

MEDICAL BOARD STAFF REPORT

DATE REPORT ISSUED: July 9, 2010
ATTENTION: License Committee
DEPARTMENT: Licensing Program
SUBJECT: Physician and Surgeons Photo Identification
STAFF CONTACT: Breanne Humphreys, Manager

UPDATE:

The Committee has been asked to consider including a photograph on the pocket license and/or License Verification System (LVS) to assist those responsible for credentials of physicians.

SUMMARY:

This is a follow up from the April 2010 Board Meeting where the Director of Medical Staff Services of Centinela Hospital made a request that photos be included on the license, thus providing those responsible for physician credentialing an extra security measure for ensuring patient safety. Avenues by which this could be accomplished include, adding a photograph to the pocket license or to our LVS .

Further research will need to be conducted on associated costs relative to placing a photograph on the pocket license and/or downloading it in to LVS for the Board's 127,000 licensed physicians.

THINGS TO CONSIDER:

- Identify vendor capability and costs.
- Develop implementation timeline/processes for 127,000 licensed physicians.
- Identify criteria for authenticating photographs.
- Identify staffing and equipment needs.
- FSMB replied they are unaware of any boards including photos and that is probably due to associated costs.

Staff will continue to research this issue after completion of the top five Business Processing Reengineering recommendations that the Licensing Program is currently undertaking. As time permits, staff will precede with the research approximately mid 2011 and bring results back to the committee for consideration.