



MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA
Licensing Program



LICENSING COMMITTEE
MINUTES

November 4, 2010

Medical Board of California
Long Beach Memorial Medical Center
Miller Children's Hospital
2801 Atlantic Avenue, Room A1-A2
Long Beach, CA 90806

Agenda Item 1 Call to Order/Roll Call

Dr. Salomonson called the meeting to order on November 4, 2010 at 11:14 a.m.

Ms. Boyd called the roll. A quorum was present.

Members Present:

Janet Salomonson, M.D., Chair
Hedy Chang
Jorge Carreon, M.D.
Eric Esrailian, M.D.
Silvia Diego, M.D.
Gerrie Schipske, R.N.P., J.D.

Members Absent:

Shelton Duruisseau, Ph.D.

Board Members, Staff and Guests Present:

Fayne Boyd, Licensing Manager
Janie Cordray, Research Specialist
Julie D'Angelo Fellmeth, CPIL
Kurt Hepler, Legal Counsel
Breanne Humphreys, Licensing Manager
Teri Hunley, Business Services Manager
Ross Locke, Business Services Office
Armando Melendez, Business Services Office
Regina Rao, Business Services Office
Anita Scuri, Department of Consumer Affairs, Supervising Legal Counsel
Jennifer Simoes, Chief of Legislation
Cheryl Thompson, Executive Assistant
Renee Threadgill, Chief of Enforcement
Linda Whitney, Executive Director
Barbara Yaroslavsky, Board President

Agenda Item 2 Public Comments on Items Not on the Agenda

Dr. Salomonson asked for public comments on items not on the agenda. There were no public comments. Dr. Salomonson moved to Agenda Item 3.

Agenda Item 3 Approval of Minutes from the July 29, 2010 Meeting

It was M/S/C to approve the minutes.

Agenda Item 4 Update on Application Processing Times for Physician and Surgeon Applications

Ms. Whitney introduced the new Chief, Curt Worden, to the Board.

Mr. Worden referenced the report ending October 16 (Agenda Item 30, pg 236).

The review of new US/CAN applications is at 37 days and pending mail is within seven calendar days. New IMG application reviews are at 50 days and pending mail within 16 calendar days.

Mr. Worden commended the staff for the great job of reducing the workload and credited Mr. Schunke with the increase in the number of files coming in complete.

Agenda Item 5 Update on the Business Process Reengineering (BPR) Primary Recommendations

Mr. Worden said staff is currently working on the five BPR recommendations while maintaining application review dates.

A. Revision of Physician and Surgeon Application and Streamlining Process

Ms. Boyd reported that it had been over five years since the application and its instructions had been revised. Many suggestions have been received from both staff and applicants. A committee has been formed comprised of various staff. The committee is in the initial phase of categorizing the suggestions into these areas: application, instructions or website.

The following are some of areas that are being considered:

- Create an “interactive video” that answers or clarifies the application process
- Create two separate applications, one for licensing and one for training
- Create a revised format for supporting documentation
- Create online instructions for applicants re-applying pursuant to B&P 2428 (previously licensed in CA)
- Create online instructions for a Limited Practice License
- Determine if the general information can be shortened while providing the necessary information to properly complete the application
- Create a checklist for the applicant
- Add a checkbox for US/Can or IMG graduate
- Add instruction related to who fills out which forms
- Modify questions regarding postgraduate training and criminal history
- Modify the L3A/B form
- Modify the fee schedule document to be more readable

Dr. Salomonson asked for public comments. Mr. Rehan Sheikh asked if questions 14 and 23 were a requirement for licensure. Ms. Scuri stated this is not technically related to the revision of the application, but the answers are used to evaluate the applicant’s fitness for practice. After additional comments from Mr. Sheikh, Dr. Salomonson thanked him for his comments and questions.

B. Web Site Related to Applications

Ms. Boyd reported that the MBC Web Site "Applicants" tab has not had a full review since 2000. The site is being reviewed concurrently with the application. In alignment with the review of the physician and surgeon application is it anticipated to be completed by May 2011.

C. Implementation of New Management Report

Ms. Humphreys reported that management has nine automated reports to assist in workload management. There are two new reports that have been put on hold until early next year. She reported that DCA is requiring boards and bureaus to report monthly their statistics.

D. Revision of the Policy and Procedure Manual

Ms. Humphreys reported she took over this project last quarter. Currently 12 of 32 chapters are in various stages: written, rewritten and pending approvals. She has a staff of three with the primary responsibilities of the manual's development. She anticipates the manual to be complete by end of 2011.

E. Study of Postgraduate Training Authorization Letter (PTAL) Process

Ms. Boyd stated that the PTAL authorizes international medical school graduates to begin training in California. As part of the revision of the physician and surgeon application, the committee will be studying whether a separate application should be created for applicants requesting a PTAL. It is anticipated the project will begin in January 2011, with an expected completion date of December 2011.

Agenda Item 6 Update on Proposed Alternatives to Traditional US and IMG Medical Education

Mr. Schunke provided a detailed presentation on the history of the Fifth Pathway Program and its demise in 2009. The 5th Pathway Program was designed for U.S. citizens who graduated from medical schools in Mexico. These students obtained the majority of their medical education at international schools, and then returned to the U.S. to participate in a fifth year of clinical training at an approved "5th Pathway Program." The 5th year is similar to the 4th year clinical rotation in US medical schools.

In 2008, the AMA issued a report to eliminate the 5th Pathway Program as an educational mechanism for medical students to enter into ACGME post-graduate training programs. There was no consistent primary source verification of the educational credentials for 5th Pathway participants. In 2009 the program was eliminated and graduates of the program will still be licensed in CA.

Dr. Carreon and Ms. Chang commented that the lack of patient care in underserved communities needs to be addressed.

Ms. Scuri advised that we could look at our current licensing laws and regulations and see if they could be modified while providing consumer protection.

Ms. Whitney suggested we hold an interested parties meeting to examine the impact on consumer protection and access to patient care. She recommended a subcommittee be formed made up of a member from the Licensing Committee and a member from the Access to Care Committee.

M/S/C. Dr. Diego volunteered to serve on the subcommittee.

Agenda Item 7 **Agenda Items for January 27, 2011 Meeting in San Francisco**
None provided.

Agenda Item 8: Adjournment
The meeting adjourned at 12:13 p.m.

DRAFT