

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

BOARD OF REGISTRATION OF PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS

**THIS AGENDA CONSTITUTES NOTICE OF THE REGULARLY SCHEDULED
MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF REGISTRATION OF PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS
IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE OPEN MEETING LAW, M.G.L. c. 30A, § 20**

**Thursday, April 12, 2018
9:30 a.m.**

**239 Causeway Street ~ 4th Floor ~ Room 417 A/B
Boston, Massachusetts 02114**

AGENDA

Time	Item #	Item	Documents	Staff Contact
9:30 a.m.	I	Call to Order Determination of Quorum Notice of Electronic Recording		Board Chair
	II	Conflict of Interest Approval of Agenda	Draft Agenda	Board Chair
	III	Approval of Minutes A. February 8, 2018, Regularly Scheduled Meeting	Draft Minutes	Board Chair
	IV	Alerts A. Prescribing Practices Policy and Guidelines: Buprenorphine B. MassHealth Order & Refer Process	Draft Alerts	MS
	V	Scope of Practice A. Telemedicine: Regulatory Research	Draft Samples	MS/RC

	VI	Inquires A. Are PAs allowed to perform US-guided facet joint (z-joint) and SI joint injections with proper training? B. Are PAs are qualified to “assist with gynecologic, ENT, Neurosurgical and Orthopedic Surgery? C. How many supervising physician can a PA have?	E-mail Inquiry	MS Board Chair
	VII	CEU Approval Request A. Course: 2018 Patient Safety Forum- Accelerating Improvement Submitted By: Massachusetts Coalition for the Prevention of Medical Errors	E-mail Inquiry	RC
	VIII	Flex Session A. Announcements 1-Governor’s Citation for former Board Member Laura A. Hilf in recognition of 12 Years of Service on the Board. 2-Opiod Experience Survey Reminder B. Topics for next agenda		Board Chair

	IX	<p>Executive Session The Board will meet in Executive Session as authorized pursuant to M.G.L. c. 30A, § 21(a)(1) for the purposes of discussing the reputation, character, physical condition or mental health, rather than professional competence, of an individual, or to discuss the discipline or dismissal of, or complaints or charges brought against an individual.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Specifically, the Board will discuss and evaluate the necessity of modifying probation conditions for a Licensee. 2. Specifically, the Board will discuss complaints or charges brought against a Licensee or Licensees. 3. Finally, the Board will consider approving prior executive session minutes in accordance with M.G.L. ch.30A, § 22(a) for previous executive sessions of the Board. <p>The Board will not reconvene in public session subsequent to the executive session.</p>	Closed Session	
12:00 p.m.	X	Adjournment - next Board meeting scheduled for May 10, 2018.		Board Chair

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

BOARD OF REGISTRATION OF PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS

BOARD MEETING

February 8, 2018

**Northeastern University ~ Curry Student Center (CSC Building #50) ~ Senate Room
360 Huntington Ave, Boston, Massachusetts 02115**

MINUTES

Board Members

Present: Alithia Broderick, PA-C, Physician Assistant 3
Dipu Patel-Junankar, Physician Assistant 1, Chair
Shannon Sheridan-Geldart, PA-C, Physician Assistant, Educator
Robert Baginski, MD
Richard Baum, MD, Massachusetts Medical Society
Paul Crehan, PA-C, Physician Assistant 4

Staff Present: Roberlyne Cherfils, Executive Director, MultiBoard, BHPL
Vita Berg, Office of General Counsel, DPH
Mary Strachan, Board Counsel, Office of General Counsel, DPH
Valera Bamgbala, Investigations Intern, MultiBoard, BHPL

Staff Not Present: Philip Beattie, Assistant Executive Director, MultiBoard, BHPL
Kimberly Jones, Investigator, BHPL

I. Call to Order – Determination of Quorum

A quorum of the Board was present. The Board Chair, D. Patel-Junankar, called the meeting to order at 8:15 a.m.

II. Conflict of Interest/Approval of the Agenda

The Meeting Agenda was reviewed.

DISCUSSION: Item V was deferred to the March 08, 2018 agenda by Executive Director for additional edits from BSAS.

