.

b. The Committee reviewed an e-mail from **Barry Korn, DO, DPM, Center For Pain Management, P.C.**, inquiring as to whether physician assistants in the State of New Jersey can perform trigger point injections and percutaneous electrical nerve stimulation (PENS) and whether a supervising physician must be present either in the room or building at the time of the procedure.

The Committee determined that a physician assistant may perform trigger point injections and percutaneous electrical nerve stimulation (PENS) **pursuant to N.J.A.C. 13:35-2B (4)b.** A licensee who has complied with the provisions of **N.J.A.C. 13:35-2B.3 Practice Requirements** may perform the following procedures, provided the procedures are within the training and experience of both the supervising physician and the physician assistant, only when the supervising physician directs the licensee to perform the procedures or orders or prescribes the procedures, or the procedures are specified in a written protocol approved by the Board. **Mr. Korn will be so advised.**

c. A letter from **Peirson Squires, Health Net Federal Services**, inquiring as to the verification of credentials of health care practitioners.

The Committee determined that a letter be sent to Ms. Squires advising that the Physician Assistant Advisory Committee requires a sealed transcript as a source of verification for the highest level of education.

d. The Committee reviewed an e-mail from **Rhonda Lyles, UMDNJ Department of Corrections**, inquiring as to whether physician assistants must hold a CDS and a DEA registration. Ms. Lyles further states that Section **N.J.A.C. 13:35-2B.12 (a) 1** states that a physician assistant shall not issue prescriptions for CDS and under the **Physician Assistant Licensure Act N.J.S.A. 45:9-27.19** it states that a physician assistant may order or prescribe medications for CDS and that she finds the information to be conflicting.

The Committee determined that a letter be sent to Ms. Lyles, enclosing the current regulations and referencing, specifically, **N.J.A.C. 13:35-2B.12 Requirements for issuing prescriptions for medications; special requirements for issuance of CDS**, by physician assistants which must be adhered to. **Ms. Lyles will be so advised.**

e. The Committee reviewed a fax **from Victoria Jarestky, Account Representative**, inquiring as to whether physician assistants in the State of New Jersey can bill for the total component of an x-ray and that Medicare is denying claims and referencing state law. Ms. Jarestky is requesting that something be sent to her stating that physician assistants cannot bill for the technical component, interpretation and order an x-ray.

The Committee determined that a letter be sent to Ms Jarestky advising that pursuant to the **Radiologic Technologist Act N.J.S.A.26-2D-24 et seq.**, only a licensed practitioner or a licensed radiologic technologist are permitted to operate x-ray equipment. This Act was enacted in 1968. Further, licensed practitioner, as defined in the Act, does not include the practice of physician assistants. Physician assistants are allowed, however, to order and interpret x-rays once the films are available as long as it is under the scope of practice of the supervising physician.

f. The Committee reviewed as informational the invitation from **Greeley Medical Institute Peer Review Boot Camp**, intensive training for Committee Chairs, members and support staff.

IV. REVIEW OF BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS MINUTES AND AGENDA

a. The Committee reviewed the **Ratified Open Board Minutes for December 9, 2009 of the Board of Medical Examiners, as informational.**

b. The Committee reviewed the **Ratified Open Board Minutes Disciplinary-Matters for December 9, 2009 of the Board of Medical Examiners, as informational.**

c. The Committee reviewed the **Open Board Agenda for February 10, 2010 of the Board of Medical Examiners, as informational.**

d. The Committee reviewed the **Open Board Agenda Disciplinary-Matters for February 10, 2010 of the Board of Medical Examiners, as informational.**

e. The Committee reviewed the **Open Board Agenda for March 10, 2010 of the Board of Medical Examiners, as informational.**

f. The Committee reviewed the **Open Board Agenda Disciplinary-Matters for March 10, 2010 of the Board of Medical Examiners, as informational.**

g. The Committee reviewed as informational the notice that February 10, 2010 meeting was cancelled. Therefore, **the January 13, 2010 Open Board Minutes and Open Board Disciplinary-Matters minutes were not ratified.**

V. REVENUE REPORT

- a. The Committee reviewed the **Revenue Report for January 2010, as informational.**
- b. The Committee reviewed the **Revenue Report for February 2010, as informational.**
- c. The Committee reviewed the **Revenue Report for January 1, 2009 to December 31, 2009, as informational.**

There being no other business to come before the Committee in Public Session, on a motion by Claire O'Connell, seconded by Jeffrey Maas, the Public Session was adjourned and the Committee convened in Executive Session for the purpose of receiving counsel, to review four (4) items of old business, three (3) items of new business and eight (8) applications.

The Committee reconvened in Public Session. The next scheduled meeting is May 21, 2010. There being no other business to come before the Committee in Public Session the meeting was adjourned at 12:00

Respectfully submitted,
Physician Assistant Advisory Committee

Dorcas K. O'Neal
Executive Director

PUBLIC SESSION MINUTES RATIFIED BY THE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

