

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, October 9, 2014
9:30 a.m.**

**239 Causeway Street ~ 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		
	II.	Approval of Agenda	Draft Agenda	
	III.	Approval of Minutes A. September 11, 2014 Regularly Scheduled Meeting	Draft Minutes	
	IV.	Scope of Practice Inquiries A. May a PA student be supervised by a podiatrist, nurse midwife, or a clinical nurse specialist (latter in a psychiatric setting where the CNS manages patients)?	Email Inquiry	

	V.	Other Business/Announcements A. <u>Corporation Certificate of Registration</u> : ACO Signature Services, PC. B. Can an individual who has graduated from a PA program, but not yet passed the NCCPA exam use the designation “PA” after signing his or her name? B. <u>Distribution</u> : Board meeting calendar for 2015 C. <u>Discussion</u> : Board member recruitment D. <u>Discussion</u> : Medical Marijuana and Physician Assistants E. <u>Discussion</u> : Individuals employed by the federal government with a MA license.	Certificate of Registration None Board meeting dates 2015	DM/IH DM
	VI.	Flex Session A. Topics for next agenda	None	

10:30 a.m.	VII.	<p>Executive Session The Board will meet in Executive Session as authorized pursuant to M.G.L. c. 30A, § 21(a)(1) for the purpose 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, a public officer, employee, staff member or individual.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Specifically, the Board will discuss and evaluate the <u>Good Moral Character</u> as required for registration for pending applicants. 2. Specifically, the Board will discuss and evaluate the reputation, character, physical condition or mental health, rather than professional competence, of licensees relevant to their petitions for license status change. 3. Specifically, the Board will discuss complaints or charges brought against Licensees. 4. Finally, the Board will consider approving prior executive session minutes in accordance with M.G.L. ch.30A, § 22(f) for previous executive sessions of the Board. <p>The Board will not reconvene in public session subsequent to the executive session.</p>	Closed Session	
	VIII.	<p>Adjudicatory Session (Closed Session) None</p>	None	
	IX.	<p>M.G.L. c. 112, § 65C Session (Closed Session) None</p>	None	

12:00 p.m.	X.	Adjournment		
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COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
BOARD OF REGISTRATION OF PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS

BOARD MEETING

October 9, 2014
239 Causeway Street, Room 417
Boston, MA 02114

MINUTES

Board Members Present: Dipu Patel-Junankar, PA-C, Physician Assistant 1, Chair
Miguel Valdez, PA-C, Physician Assistant 3, Vice-Chair
Richard Baum, MD, Massachusetts Medical Society
Edward Glinski, MD, Physician
Shannon Sheridan-Geldart, PA-C, Physician Assistant, Educator
Nicole Meregian, PA-C, Physician Assistant 2

Board Members Not Present: Laura Hilf, RN, MS, Public Member 1

Staff Present: Mary Phillips, Executive Director, DHPL
Ichelle Herbu, Assistant Executive Director, DHPL
Rebecca Ferullo, Office Support Specialist, DHPL
Vita Berg, Chief Board Counsel, Office of the General Counsel, DPH
David Murphy, Board Counsel, Office of General Counsel, DPH
Marjorie Campbell, Investigator Supervisor, Office of Public Protection, DHPL
Philip Beattie, Board Investigator, Office of Public Protection, DHPL

Staff Not Present: Anson Chu, Office Support Specialist, DHPL

Guest: Jacob Shelsy; Attorney Vincent Dunn; Jameson Bell; Lyndsay Duarte

I. Call to Order – Determination of Quorum

A quorum of the Board was present. The Board Chair, Ms. Patel-Junankar, called the meeting to order at 9:31 a.m.

II. Approval of the Agenda
The meeting agenda was reviewed.

Action: Dr. Glinski made a motion to approve the agenda as presented; Mr. Valdez seconded the motion. The motion passed with Board members present and voting in favor unanimously.

Document: October 9, 2014 regularly scheduled Board meeting agenda.

III. Approval of Minutes:

- A. Minutes of September 11, 2014 of the regularly scheduled Board meeting
The Board reviewed the September 11, 2014 regularly scheduled Board meeting minutes.

Action: Mr. Valdez made a motion to approve the minutes and Dr. Glinski seconded the motion. Motion passed with Board members present and voting in favor: Mr. Valdez, Dr. Glinski, Ms. Patel-Junankar, Dr. Baum; Opposed: None; Abstain: Ms. Sheridan-Geldart, Ms. Meregian; Recused: None

Document: September 11, 2014 regularly Scheduled Board meeting minutes.

IV. Scope of Practice Inquiries

- A. May a PA student be supervised by a podiatrist, nurse midwife, or a clinical nurse specialist (latter in a psychiatric setting where the CNS manages patients)?

