

PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT POLICY COMMITTEE MINUTES
March 7, 2006

The meeting was called to order at approximately 1:50 p.m. on Tuesday, March 7, 2006.

Committee members present: Robert Zaayer, P.A.-C.; John Jonesco, D.O.; Lance Talmage, M.D.; and Anquetette Sloan.

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

I. Review of the February 7, 2006 Minutes.

Dr. Talmage moved to approve the February 7, 2006 minutes of the Physician Assistant Policy Committee. Dr. Jonesco 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 **Frederick C. Smith Clinic** that is requesting that their PA(s) be approved to perform: excisional biopsy of skin lesions.

The committee noted that this procedure has been denied twice before and that the decision was due to this being a surgical procedure that requires a physician's decision making as to the depth and width of the excision.

Dr. Talmage moved to deny this procedure for the reason stated. Mrs. Sloan seconded the motion. All members voted aye. The motion carried.

The committee discussed the supplemental utilization plan application from **The Frederick C. Smith Clinic** that is requesting that their PA(s) be approved to perform: insertion of arterial lines.

The committee noted that this procedure had been approved in the past with the same or similar training and education.

Dr. Talmage moved to approve this application. Mrs. Sloan seconded the motion. All member voted aye. The motion carried.

The committee discussed the supplemental utilization plan application from **The Frederick C. Smith Clinic** that is requesting that their PA(s) be approved to perform: portacath removal.

The committee noted that this procedure is a simple procedure of making a small incision into scar tissue and removing the device.

Dr. Talmage moved to approve this application. Mrs. Sloan seconded the motion. All members voted aye. The motion carried.

The committee discussed the supplemental utilization plan application from **The MIPA Primary Care** that is requesting that their PA(s) be approved to perform: cryotherapy.

The committee noted that this procedure has been approved on several occasions.

Dr. Jonesco moved to approve this application. Dr. Talmage seconded the motion. All members voted aye. The motion carried.

The Committee noted that as of May 17, 2006 the Board and the committees will no longer be charges with approving supplemental functions that will be performed in the hospital setting. It further noted that some of the functions that used to require a supplemental physician assistant utilization plan application will now be covered under Section 4730.09 of the new legislation. The committee recommended sending letters to any group that has applications pending that fall into these categories letting them know that the Board will no longer consider these applications due to the new legislation.

II. Discussion of new legislation.

The committee discussed section 4730.46 of Sub. S. B. 154. Ms. Thompson outlined the two alternatives listed in 4730.46(B) (1) (a) and (b). Division 4730.46(B) (1) (a) is fairly clear, because it defines a Masters degree from an ARC-PA accredited program. Division (b) is less clear, because the Master degrees must meet two criteria:

- (i) the Master's degree was obtained from a program accredited by a regional or specialized and professional accrediting agency recognized by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA) and
- (ii) The Master's degree is "in a course of study with clinical relevance to the practice of physician assistants".

Ms. Thompson provided the committee with a listing of regional and professional accrediting agencies obtained from the Council for Higher Education Accreditation. The committee needs to define what would be "a clinically relevant course of study..." in the rule recommendations.

Ms. Thompson offered language that is in 4731-6-14 for MD/PhD students requesting waiver of the 7-year rule, which lists certain fields of study tested in Step 1 of the USMLE. Ms. Rieve suggested that the committee researches what fields of study are

covered in Part 1 of the PANCE exam given to the P.A.'s. This would be comparable to 4731-6-14, but be clinically relevant to the P.A.s.

The committee also discussed that a Registered Pharmacist with a bachelor's degree would not be adequate education under 4730.46(B), but that the "Pharm. D" degree is a "Master's or higher degree", and would be acceptable.

The Physician Assistant Policy Committee meeting was adjourned at approximately 2:50 p.m. on Tuesday March 7, 2006.

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 March 7, 2006.

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.