



State Medical Board of Ohio

RESPIRATORY CARE ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING
November 9, 2021
via live-streamed video conference

<p>Members: Richard Gregg, MD Cindy Groeniger Sanja Keller; RRT Karen May BSOM, RRT, CRT, L-RT Matthew Munroe, MHA, RRT, RCP, CTTS Amy Rodenhausen, M.Ed, RRT</p> <p>Other Attendees: Susan Ciarlariello</p>	<p>Staff: Jill Reardon, Deputy Director of External Affairs Benton Taylor, Board Parliamentarian Bryson Hatfield, Administrative Assistant Chelsea Wonski, Director of Legislative Affairs</p>
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Ms. Reardon called the meeting to order at 2:04 p.m.

Minutes Review

Ms. May moved to approve the draft minutes of the June 8, 2021 meeting of the Respiratory Care Advisory Council. Ms. Rodenhausen seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Legislative Update

House Bill 122: Ms. Wonski reported the Telemedicine Bill, has a hearing tomorrow in the Senate Health Committee, and a Sub Bill expanding the types of practitioners that may provide Telemedicine services, is expected to be adopted. Ms. Wonski noted there were minor changes in the Sub Bill, but no practitioners were removed. Ms. Wonski added that the Medical Board will be offering testimony, suggesting some technical changes.

House Bill 203, Senate Bill 131: Ms. Wonski reported that a hearing was held last week on the occupational licensing Bills, These Bills involve reciprocity between licensees, licensed in other states if certain criteria are met. Ms. Wonski noted that House Bill 203 is an earlier version of Senate Bill 131.

Mr. Munroe asked if the governing body would determine what a “like” credential is? Ms. Wonski responded that once the legislation passes, each licensing authority will make the determination.

Rule to Change Outpatient Evaluation

Ms. Reardon reported that on December 3, 2021, a public hearing will be held on the rule the Medical Board promulgated to change inpatient evaluation of impaired practitioners, to an outpatient evaluation,

if, the practitioner meets certain specifications. Ms. Reardon noted the cost of an inpatient evaluation is approximately \$3,500, while an outpatient evaluation costs approximately \$800. Ms. Reardon invited members to contact her if they would like more information or would like to provide comments at the hearing.

Ms. Ciarlariello asked if a respiratory therapist reports on a renewal that they had DUI would they automatically be required to have an evaluation? Ms. Reardon responded that it would stop the renewal process and that she would look further into the matter.

Dr. Gregg asked what the projected timeline was for the rule to take effect? Ms. Reardon responded that after the hearing, the rule will go before the Joint Committee on Agency Rule Review (JCARR), in January. Ms. Reardon stated she would keep Council apprised of any updates.

Ms. Reardon stated the Ohio Physicians Health Program (OPHP), has contracted with the Medical Board to administer the One Bite program. Ms. Reardon explained that the One Bite program is a confidential monitoring and treatment program for impaired practitioners. Dr. Keller asked what the timeframe was for a person entering the One Bite Program? Ms. Reardon responded 72 hours initially and then OPHP monitors the practitioner and determines how long they will remain in treatment. Ms. Reardon stated if any member were interested, she would provide a copy of the One Bite presentation that OPHP gave to this Council in June.

Ohio State Respiratory Care (OSRC) Update

Commission on Accreditation for Respiratory Care (COARC) Report

Ms. Ciarlariello stated that the Respiratory Care Advisory Council (RCAC), has the responsibility and authority to review the Commission on Accreditation for Respiratory Care (COARC) reports. Ms. Ciarlariello provided Council with data summaries of COARC reports, from 2018 through 2020, for review. Ms. Ciarlariello noted the reports contained data from the 21 respiratory care schools in Ohio.

Ms. Ciarlariello reported several standards that are assessed on the COARC reports include degree earned, percentage of students that passed the Therapist Multiple Choice, High Cut Pass Rate (“T”) test, retention rates, job placement, and employer satisfaction.

Ms. Ciarlariello noted the report revealed 70% of the graduates earned an Associate’s Degree and 30% of the graduates earned a Bachelor’s Degree. Ms. Ciarlariello added that COARC’s standards require that 60% of the graduates should pass the “T” test. Ms. Ciarlariello reported that all schools in Ohio achieved this threshold.

Ms. Ciarlariello stated COARC monitors retention rates. Ms. Ciarlariello explained that program retention rates, are only related to a student’s academic inability to keep up with the program. Ms. Ciarlariello reported that all programs exceeded the 70% threshold for this period.

Ms. Ciarlariello noted job placement is another measure on the COARC report. Ms. Ciarlariello reported that most graduates had very high job placements. Ms. Ciarlariello added that the University of Akron

had the lowest, but they attributed this to the 16 international students in their last two programs, that could not be included in their report, because they left the country.

Ms. Ciarlariello noted nearly all schools reported that employers felt the quality of the graduates was good, leading to an employer satisfaction rate of almost 100%. Ms. Ciarlariello added that only 1 had a score of less than 100, because one graduate did not pass their RRT exam.

Limited Permit Holders (L-1's)

Ms. Ciarlariello inquired about the total number of renewals and applicants of Limited Permit Holders (L-1's)? Ms. Reardon responded she would obtain that information from Mr. Turek.

Ms. Reardon added that there was some concern about L-1's who may have been practicing without a license and may be subject to Board Action. Ms. Reardon acknowledged no Board Action had been taken against any L-1, but some of the L-1's may have received Caution Letters.

