Alabama State Board of Medical Examiners and Medical Licensure Commission



MEDICALDIGEST

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2022-2023 Alabama State Board of Medical Examiners

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Reminder: BME Collecting Drug Enforcement Administration Registration Information

You may have noticed in renewing your ACSC this year that you were requested to upload a copy of your DEA certificate as part of the renewal process. The Board has also been contacting physicians whose DEA registrations appear to be expiring soon and reminding them they are required to provide a copy of the renewed certificate to the Board.

All controlled substances prescribers in Alabama must hold both a state controlled substances certificate and a federal DEA registration certificate. Additionally, a separate DEA registration is required for all locations from where controlled substances are dispensed (ordered in bulk and repackaged to provide to the patient).

Initial licensees must first obtain their Alabama controlled substances certificate and then register for the DEA certificate. A DEA registration from another state does not authorize controlled substances prescribing to Alabama patients. Additionally, a registration with the state Prescription Drug Monitoring Program is requried.

If you have questions about your controlled substances prescribing authority, please contact our ACSC Coordinator.

Review Your Legacy Orthopedic Specialty Protocol (APPs)

The Orthopedic Specialty Protocol was revised by the Board of Medical Examiners in June of 2021. This protocol, if requested by a collaborating or supervising physician and if such request is approved by the Board of Medical Examiners and the Board of Nursing (NPs), provides physician assistants and nurse practitioners the ability to train to perform specific joint injections according to the protocol.

The Board recommends that supervising or collaborating physicians review the current Orthopedic Specialty Protocol with their physician assistants or nurse practitioners to ensure the procedures being performed are listed under the current protocol.

In addition, it is the shared responsibility of the collaborating/ supervising physician, physician assistant and/or nurse practitioner to ensure annual maintenance procedures are being performed, documented, and maintained at their practice location(s). Please contact the Advanced Practice Provider Department at the Board of Medical Examiners with any questions.

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CDC Revises Clinical Practice Guideline for Prescribing Opioids for Pain

New guideline provides evidence-based recommendations to help patients and clinicians make informed, patient-centered decisions about effective pain care

Pain is one of the most common reasons adults seek medical care here in the United States. All patients with pain should receive safe, effective, and informed pain care options. CDC has released a new guideline to support patients and clinicians in reaching their goals for pain care and function.

CDC's 2022 Clinical Practice Guideline for Prescribing Opioids for Pain, which updates and replaces the 2016 CDC Guideline, is a clinical tool to improve communication between clinicians and patients and empower them to make collaborative, individualized, and informed decisions related to pain care.

It provides 12 voluntary recommendations for clinicians providing pain care and includes expanded guidance for treatment of acute and subacute pain. The 2022 Clinical Practice Guideline incorporates new evidence to help primary care and other clinicians weigh the risks and benefits of a full range of pain treatment options, including prescription opioids.

The release of the 2022 Clinical Practice Guideline is an important step towards promoting safe and effective pain care.

Review the 2022 Clinical Practice Guideline and related resources:
CDC Clinical Practice Guideline for Prescribing Opioids for Pain–United States, 2022 (MMWR)

RESOURCES FOR CLINICIANS

- At a Glance: 2022 CDC Clinical Practice Guideline for Prescribing Opioids for Pain
- What's New, What's Changed
- Initiating Opioid Therapy
- Continuing Opioid Therapy
- Opioid Use Disorder: Preventing and Treating (OUD Checklist)
- Prescription Drug Monitoring Programs (PDMPs): What Clinicians Need to Know
- NEJM Commentary

INFORMATION FOR PATIENTS

- Opioid Therapy for Different Types of Pain
- Nonopioid Options
- Risks and How to Reduce Them
- Summary of the 2022 Clinical Practice
- Guideline for Prescribing Opioids
- Patients' Frequently Asked Questions
- Helpful Materials for Patients



PHYSICIAN MISCONDUCT

Bullying or harassing patients or staff. Drinking a little too much. Dating a patient. Physicians behaving badly is nothing new, but patients and regulators are paying more attention than ever before and are demanding more accountability.