Discussion: All professional activities of a physician assistant must be supervised by a supervising physician approved by the Board of Registration in medicine. A supervising physician means a physician who is a “full licensee” of the Massachusetts Board of Registration in Medicine. Podiatrists are not licensed by the Board of Medicine.

Action: Mr. Murphy will confirm the license requirement for a Podiatrist, get back to Board and respond to the inquiry appropriately.

Document: Email Inquiry

V. Other Business/Announcements

- A. Corporation Certificate of Registration: ACO Signature Services, PC.

Discussion: Secretary of Commonwealth form requesting verification of a PA opening ACO company. The Board discussed if staff could verify the license and sign the form on their behalf in the future. The Board decided that the staff can

verify the status of the license and sign the form for future requests without Board review or approval.

Action: Mr. Valdez made a motion to sign the form; Ms. Sheridan-Geldart seconded the motion. Motion passed with Board members present and voting in favor unanimously.

Document: Certificate of Registration

- B. Can an individual who has graduated from a PA program, but not yet passed the NCCPA exam use the designation “PA” after signing his or her name?

Discussion: An individual may use “PA” (or whichever title is on diploma) before passing exam because they have earned the degree. They may not use “PA-C” as they are not certified. Board members request that Board counsel draft a policy so that it is clear to new graduates what title they should be using and present for Board review.

Action: None

Document: None

- C. Distribution: Board meeting calendar for 2015-Board members received the meeting dates for 2015 calendar.

Documents: Board meeting dates for the 2015 calendar year

- D. Discussion: Board Member recruitment-The number of seats allowed by statute for the physician assistant board is 9. Vacant board seats were discussed by the Board. Board members were told that if they knew someone who is interested they must submit a resume and letter of intent.

- E. Discussion: Medical Marijuana and Physician Assistants

Discussion: Ms. Berg informed the Board that the statute is specific to physicians and nurse practitioners which make them able to certify a patient for medical marijuana. Currently, PAs have no authority to certify a patient for medical marijuana. Board members request that staff inform the legislative liaison that the Board wants to have PAs added to the list of providers who can certify a patient for medical marijuana. Board members were informed that Board members could recruit MAPA to support this position.

Action: Ms. Megerian moves to endorse change request to include PAs in statute; Ms. Sheridan-Geldart seconded the motion. Motion passed with Board members present and voting in favor unanimously.

- F. Discussion: Individuals employed by the federal government with a MA license- Mr. Valdez informed Board members that the inquiry was brought before the Board for review several meetings ago that posed the question of whether a PA with a MA licensed and practicing on federal land is required to have a MA supervising physician. Board members noted that the response was yes, because a physician assistant, who holds a Massachusetts license, is subject to the same regulatory requirements as all other license holders.

VI. Topics for Next Agenda

- A. Dr. Glinski requests discussing new system for distribution of Board Materials
- B. Ms. Patel-Junankar would like to discuss documenting trends in complaints

VII. Executive Session

The Board will meet in Executive Session as authorized pursuant to M.G.L. c. 30A, § 21(a)(1) for the purpose 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, a public officer, employee, staff member or individual.

- i. Specifically, the Board will discuss and evaluate the Good Moral Character as required for registration for pending applicants.
- ii. Specifically, the Board will discuss and evaluate the reputation, character, physical condition or mental health, rather than professional competence, of licensees relevant to their petitions for license status change.
- iii. Specifically, the Board will discuss complaints or charges brought against Licensees.
- iv. Approval of prior executive session minutes in accordance with M.G.L. ch.30A, § 22(f) for sessions held during the September 11, 2014.

Ms. Patel-Junankar made a motion to enter into Executive session at 10:14 a.m.; Mr. Valdez seconded the motion; Motion passed with Board members present and voting in favor: Mr. Valdez-yes, Ms. Patel-Junankar-yes, Dr. Baum-yes, Dr. Glinski-yes; Ms. Meregian-yes; Ms. Sheridan-Geldart-yes; Opposed: None; Abstain: None; Recused: None

VIII. Adjudicatory Session (closed session): None

IX. M.G.L.c. 112 §65C Session (closed session): None

X. Adjourn

There being no other business before the Board, Ms. Patel-Junankar made a motion to adjourn the Meeting; Mr. Valdez seconded the motion. The motion passed with Board members present and voting in favor unanimously. The Meeting adjourned at 11:23 am.

The next meeting of the Board of Registration of Physician Assistants will be held on Thursday, November 13, 2014, at 9:30 a.m. at 239 Causeway Street, Boston, Massachusetts.

Respectfully submitted:

Dipu Patel-Junankar, PA-C, Chair

Date