Ms. Ciarlariello responded to a comment by Ms. Keller and stated that employers and managers need to be made aware that L-1's are only valid for one year after a student graduates.

Workforce Report

Ms. Ciarlariello stated that one of the goals of the OSRC, is evaluating the current workforce. Ms. Ciarlariello noted OSRC has received data from 75 hospitals. Ms. Ciarlariello added she will present the report next month and provide a copy to the Board.

Ms. May asked if there were any data from employers, regarding the number of travelers they are using? Ms. Ciarlariello replied that information will be provided in our workforce survey report. Ms. Ciarlariello added that the deadline for the submission was last Friday, and she expects to receive the report next week.

Ms. Ciarlariello reported that she attended the Governor's Workforce Group meeting. Ms. Ciarlariello stated that the group collaborated on developing a virtual series for managers and educators. The series will focus on filling respiratory care programs and building the workforce.

Ms. Ciarlariello advised that the next virtual program will be on December 8th at noon. Ms. Ciarlariello stated she would provide Council with the information, and it will be posted on the website.

Ms. Keller asked how they can promote respiratory therapy so that it becomes part of a healthcare career that one can explore early on. Mr. Munroe noted at Ohio State they are working on developing a health fair to promote nursing, respiratory therapy, and physical therapy to incoming freshmen. Ms. Ciarlariello added that usually counties have education services centers, with a workforce development specialist. Ms. Ciarlariello added the workforce development specialist has a goal of moving students from high school forward.

Ms. Reardon added that the Medical Board has an outreach program, Partnerships in Education. Ms. Reardon stated that our spokesperson does presentations and discusses the role of the Medical Board

with our licensees. Ms. Reardon stated that she will ask the spokesperson to give a presentation to Council in December.

Advanced Practice Respiratory Therapist

Ms. Ciarlariello stated that another goal that OSRC has is to pursue licensing for the Advanced Practice Respiratory Therapist. Ms. Ciarlariello added this was introduced in December 2020, and is a new professional, that would work for pulmonologist, intensivists, anesthesiologists, and sleep specialists in either pediatric or adult.

Ms. Ciarlariello added that they have met with the Medical Board and Ms. Reardon has been a part of reviewing the legislative language. Ms. Ciarlariello stated it will not be an easy piece of legislation to put through, because of the Scope of Practice issue.

Dr. Gregg asked if the Scope of Practice could be adjusted at a local, network or hospital level? Ms. Wonski stated it will be limited to the Ohio Revised Code as it lays out what can happen under that collaboration agreement. Ms. Wonski stated Legislation is needed in order to expand the Scope, even at the local level.

Ms. Ciarlariello stated that Mr. Cory has been working with us on this endeavor, and they will be taking on other lobbyists to help move things. Mr. Munroe asked if Council would have an opportunity to meet with the lobbyist? Mr. Munroe opined that perhaps they should approach this using the COVID angle. Ms. Ciarlariello replied that she would be happy to connect Mr. Munroe and other member who would like to meet Mr. Corey.

New Council Dashboard: Ms. Reardon stated the Medical Board's new data personnel, Aaron White, has been preparing dashboards, that are specific to each advisory council. Ms. Reardon stated she would be able to provide notifications to members through the dashboard, such as, the agenda, meeting minutes, and calendar invites. Ms. Reardon noted that the data will be real time and include links to rules specific to respiratory care. Ms. Reardon advised the dashboard will contain publications, and data specific to RCP licensees, such as the number of licensees, number of complaints, and the number of Board actions. Ms. Reardon added that she will provide a key with the dashboard to walk members through what they are seeing, as far as, the statistics are concerned. Ms. Reardon anticipated the dashboard will be available by the next meeting

Mr. Munroe asked how complaints are processed by the Medical Board? Ms. Reardon explained that all complaints are triaged by our legal staff and enforcement staff. The triager determines if a violation has occurred, based on the standards of the Ohio Revised Code. The complaint will then be sent on to be investigated, closed, or closed with a caution letter. Ms. Reardon added if there were an interest, she would provide members with a document that explains the Medical Board's complaint process.

Ms. Rodenhausen inquired about caution letters? Ms. Reardon explained it is a warning to make the licensee aware what they did was not enough for Board Action, but the matter should be addressed by the licensee. Ms. Reardon added the Board sends out a lot of caution letters, but they are not considered a Board Action.

Ms. May asked how background checks for new licenses are proceeding? Ms. Reardon stated she is aware that there were still some issues, and they have been held over at the Attorney General's office. Ms. Reardon said she consult with Mr. Turek and find out how far behind we are in issuing licenses, because of that issue.

Ms. May inquired if respiratory therapists are able to administer the COVID vaccine? Ms. Reardon replied that it was put in legislation. Ms. Ciarlariello added the ruling of the Respiratory Care Board was that respiratory therapist can give vaccines for prevention of respiratory disease and COVID.

Council Member Appointments

Ms. Reardon welcomed new council members, Dr. Gregg, and Mr. Munroe

Topics for Discussion at Next Meeting

Ms. Reardon invited Council to contact her if they were interested in presenting a topic of their interest at the next meeting.

2021 Meeting Schedule & Next Topics for Discussion

Ms. Reardon stated that the RCAC would meet again on December 7, 2021.

Adjourn

Ms. May moved to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Rodenhausen seconded the motion. All Committee members voted aye. The motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 3:17 p.m.

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