

**NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD OF PHYSICAL THERAPY EXAMINERS  
PUBLIC SESSION MINUTES  
October 26, 2004**

A regular meeting of the New Jersey State Board of Physical Therapy Examiners was held at 124 Halsey Street, Newark, New Jersey, in the Somerset Room, 6th Floor, on Tuesday, October 26, 2004. The meeting was convened in accordance with the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act. Karen Wilk, Board Secretary, called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m. and a roll call was taken and the following attendance was recorded:

BARBARA BEHRENS, P.T.A.	Present
JEAN M. BICKAL, ESQ.	Present
MARY B. BROWNE, P.T.	Present
JEFFREY ERICKSON, P.T.	Present
BARRY INGLETT, P.T.	Present
NANCY R. KIRSCH, P.T.	Present - Arrived at 9:40 A.M.
IVETTE P. MARTINEZ	Present
SUSAN M. QUICK	Present
GARY SAVANDER, P.T.	Present - Arrived at 9:37 A.M.
KAREN E. WILK, P.T.	Present

Also present were: Susan H. Gartland, Executive Director; Carmen A. Rodriguez, Deputy Attorney General; Lora Sellmeyer, Assistant to the Executive Director Members of the public: Kathy Mairella, President-APTA-NJ; Leslie Soulen, APTA-NJ; Kenneth Maily, PT.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

**I. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 28, 2004 BOARD MEETING**

Upon a motion made by Jean Bickal and seconded by Barry Inglett, the Board voted to accept the minutes of the September 28, 2004 Board meeting as amended. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

**II . OLD BUSINESS:**

**A. COURSEWORK EVALUATION TOOL -STANDARDS FOR FOREIGN EDUCATED APPLICANTS**

Nancy Kirsch and Mary Browne submitted a draft of new requirements of the standards for foreign educated applicants in New Jersey. The Board will request the three course work evaluations tools that the Board of Physical Therapy of California has now adopted and bring it to the November Board meeting to discuss further the standards for New Jersey.

**B. INQUIRY FROM MARY ANN CONWAY, PT - TABLED FROM SEPTEMBER 28, 2004 MEETING**

The Board reviewed an inquiry from Mary Ann Conway, Director at Patient Care, Home Care Agency. The Board will advise Ms. Conway that the removal of staples or sutures is not prohibited in as much as the physical therapist has foundational knowledge involving the integumentary system including wound care and healing, the physical therapist can attain competency for this skill with appropriate training. The physical therapist must possess training and competency for this intervention. The procedure needs to be part of a treatment plan for physical therapy and be requires communication with the appropriate health care provider.

Upon a motion made by Gary Savander and seconded by Barry Inglett, the Board voted to send a response stating

that the removal of staples or sutures by a physical therapist is not prohibited with the appropriate skill, competency and communication with the appropriate health care provider. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

### **C. PHYSICAL THERAPIST REFERRAL PROPOSAL**

Nancy Kirsch, Chairperson and Carmen Rodriguez, DAG attended a meeting with the Executive Committee of the Board of Medical Examiners on September 28, 2004 at 2:30 PM. The physical therapist referral proposal was given to the Executive Committee for review. The Board will follow up on the status of the proposal for the November 23, 2004 Board meeting.

Upon a motion made by Mary Browne and seconded by Barbara Behrens, the Board voted to approve the guidelines. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

### **III . INFORMATIONAL:**

#### **D. NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS- OPEN BOARD MINUTES AUGUST 11, 2004**

This matter was considered informational.

#### **E. NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS- OPEN BOARD AGENDA OCTOBER 13, 2004**

This matter was considered informational.

#### **F. NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD OF CHIROPRACTIC EXAMINERS- PUBLIC SESSION AGENDA OCTOBER 21, 2004**

This matter was considered informational.

#### **G. NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD OF CHIROPRACTIC EXAMINERS- PUBLIC SESSION MINUTES JULY 22, 2004**

This matter was considered informational.

#### **H. NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS- OPEN MINUTES DISCIPLINARY MATTERS PENDING CONCLUSION AUGUST 11, 2004**

This matter was considered informational.

#### **I. NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS- OPEN AGENDA DISCIPLINARY MATTERS PENDING CONCLUSION OCTOBER 13, 2004**

This matter was considered informational.

#### **J. CHANGE OF MEETING DATE FOR ORTHOTICS AND PROSTHETICS BOARD OF EXAMINERS**

This matter was considered informational.

#### **K. PHYSICAL THERAPY BOARD OF CALIFORNIA - PROGRESS NOTES**

This matter was considered informational.

#### **L. 2004 HMO PERFORMANCE REPORT**

This matter was considered informational.

## **M. FEDERATION NEWS BRIEFS - SEPTEMBER 2004**

This matter was considered informational.

### **IV . APPEARANCES:**

#### **T.O.E.F.L. WAIVERS:**

##### 1. Pallavi Tarhalkar

Pallavi Tarhalkar appeared before the Board to request a waiver of the TOEFL requirement for foreign-educated individuals applying for licensure. Ms.Pallavi is applying for licensure as a physical therapist by endorsement in the State of New Jersey. She was educated in India and received her professional as well as undergraduate education in the English language. Ms. Pallavi is licensed in Indiana, Michigan, New York and Pennsylvania.

