

BOARD OF MEDICAL LICENSURE AND DISCIPLINE

FULL BOARD

MINUTES OF MEETING

12 September 2007

Open Session

Minutes

Board Members in Attendance:

John Audett, MD

Thomas Breslin, MD

Patrick Barry, Esq.

Norm Chapman

Margaret Coughlin

Charles Cronin, DO

Richard P. Iacobucci, MD

Noubar Kessimian MD

Henry Litchman, MD

Board Members Absent:

David R. Gifford, MD, MPH, Chair

Robert Dinwoodie, DO

Joseph DiPietro, Esq.

Agnes R. Lapointe

Shelagh McGowan

Staff Members in Attendance:

Robert S. Crausman, MD, Chief Administrative Officer

Bruce W. McIntyre, Board General Counsel

Linda Julian, Board Investigator

Mary Salerno, Administrative Officer

Guests:

Henry Litchman, MD, Board Member Emeritus

James Carney, PA-C, Chair, Board of Physician Assistants

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

2. On a motion by seconded by Dr. Kessimian seconded by Mr. Chapman it was voted to approve the minutes of the 6 September 2007 Licensing Committee were approved.

3. On a motion by Mrs. Coughlin seconded by Dr. Audett it was voted to approve the minutes of the Open Session of the 8 August 2007 meeting.

4. Chief Administrative Officer's Report

A. Welcome to John Audett, MD, our newest Board Member. Dr. Audett replaces Dr. Henry Litchman as and Allopathic Physician Representative. Dr. Litchman will be greatly missed and the Board looks forward to working with Dr. Audett.

B. Due to Dr. Gifford's absence, discussion of the letters from the BMLD and Board of Physician Assistants regarding advanced clinician supervision will be postponed until next month's meeting. In the interim it was suggested that Dr. Dinwoodie and Mr. Carney discuss collaboration on one combined letter from both Boards.

C. BMLD vs. Veterans Administration physician jurisdiction - Mr. McIntyre will engage the VA in dialogue.

D. Physician/Patient Relationship Draft - The following Statement was proposed:

"It is inappropriate to prescribe medications via the Internet or similar venue without an appropriate physician/patient relationship that would typically include: 1) patient history, 2) physical and/or mental health assessment, 3) legitimate records kept, 4) licensed and trained practitioners, 5) elements of informed consent wherever appropriate and reasonable, and 6) AMA/AOA code of ethics followed."

E. The editorial regarding "Disaster Preparedness" was discussed. The danger of unlicensed, fraudulent practitioners appearing in times of crisis such as Hurricane Katrina necessitates a better system. The Good Samaritan Law only covers emergent incidents, not situations that require on going care. Mr. McIntyre updated the Board on the status of the "License Portability" project that will address this issue. Areas currently being focused on are 1) a common license

application, and 2) an agreed upon set of credentialing documents, which will be web-based on a secure platform centered at the FSMB.

F. The articles provided by Mr. Carney regarding PAs were discussed.

Nurse Practitioners will be able to obtain a Nurse Practitioner doctorate in the near future and it appears that the Physician Assistants are working towards the same goal. The concern is the confusion that the title “Doctor” will present.

5. Old Business:

Proposed physical exam requirement for Emeritus physicians

6. New business:

None presented.

7. At 9:25 AM the Board adjourned to Executive Session pursuant to Sections 46-42-4 and 42-46-5 of the Rhode Island General Laws.