Alabama State Board of Medical Examiners

Physician Assistant's Advisory Committee Meeting

Minutes

August 15, 2023

I. Call to Order

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Dr. Gregory Ayers called to order the regular meeting of the Physician Assistant Advisory Committee at 4:01 p.m. on August 25, 2023.

II. Roll Call

The following committee members were present: Paul Harrelson, P.A., Jeremy Kersey, P.A. (virtual), Heather Neighbors, P.A., Bellamy Davis, P.A. Gregory Ayers, M.D., Ronald Roan, M.D. (virtual), and William Jay Suggs, M.D. (virtual)

The following staff members were present: Kimie Buley, Suzanne Powell, Winston Jordan, Sandi Kirkland, Tonya Vice, Karen Silas, Wilson Hunter, Matt Hart, William Perkins (virtual), and Carla Kruger (virtual)

Others present: Nate Horsley (UAB), Benjamin J. Greene, M.D. (UAB), Andrew J. Gunn, M.D. (UAB), and Allison Seamon, P.A. (UAB)

III. Committee Minutes

The Committee approved the minutes from the Tuesday, April 15, 2023, meeting without objection.

IV. Old Business

a. 540-X-12 Qualified Alabama Controlled Substances Registration Certificate (QACSC)

The Committee reviewed a draft of the proposed rule modifications for 540-X-12 regarding the requirement of 12 months of active clinical practice in Alabama before obtaining a QACSC.

The proposed modifications would allow a QACSC (PA) applicant, who has not practiced for 12 months in Alabama, to apply for a QACSC under specific conditions.

Heather Neighbors, P.A., moved the Committee recommend the proposed rule modifications be presented to the Board for approval for publication for public comment. Paul Harrelson, P.A., seconded the motion. The vote to approve was unanimous.

b. CME Requirements for PA Licensure

The Committee reviewed and discussed proposed rule changes for 540-X-7-.29, Continuing Medical Education- Physician Assistant and 540-X-7, Appendix E-Physician Assistant License Renewal Application.

The Committee recommended deferring consideration of the proposed changes for further modification to require that the PA, during renewal of their Alabama license, provide whether they are NCCPA certified, the expiration date in which their NCCPA certification will expire, and their NCCPA certification number.

c. DEA one-time, eight-hour training requirement for all DEA registered practitioners on the treatment and management of patients with opioid or other substance use disorders.

This item was previously discussed by the Advisory Committee at its April 15, 2023, meeting. The Committee did not discuss this item further.

V. New Business

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a. Protocol for Insertion of Tunneled Central Venous Lines

The Committee discussed in detail a proposed protocol for the insertion of tunneled central venous lines. Representatives from UAB provided a brief description of the proposed protocol.

The Committee recommended deferring consideration of this item for the submission of additional data from UAB.

b. Otolaryngology Specialty Protocol

The Committee discussed correspondence received from Keith A. (Tony) Jones, M.D. (UAB) as well as correspondence from J. Chrisopher Davis, M.D. (Excel ENT of Alabama) concerning the Board's decision at its July 20, 2023, meeting requiring that a collaborating, supervising, or pre-approved covering physician be on site when otolaryngology specialty protocol skills are performed by PAs and NPs.

Representatives from UAB provided a brief overview of the correspondence submitted by Dr. Jones.

Paul Harrelson, P.A., moved the Committee recommend the Board codify community practice of allowing the performance of otolaryngology specialty protocol skills at sites without a collaborating, supervising, or covering physician present. Heather Neighbors, P.A., seconded. The vote to approve was unanimous.

c. Limited Protocol for Multi-Location Clinic Based Urgent Care

The Committee reviewed and discussed a proposed limited protocol application for clinic based urgent cares.

d. January 1, 2025, CME Requirement

Staff of the Board provided an update to the Committee concerning the required collaborative and supervisory practice continuing medical education.

e. Applicant for Alabama Physician Assistant Service Program Loan

The Committee reviewed an applicant for the Alabama PA Service Program Loan. Heather Neighbors, P.A., moved the Committee recommend approval of applicant, Payton Richey Patel, P.A., for a PA Service Program Loan if Ms. Patel meets the qualifications. Bellamy Davis, P.A., seconded. The vote to approve was unanimous.

f. ASPA Annual Conference 2024

The Committee discussed ASPA's annual conference which will be held March 7-10, 2024, in Mobile, specifically, the Committee discussed anticipated speakers for March 10, 2024.

Adjournment

Dr. Gregory Ayers adjourned the meeting at 5:14 p.m.

Minutes submitted by: Kimie Buley, Director of Advanced Practice Providers

Minutes approved by: Dr. Gregory Ayers

Gregory Ayers, M.D.