Physicians are distinct individuals with different personalities, from introverted and stodgy to fascinating and outgoing. There are some very professional and some very unprofessional physicians. No one factor is the cause of misconduct. However, some common themes are evident.

WORK-LIFE BALANCE AND PERSONAL PROBLEMS

The medical profession often has little work-life balance. Long and varied work hours take a toll on family and social relationships. COVID of course added its own extreme challenges, with increased incidences of rude and aggressive behavior by patients. Increased access to physicians through patient portals and telehealth can lead to pressure to be available 24/7.

Job-related stress can exacerbate negative personality traits and personal problems unrelated to work and lead to inappropriate doctor behavior. Many people tend to behave poorly when they are overworked, underappreciated, and ignored.

In the absence of system-wide changes to working hours and an emphasis by all participants in the healthcare system on improving work-life balance, physicians should be proactive when facing these challenges. There are accredited continuing medical education programs focusing on assessing burnout, learning how to set healthy boundaries, and time management strategies. In other cases, it may be appropriate to contact the Alabama Professionals Health Program for assistance with substance abuse and behavioral issues.

LACK OF SENSITIVITY TO CHANGING SOCIAL NORMS

Technology and acceptable norms change fast. Bad behaviors that may have been accepted in the past are no longer unchallenged. Behaving badly on social media can result in severe consequences. This can include using racist language, discussing, or posting photos containing patient information, and posting medical misinformation.

Physicians should self-assess their communication behaviors and consider participating in continuing medical education focusing on communication with patients and the use of social media.

Alabama Professionals Health Program

JOIN US IN GULF SHORES, AL MARCH 2023

FOSTERING HOPE, HEALING, & RENEWAL

ALABAMA PROFESSIONALS HEALTH PROGRAM INAUGURAL ANNUAL CONFERENCE

12 HOURS OF INSTRUCTION

\$350 REGISTRATION FEE FOR FULL EVENT OR \$125 PER DAY.

SPEAKERS' TOPICS INCLUDE: EMOTIONAL INTELLIGENCE AND RELATIONAL SELF CARE

March 1-3, 2023 The Lodge at Gulf State Park Gulf Shores, AL

REGISTRATION OPENING SOON

Vendor Registration:

Fay McDonnell +334-954-2597 fmcdonnell@alamedical.org

The Lodge at Gulf State Park

21196 E Blvd, Gulf Shores, AL 36542

REPORT OF PUBLIC ACTIONS OF THE MEDICAL LICENSURE COMMISSION AND BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

October 2022

• Oct. 6 - Ran Halleluyan, MD (MD.45089), Mobile - the license was issued with restrictions.

• Oct. 11 - Leon H. Campbell, Jr., MD (MD.14133), Tuscaloosa - the Alabama Controlled Substances Certificate is temporarily suspended pending a hearing.

• Oct. 20 - Kevin L. Crandell, MD (MD.24936), Golden MS - the license is voluntarily surrendered.

• Oct. 20 - Matthew M. Hine, MD (MD.39038), Chattanooga TN - the license is voluntarily surrendered.

• Oct. 20 - Melvin D. Russell, MD (MD.3909), Tallassee AL - the Alabama Controlled Substances Certificate and Pain Management Registration are temporarily suspended pending a hearing.

• Oct. 24 - Janaki R. P. Earla, MD (MD.31343), Trussville - the license is temporarily suspended pending a hearing.

• Oct. 26 - Robert P. Bolling, MD (MD.24251), Fayette - the license is revoked.

• Oct. 31 - Mark P. Koch, DO (DO.322), Monroeville - the license is reinstated with restrictions.

November 2022

• Nov. 9 - Gabriel H. Hester, MD (MD.33377), Birmingham - the license is reinstated to full, unrestricted status.

• Nov. 17 - Farida N. Awan, MD (MD.16971), Mobile - the Alabama Controlled Substances Certificate is voluntarily surrendered.