ACTION: P. Crehan made a motion to approve the agenda as amended; S. Sheridan-Geldart seconded the motion. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

Document: February 08, 2018 Board Meeting Agenda

III. Approval of Minutes

Minutes of the December 14, 2017 Regularly Scheduled Board Meeting were reviewed.

DISCUSSION: None

ACTION: P. Crehan made a motion to approve the minutes; S. Sheridan-Geldart

seconded the motion. The motion passed with Board members present and voting in favor unanimously.

Document: December 14, 2017 Regularly Scheduled Board Meeting Minutes

IV. Open Meeting Law: Board Meetings

A. Remote Participation By Board Members

M. Strachan presented the previously distributed memo to Board members in which she explained the Open Meeting Law and the requirements for a Board member's remote participation at a meeting. The Attorney General's Office enforces Open Meeting Law (OML) and has developed guidelines to assist public bodies with compliance with OML. The decision to permit remote participation must be adopted by a majority vote. In addition, if a Board Member is participating remotely, quorum must be physically present, all members should be audible to each other and all votes taken during the meeting in which a member is participating remotely must be taken by roll call.

DISCUSSION: None.

ACTION: P. Crehan made a motion to approve policy as presented; R. Baginski seconded the motion. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

Document: Remote Participation By Board Members

V. Alerts

A. Prescribing Practices Policy and Guidelines: Buprenorphine - Deferred

DISCUSSION: None

ACTION: Deferred to next board meeting

Document: Draft Alert: Prescribing Practices Policy and Guidelines: Buprenorphine

VI. Board Inquiries: Scope of Practice

A. Interpretation and Dictation of Diagnostic Studies

The Board received an inquiry as to whether Physician Assistants have the authority to interpret imaging; the inquiry specifically referred to radiology.

DISCUSSION: D. Patel-Junankar discussed that there were no regulations on point that explicitly prevent Physician Assistants from interpreting to any degree diagnostics. R. Baum discussed the notion that the institution and the third party payers of a given institution determine whether a Physician Assistant is able to interpret diagnostics. The scope of practice therefore must be defined with the supervising authority and with the institution to which a Physician Assistant belongs. V. Berg noted that the Board does not have authority over such matters. M. Strachan noted that *physicians* do not formally interpret x-rays; a radiologist must sign/interpret them. Practitioners, including PAs must be able to understand them.

ACTION: MultiBoard staff will respond in writing to the inquiry.

Document: Email inquiring about the possibility of interpretation of diagnostics

B. Telemedicine: Introductory Review of Scope for PA's

The Board received a number of inquiries about the policies and regulations on (telemedicine) within the state of Massachusetts, namely inquiring about the possibility of a Physician Assistant writing prescriptions for patients if they are not located within the same state.

DISCUSSION: Deferred to 9 a.m. – Mock Board meeting general agenda. The Board discussed whether it would be possible for a Physician Assistant to write a prescription for a patient if they are located in different states. The discussion also brought to the forefront whether patients should be able to consult with their physicians over the phone or via a different medium if they are in a different state to their PA. A decision on this matter was postponed as Board members felt that the term needed to be specifically defined prior to agreeing and voting on the scope of telemedicine.

ACTION: No Action

Document: Email inquiring about telemedicine

VII. Licensing Updates

- A. Sexual & Domestic Violence Training
- B. MassHealth Order & Refer License Requirement Implementation
- C. National Practitioner Databank
- D. NCCPA Verification
- E. Supervisory Physician Form
- F. 2018 CORI Forms

DISCUSSION:

R. Cherfils provided verbal details to the Board of all the areas of the applications that required updates. These updates will be tentatively launched on 03/01/18.

Items A& B are based on statutory requirements, items C&D were updated according to Board approved changes based on the six sigma project, item E was updated due to an annual review of forms, and item F required changes due to regulatory changes by the Department of Criminal Justice Information Services (DCJIS).

ACTION: None

Document: None

VIII. Flex Session

A. Announcements

PA Program Board Educational Series: A presentation by the Executive Director of the Board of Registration of Physician Assistants and select Board members on licensing, regulations, scope of practice and processes by which to become a licensed PA in Massachusetts.

- Northeastern University: April 13, 2018
- Baypath University: April 26, 2018

B. Topics for next agenda

C. Mock Board Meeting: Post Adjournment