

PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT POLICY COMMITTEE MINUTES
January 8, 2008

The meeting was called to order at approximately 1:40 p.m. on Tuesday, January 8, 2008.

Committee members present: Eugene Imbrogno, M.D.; Lance Talmage, M.D.; Anquetette Sloan, David Ballinger, P.A.-C.; Robert Zaayer, P.A.-C.; and Michael Bowen, P.A.-C.

Staff members present: Cathy Hacker, Sallie DeBolt and Kay Rieve.

Guests: Beth Adamson; James Jamison, M.D.; Joseph Stefko, M.D.; Sean Conrad, P.A.-C; and Kevin Waskin, P.A.-C.

I. Review of the November 13, 2007 minutes.

Mrs. Sloan moved to approve the November 13, 2007 minutes of the Physician Assistant Policy Committee. Mr. Bowen seconded the motion. All members voted aye. The motion carried.

II. Update on Rule 4730-2-06

Ms. Debolt informed that committee that rule 4730-2-06 was edited by JCARR to add the words “ as contained in the Appendix” to the first sentence of this rule. JCARR also added the last sentence to this rule to say “The formulary does not authorize a physician assistant to prescribe any schedule II controlled substance or any drug or device used to perform or induce an abortion.”

There were only positive comments made at the rules hearing regarding the formulary rule and if all goes as planned the formulary rule 4730-2-06 should become effective 2/29/08.

III. Review of Special Services Plan applications

The committee then met with representatives from Youngstown Orthopaedic Associates to discuss their requests for joint injections.

Dr. Jamison from Youngstown Orthopaedic Associates spoke to the committee to assure them that all the physician assistants in their practice are well educated and closely supervised. He informed them that all of their PA's practice on an anatomical model and are closely supervised for 25 injections after the PA's have observed the physicians in performing 25 injections and that all cases are well documented in the files.

Dr. Stefko informed the committee that all of their PA's must have a minimum of two years of clinical orthopaedic experience prior to being allowed to perform any of the injections that they are requesting approval.

Mr. Zaayer stated that he has done an extensive search for training seminars in orthopaedics for PA's and has been unsuccessful in finding anything other than an hour here and there.

Dr. Stefko stated that they have four PA's in their practice who previously worked in Pennsylvania where PA's are permitted to do these injections. Dr. Talmage asked the PA's if they did any of these injections as part of their schooling.

Mr. Conrad stated that he had received extensive training in musculoskeletal diseases at Duquesne University where he received his physician assistant education. Mr. Conrad and Mr. Waskins both stated that they had done soft tissue and intra-articular injections as part of their clinical rotations as part of their schooling.

Dr. Talmage asked how long it would take for the PA's to obtain the 25 observed and 25 performed procedures. Dr. Jamison explained that this practice does 20-25 hand/wrist injections per week and could have the training in a month.

Dr. Jamison assured the committee that these physicians will closely supervise the PA's in performance of all injections and that there will be 100% onsite supervision at all times. He further stated that the supervising physician will always see the new patient and make the decision for the initial injection then the PA could do the follow up injections(s). If there were any problems during the follow up injections the PA would consult with the physician.

Dr. Jamieson and Dr. Stefko agreed to amend their requests to reflect the following changes.

Intra-articular injection into the hands would be into the CMC joint only.

Aspiration of the shoulder would be from the subacromial bursa only.

Elbow injections would be limited to the Olecranon bursa, Lateral and Medial epicondyl only.

Injection into Shoulders:

The physicians requested to withdraw their request for intra-articular glenohumeral injections of the shoulder. This group agreed that shoulder injections would be into the bursa, ac joint and subacromial space only and Intra-articular injections of the shoulders would be into the AC joint only.

Dr. Talmage moved to approve the above applications as amended to include that all the physician assistants will have a minimum of two years clinical experience in an orthopaedic practice prior to performing these injections. Mr. Ballinger seconded the motion. All members voted aye. The motion carried.

Dr. Imbrogno stated that he had some concerns with PA's performing SI joint injections. Dr. Stefko pointed out that 4730.09(A)(39), O.R.C. allows PA's to perform lumbar punctures without the need of a special services plan. He further stated that an SI injection is much easier and safer to perform. The committee agreed that if PA's are able to do lumbar punctures then they should be able to do this injection with the extra training and supervision as set forth in these applications.

Dr. Talmage moved to approve the above application as amended to include that all the physician assistants will have a minimum of two years clinical experience in an orthopaedic practice prior to performing these injections. Mr. Ballinger seconded the motion. Dr. Imbrogno abstained. The remaining members voted aye. The motion carried

Dr. Jamieson expressed to the committee that he would be willing to help the them in developing training criteria for PA's in Orthopedics.

The committee then discussed the applications from **Crystal Clinic** that is requesting the same type of procedures as Youngstown Orthopaedics.

The committee requested that staff send a request to this group to amend their applications to 100% onsite supervision, the PA's will have a minimum of 2 years experience in an orthopedic practice prior to being allowed to perform these injections and invite someone from this group to the next available PAPC meeting to discuss these applications with the committee.

Dr. Talmage moved to table these applications pending the above amendments. Mr. Ballinger seconded the motion. All members voted aye. The motion carried.

The Physician Assistant Policy Committee meeting was adjourned at approximately 3:30 p.m. on Tuesday January 8, 2008.

I hereby attest that these are true and accurate minutes of the Physician Assistant Policy Committee of the State Medical Board of Ohio, meeting on January 8, 2008.

Robert Zaayer, P.A.-C
Chair

Copies of documents and/or materials referenced in the minutes of the Physician Assistant Policy Committee meeting are available at the Board offices.