• Nov. 18 - Scott M. Kelly, MD (MD.12520), Alabaster - the license is suspended and he is assessed an administrative fine.

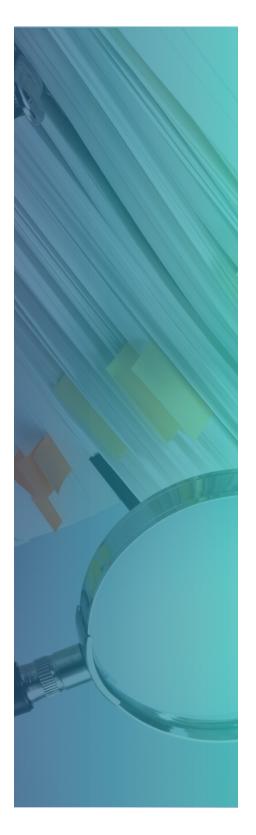
• Nov. 21 - Gary L. Howard, MD (MD.13355), Hoover - the 3/18/2020 order is amended regarding certain prescribing.

December 2022

• Dec. 17 - Mark P. Koch, DO (DO.322), Monroeville - the request for practice plan approval is denied.

• Dec. 27 - Oscar D. Almeida, Jr., MD (MD.12933), Mobile - the request for practice plan approval is denied.

• Dec. 27 - Spogmai Wassimi, MD (MD.42316), Birmingham - the restrictions on the medical license are lifted.



New! Reduce Your CME Recordkeeping CME Providers Can Now Report Your Participation to ACCME and the Alabama Board of Medical Examiners





Reduce Your Reporting Burden

Your participation in accredited CME activities can now be reported directly to the Alabama Board of Medical Examiners, as a result of a collaboration between the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME[®]) and the Alabama Board of Medical Examiners.

What You Need to Do

You will need to provide the following information to CME education providers to enable them to report your participation in accredited CME activities:

- ✓ First and last name
- ✓ Alabama license number
- ✓ Month/day of birth

You may also need to click a button or otherwise agree to have your participation information sent to the Alabama Board of Medical Examiners. Once the CME provider has reported your participation, and it has been accepted in ACCME's data systems, the Alabama Board of Medical Examiners will be able to view and verify your participation.

Talk to Your CME Provider

A list of ACCME accredited providers can be found <u>here</u>. If your CME provider has additional questions, we encourage that provider to contact the ACCME so your participation can be reported. CME providers can reach out to ACCME at <u>info@accme.org</u>.

Visit <u>https://accme.org/state-medical-licensing-boards-collaboration</u> to learn more.

Questions? Contact us at info@accme.org.



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P.O. Box 946 Montgomery, AL 36101-0946 www.albme.gov

Upcoming BME Meeting Dates

Jan 19 • Feb 16 • Mar 16

The public portion of each meeting is scheduled for 10 a.m. CT (unless otherwise indicated) in the Dixon-Parker Building at 848 Washington Avenue in Montgomery, AL.

Meeting agendas and a full list of meeting dates and times can be found online at <u>www.albme.gov</u>.

Upcoming MLC Meeting Dates

Jan 25 • Feb 22 • Mar 23

Meetings are held in the Dixon-Parker Building at 848 Washington Avenue in Montgomery, AL unless otherwise indicated.

Have questions or need assistance?

Alabama Board of Medical Examiners

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Medical Licensure Commission

Commission Operations Reinstatements/Renewals/Verifications

(334) 242-4116

William M. Perkins Brandi Madderra Deana Bozeman Amy Dorminey Carla Kruger Tiffany Seamon Jackie Baskin Edwin Rogers Roland Johnson Kimie Buley Suzanne Powell

(334) 242-4153

Rebecca Robbins Heather Lindemann

About MedicalDigest...

MedicalDigest is the official publication of the Alabama Board of Medical Examiners and Medical Licensure Commission. It is published four times per year.

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Questions? Please contact the Board of Medical Examiners at (334) 242-4116.