

FINAL APPROVED/5-18-07

**VIRGINIA BOARD OF MEDICINE
MINUTES
Ad Hoc Committee on Opioids**

Friday, January 5, 2007

Department of Health Professions

Richmond, Virginia

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting of the Ad Hoc Committee convened at 9:15 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Malcolm L. Cothran, Jr., MD, Chair
Pamela Bailey, PA-C
John Barsanti, MD
Patrick Clougherty, MD
Stephen Long, MD
Ralph Orr
Lynn Poole, LNP
Scotti Russell
Wayne Van Zee, MD

MEMBERS ABSENT:

STAFF PRESENT: William L. Harp, MD, Executive Director
Ola Powers, Deputy Executive Director of Licensing
Jennifer Deschenes, Deputy Executive Director of Discipline
Amy Marschean, Assistant Attorney General
Emily Wingfield, Chief Deputy Director, DHP
Elaine Yeatts, Senior Policy Analyst, DHP
Colanthia Morton Opher, Recording Secretary

OTHERS PRESENT: W. Scott Johnson, HDJN
David Brown, HDJN
Tammie Smith, RTD
Tyler Cox, HDJN
Tim Musselman, PharmD, Virginia Pharmacists Association
Michele Satterlund, VCNP
Mary Duggan, VCNP
Jeff Buthe, MSV

SUMMARY OF MINUTES:

Dr. Cothran called the meeting to order. A roll call was conducted and the Emergency Evacuation Instructions were given. Introductions from the panel members, board staff and guests were made.

Dr. Long moved to adopt the agenda as presented. The motion was seconded and carried.

There was no public comment.

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Ms. Yeatts advised the panel that their charge was to develop the regulatory language relating to the management of pain with opioids. Ms. Yeatts then informed the members of the regulatory process.

Dr. Long gave an informative history of the origin of the Guidelines for the Use of Opioids in the Management of Chronic, Noncancer Pain currently referred to by the Board of Medicine. Dr. Harp then guided the committee through the review of several documents including the currently adopted Model Policy for the Use of Controlled Substances for the Treatment of Pain published by the Federation of State Medical Boards and the Drug Enforcement Administration Rule 21 CFR 1306 on Dispensing Controlled Substances for the Treatment of Pain, Published September 2006 in the Federal Register. The committee discussed several issues extensively as it relates to this topic including, but not limited to, the reason for the need for regulations, statistics given regarding the increase in nonmedical use of prescription pain relievers, the lack of consensus among physicians as to all the circumstances that warrant the use of opioids to treat pain, and what may be fueling the increase in prescription drug abuse. Throughout the review, the members made comments and recommendations for consideration in the draft language. Dr. Harp noted that the issuance of a prescription for a legitimate medical purpose by a registered physician acting within the usual course of professional practice can not be emphasized enough. Ralph Orr, manager of the Prescription Monitoring Program also gave a brief historical background on the initiation of the PMP and an up-to-date status on the increasing success of the program.

The committee members agreed that an additional meeting should be scheduled to develop draft language to be presented to the Board as soon as feasible.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 12:29 p.m.

/s/

Malcolm Cothran, MD
Chair

William L. Harp, M.D.
Executive Director

Colanthia Morton Opher
Recording Secretary