

**BOARD OF MEDICAL LICENSURE AND DISCIPLINE
FULL BOARD
MINUTES OF MEETING
14 DECEMBER 2005
Open Session**

Board Members in Attendance:

Patrick Barry, Esq.

Thomas Breslin, MD

Norm Chapman

Charles Cronin, DO

Robert Dinwoodie, DO

Joseph DiPietro, Esq.

Richard P. Iacobucci, MD

Noubar Kessimian MD

Henry Litchman, MD

Shelagh McGowan

Board Members Absent:

David R. Gifford, MD, MPH, Chair

Margaret Coughlin

Staff Members in Attendance:

Robert S. Crausman, MD, Chief Administrative Officer

Bruce W. McIntyre, Esq., Deputy Chief Legal Counsel

Linda Julian, Investigator

Mary Salerno, Administrative Officer

Michelle McCormick, Licensing Aid II

1. A quorum was established at 8:35 AM.

2. On a motion by Mr. DiPietro seconded by Mr. Barry it was voted to approve the minutes of the Open Session of the November 9, 2005 meeting.

3. Licensing Committee:

On a motion by Mr. DiPietro seconded by Mr. Barry it was voted to approve the Licensing Committee minutes of the December 8, 2005 meeting.

4. Chief Administrative Officer's Report

A. The issue of the definition of the scope of practice for Health Assistants was tabled for 6 weeks.

B. Thermography - The use of an infrared camera to see how much energy is being produced. In the 1970's thermography was used in mammograms to detect lesions that generated heat indicating possible malignancies. Currently, although the AMA's position is that

thermography has no legitimate use, the FDA has approved the use of thermographic medical devices owned and operated by clinicians. In Rhode Island MDs, DOs, NPs, and PAs are the ones authorized. The accepted use of thermography includes post-operative detection of revascularization and identifying painful zones for rheumatological purposes.

C. Dr. Kessimian gave a presentation to the Board regarding patient safety. He presented 5 cases containing various medical errors and asked the Board's opinion of how the issues surrounding the errors should be resolved to allow for better patient safety. The Board determined that systemization, technology, education, evaluation of workload, and when necessary, discipline should be used to reduce medical errors.

5. There was no old business to discuss.

6. New business:

There was no new business.

7. At 10:00 AM the Board adjourned to Closed Session.