

PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT POLICY COMMITTEE MINUTES
November 10, 2005

The meeting was called to order at approximately 10:50 a.m. on Thursday, November 10, 2005.

Committee members present: Lance Talmage, M.D.; Michael Bowen, P.A.-C.; Robert Zaayer, P.A.-C.; Aimee Rinaldi, P.A.-C.; and Anquetette Sloan,

Staff members present: Diann Thompson, Gary Holben and Cathy Hacker.

I. Review of October 13, 2005 Minutes.

Mrs. Sloan moved to approve the October 13, 2005 Physician Assistant Policy Committee minutes. Mr. Bowen seconded the motion. All members voted aye. The motion carried.

II. Review of supplemental utilization plans

The committee began the meeting by discussing the supplemental utilization plan application from **Youngstown Orthopaedic Associates** that is requesting that their PA(s) be approved for: injection of synvisc into the knee, injection of steroids into the knee and knee aspirations.

The committee noted that these applications were designed after the consent agreements that were approved for Cleveland Clinic.

Mr. Bowen moved to approve these applications Ms. Rinaldi seconded the motion. All members voted aye. The motion carried.

The committee continued by discussing the supplemental utilization plan application from **Youngstown Orthopaedic Associates** that is requesting that their PA(s) be approved for: hip injections and hip aspirations.

The committee noted that these are difficult and complex procedures that should be performed by a physician.

Dr. Talmage moved to deny these applications for the above reason. Mrs. Sloan seconded the motion. All members voted aye. The motion carried.

The committee then discussed the supplemental utilization plan application from **Youngstown Orthopaedic Associates** that is requesting that their PA(s) be approved for: sacro-iliac injections.

The committee stated that they needed to obtain information from the practice as to why these procedures are being performed and the complications associated with this injection.

Dr. Talmage moved to table this application pending receipt of the above clarification. Mr. Bowen seconded the motion. All members voted aye. The motion carried.

The committee then discussed the supplemental utilization plan application from **Youngstown Orthopaedic Associates** that is requesting that their PA(s) be approved for: elbow injections, hand injections, shoulder aspirations, and shoulder injections.

The Committee stated that they were unable to determine what part of the elbow, hands and shoulder was being injected/ aspirated. The committee asked that a letter be sent to this group and ask them to submit a separate application for intra-articular injections and bursa injections. The applications need to specify whether or not this is for injections only or whether they will be aspirating. The applications should specify what area of the elbow, hand, and shoulders the injections will be performed ie.. bursas, or joints. These applications should also note the reasons for the injections and the complications for each. The applications will need to include the training process that this group will employ to teach PA's to perform these injections and aspirations.

Dr. Talmage moved to table these applications pending the above information. Ms. Rinaldi seconded the motion. All members voted aye. The motion carried.

The committee then discussed the supplemental utilization plan application from **Community Health Partners** that is requesting that their PA(s) be approved for: vein and artery harvesting using open or endoscopic procedures.

The committee noted that this physician assistant has been performing this procedure as a surgical assistant for some time now and the physician is asking to waive the observation period for that reason. The committee expressed concern about surgical assistant performing this type of procedure without licensure. The committee recommended that a letter of concern be sent to this group regarding delegation of procedures to unlicensed personnel.

Dr. Talmage moved to approve this application without waiving the observation period. Mrs. Sloan seconded the motion. All members voted aye. The motion carried.

II. Discussion of pending legislation.

The committee ended the meeting with a discussion of the pending legislation.

Ms. Thompson explained to the committee that this legislation requires that if a P.A. applicant has not graduated within the past three years immediately preceding this legislation, that applicant must meet the pharmacology course requirement. She also stated that as of right now there aren't any pharmacology courses available that would meet the requirements of this legislation. Ms. Thompson suggested that the committee contact the PA schools to see if they are preparing for, or would be willing to offer the pharmacology training to all that will need it.

The PA Policy Committee meeting was adjourned at approximately 11:40 p.m. on Thursday, November 10, 2005.

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 November 10, 2005.

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.