Upon a motion made by Jean Bickal and seconded by Gary Savander the Board voted to grant Ms. Pallavi a waiver of the TOEFL requirement based upon the fact that her professional as well as her undergraduate education was conducted in the English language and she demonstrated proficiency. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

##### 2. Maria Asanza

Maria Asanza appeared before the Board to request a waiver of the TOEFL requirement for foreign-educated individuals applying for licensure. Ms.Asanza is applying for licensure as a physical therapist by endorsement in the State of New Jersey. She was educated in the Philippines and received her professional as well as undergraduate education in the English language. Ms. Asanza is licensed in Louisiana.

Upon a motion made by Jean Bickal and seconded by Gary Savander, the Board voted to grant Ms. Asanza a waiver of the TOEFL requirement based upon the fact that her professional as well as her undergraduate education was conducted in the English language and she demonstrated proficiency. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

##### 3. SeungYoul Yi

SeungYoul Yi appeared before the Board to request a waiver of the TOEFL requirement for foreign-educated individuals applying for licensure. Mr. Yi is applying for licensure as a physical therapist by endorsement in the State of New Jersey. He was educated in Korea and received his professional as well as undergraduate education in the English language. Mr. Yi is licensed in New York.

Upon a motion made by Jean Bickal and seconded by Gary Savander, the Board voted to grant Mr. Yi a waiver of the TOEFL requirement based upon the fact that his professional as well as his undergraduate education was conducted in the English language and he demonstrated proficiency. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

##### 4. Nermin Gabra

Nermin Gabra appeared before the Board to request a waiver of the TOEFL requirement for foreign-educated individuals applying for licensure. Ms. Gabra is applying for licensure as a physical therapist by endorsement in the State of New Jersey. She was educated in Egypt and received her professional as well as undergraduate education in the English language. Ms. Gabra is licensed in Michigan.

Upon a motion made by Jean Bickal and seconded by Gary Savander, the Board voted to grant Ms. Gabra a waiver of the TOEFL requirement based upon the fact that her professional as well as her undergraduate education was conducted in the English language and she demonstrated proficiency. The motion carried by a

unanimous vote.

## **V. NEW BUSINESS:**

### **A. REPORT OF FSBPT ANNUAL MEETING AND DELEGATE ASSEMBLY, SEPTEMBER 11-13, 2004**

This matter was considered informational.

### **B. REQUEST TO CHANGE PHYSICAL THERAPY BOARD MEETING DATE FROM FEBRUARY 22, 2004 TO FEBRUARY 15, 2004.**

The Board of Physical Therapist Examiners February Board meeting will be changed to February 15, 2004.

Upon a motion made by Mary Browne and seconded by Karen Wilk, the Board voted to change the February Board meeting date from February 22, 2004 to February 15, 2004. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

### **C. INQUIRY FROM PRECISION CARE, L.L.C.; ROY JACKSON, DC**

The Board reviewed three inquiries from Roy Jackson, D.C., of Precision Care, L.L.C. The Board will advise Mr. Jackson to contact the American Medical Association for correct CPT coding; a physical therapist if properly trained may use a non-invasive low level laser device, and to refer to N.J.A.C. 13:39A-8.1 for advertising regulations which will be sent with the response from the Board.

### **D. COMMENTS ON AMENDMENTS TO A2319**

The Board reviewed A2319, which requires certain persons to report suspected abuse, neglect or exploitation against vulnerable adults. The Board voted in support of this bill.

Upon a motion made by Barry Inglett and seconded by Barbara Behrens, the Board voted to support bill A2319. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

### **E. COMMENTS ON AMENDMENTS TO S1930**

The Board reviewed S1930, which revises procedures for suspension or revocation of licenses for overdue child support. The Board voted to take no position on this matter.

Upon a motion made by Gary Savander and seconded by Jean Bickal, the Board voted to take no position on S1930. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

### **APPLICATIONS APPROVED BY THE BOARD:**

1. Seungyoul Yi
2. Charizza Olegario
3. Maria Elisa Asanza
4. Pallavi Tarhalkar
5. David Recto
6. Maria Celia Evangelista
7. Mary Natalie De La Rosa
8. Richelle Jude Berbano
9. Sung Bam Wee
10. Maria Garces
11. Maria Yason

### **APPLICATIONS NOT APPROVED BY THE BOARD:**

1. Giovanna Magto

2. Nermin Gabra
3. James Kehinde

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Upon a motion made by Karen Wilk and seconded by Jeffrey Erickson, the Board voted to adjourn Public Session and to go into Executive Session to discuss the following matters involving investigations or violations of the Board's enabling act, the Uniform Enforcement Act and/or Board regulations.

1. Six complaints or matters filed with the Board, which require review and additional recommendations with regard to investigations and/or actions.
2. Two matters where additional information has been submitted to the Board concerning pending investigations.

Respectfully submitted,

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Susan H. Gartland, Executive Director

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