



STATE OF MARYLAND

DHMH

Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

Board of Physical Therapy Examiners

BOARD MEETING OPEN MINUTES

April 15, 2014

The meeting was called to order at 1:04 p.m. by the Chairperson, Dr. John Baker.

Call to Order

There was a motion and a second to close the open session at 1:55 p.m. to engage in medical review committee deliberations regarding confidential information in applications for licensure, in accordance with State Government Article, Section 10-508 (a) (7) and (13). Unless recused, all Board members and staff who were present for the open session were also in attendance for both the closed and administrative sessions.

Board members present:

Rhea Cohn, PT
Lori Mizell, PT
Krystal Lighty, PT
Ved Gupta, Consumer Member
Kimberly Rotondo, PTA
Katharine Stout, PT
Delores Alexander, Consumer Member

Also Present:

Carlton A. Curry, Executive Director
Joy Aaron, Deputy Director
Linda Bethman, AAG, Board Counsel
Brett Felter, Staff Attorney
John Bull, Compliance Manager/Investigator
Eric Jordan, Investigator
Deborah Jackson, Licensing Coordinator
Patricia Miller, Board Secretary

Guests:

Senator Paula Hollinger
Dave Thomas, PTA Program Director and 24 PTA Students from Anne Arundel Community College
Carolyn Chanoski, PT

Board Chairman, Dr. John Baker, welcomed the visitors and explained proper protocol to follow during the meeting, in order to be recognized to make comments and/or speak on an issue.

Welcome

The minutes of the meeting held on March 18, 2014 were approved as is.

Minutes

Mr. Curry apprised the Board members of the latest legislative updates. One of particular interest was the approval of background investigations for initial applicants, which is effective October 1st this year.

Legislative
Update

License Coordinator, Deborah Jackson presented the statistics of applications received and licenses issued in March 2014.

Licensure
Update

PT Sarah Merkle, inquiry: 1) Who is the primary PT when a patient is evaluated by a PRN PT (or a full-time PT) and then followed by a PTA? The Board responded: Although the full-time PT may not be assigned to that unit on a particular day, the on-site PT can be supervising PT. 2) Are PTAs allowed to collect objective data, but not make any assessment about that data. The Board's response: 'Yes,' the PTAs may collect data, including computing any score. Interpretation of such data must be done by a physical therapist.

Sarah Merkle,
PT/Scope of
Practice

Maureen Murrell, has inquired if removing staples and sutures is within the scope of Maryland PT practice. The Board's response is 'Yes,' to both removing staples and removing sutures. It is important, however, to be sure to always work within your level of competency.

Maureen
Murrell/Scope
of Practice

PT, Alaina Hess, seeks clarification on the requirements of documentation and appropriate practice for patients requiring manual therapy on an 'as needed' basis for an extended period of time. Would this require a discharge at each visit and re-evaluate at each session **or** maintain an active chart and perform a brief assessment to address their limitations during an episode of pain? The Board's response is that documentation standards apply. Re-evaluation is required every 30 days, unless the therapist, consistent with acceptable standards of physical therapy care document an appropriate rationale for not re-evaluating the patient. The justification must be clearly documented.

Alaina Hess,
PT/
Documentation

Laura Cronin wants to know: How often is documentation of supervision needed and can it be once every 10th visit in the PT note per patient? The Board's response is that PTAs don't need their documentation cosigned by a PT. There is no specific number. Documentation of supervision must be ongoing.

Laura Cronin/
Documentation
of Supervision

PT, Jodi Barth submitted an application for corporate name approval. The Board voted to approve the name.

PT, Jodi Barth/
Corporate
Name
Approval

Chairperson, Dr. John Baker and Executive Director, Carlton Curry, recently met with Care Resources. The goal was to attempt to establish broader communication between the PT Board and Care Resources and bring all licensee documentation to conform with the Maryland Practice Act when dealing with the Infants and Toddlers Program. The Board will continue to work with stakeholders on this issue.

Infants and
Toddlers
Program

Some states are allowing DPT's who cannot meet PT requirements, to take the examination for PTA licensure. Is Maryland likely to allow them to become licensed PTAs? Mr. Curry recently met with a Towson University student who has volunteered to work in our office this summer, gathering information and compiling a report to the Board. Due to the new limitations on the number of times an applicant may sit for the NPTE, the Board may find it useful in making the decision.

Update - DPTs
licensed as PTAs

Added to the Agenda:

PT, David Shulman sent a letter requesting an exemption from the pending Maryland CEU requirements to perform dry needling treatments. Linda Bethman indicated the Board will do a review to determine exactly what the requirements will be and Mr. Curry will work with Board counsel to draft a response.

David Shulman/
Letter

Krystal Lighty updated the Board on ongoing progress by the Continuing Competency Committee.

Continuing
Competency

John Bull, Compliance Manager, presented his new and improved version of the Complaint Form which can be filled out online and then printed. The Board voted to approve the revised form and it is available immediately.

Complaint Form/
Revised

The Board voted to **approve** the following CEU course applications: *'Myofascial Trigger Points;'* and *'Silent PPOs Rental Networks.'*

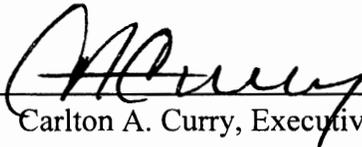
Continuing
Education

The Board voted to **deny** the following CEU course applications: *'Adolescent Violence'* because the course is not substantially related to the PT practice; *'Affordable Care Act'* because the course is not substantially related to the PT practice; *'The Conundrum of Outcomes'* because the course does not meet course requirements as stated in providing a clear and concise written statement describing the course's intended learning outcomes, behavioral objectives, or performance objectives.

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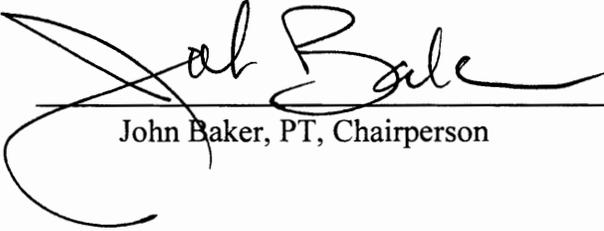
The board meeting was adjourned at 3:14 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Carlton A. Curry, Executive Director

5/28/2014
Date approved



John Baker, PT, Chairperson