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P. A. ADVISORY BOARD

May 9, 2003

VIRGINIA BOARD OF MEDICINE
6603 WEST BROAD STREET, 5TH FLOOR
RICHMOND, VA 23230-1712

The Physician Assistant Advisory Board met on May 9, 2003, 1 p.m. at the Department of Health Professions. Erwin Fender, PA-C, Chair called the meeting to order. A quorum was declared.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Erwin Fender, PA-C
Leslie C. Ellwood, MD
Pamela Bailey, PA-C
Delia T. Zisman

MEMBERS ABSENT: Diana A. Houle, PA-C

OTHERS PRESENT: William L. Harp, MD, Executive Director
Ola Powers, Deputy Executive Director, Licensing
Elaine Yeatts, Senior Regulatory Analyst
Colanitha Morton, P. A. Recording Secretary

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF JANUARY 10, 2003

Pamela Bailey moved to approve the minutes of January 10, 2003. The motion was seconded and carried.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Pamela Bailey moved to adopt the agenda. The motion was seconded and carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS:

There was no public or written comment.

AGENDA ITEMS:

Regulatory chart: A copy of the regulatory chart of the Board of Medicine's regulatory actions was included in the packet. Ms. Yeatts advised that the approval for publication on the rules was adopted following the change in law on supervision. Permanent regulations will be published in May with effective date of July 1st. Ms. Yeatts suggested a summary of these changes be put in the upcoming board briefs.

Review of Legislation from the 2003 session of the General Assembly: Ms. Yeatts presented highlights of changes in the law pursuant to actions of the 2003 General Assembly. HB 1441- will affect reporting requirements, and change the standard for taking action from gross negligence to simple negligence and create a confidential consent order. HB 1792 addresses

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defaults on educational loans. HB 1820 will eliminate posing of the licensee's address on-line. HB 1823 eliminates the Virginia Formulary and Formulary Board. HB 2182 requires emergency contact information be collected for the Health Department. HB 2183 authorizes the Commissioner of Health to develop a protocol to give people who are not currently authorized to administer drugs the ability to do so in a public health emergency if there are an insufficient number of licensees available. HB 2205 expands PA prescriptive authority to include schedule III effective July 1, 2003. SB 897 provides immunity to hospitals who requires hospital health workers to get vaccinated for small pox, and SB 1224 authorizes certain levels of EMTs to possess and administer epinephrine.

Supervision of Physician Assistants in Emergency Departments: In the Advisory Board Meeting January 10, 2003, Mr. Fender expressed concern that Physician Assistants are not allowed to evaluate a patient in the emergency room unless the supervising physician is in the building. He also advised that he would like to see a regulation change.

Ms. Yeatts advised that this is the time frame for any legislation changes that the Advisory Board may want to review to have them considered by the 2004 General Assembly.

After a lengthy discussion, a motion was made by Dr. Ellwood to have the following language added to Code 54.1-2952. – **“Nothing in this section shall prohibit a physician assistant from providing consultative services in a hospital’s emergency department within the scope of his practice under continuous supervision by the supervising physician.”** The motion was seconded and carried.

Board member orientation: Dr. Harp presented information to the Advisory Board members regarding orientation and addressed topics such as the purpose of the Department of Health Professions, responsibilities of the Advisory Board to the full Board, disciplinary matters, FOIA and many other aspects of the Department as it relates to them. He provided written document and informational pamphlets for their review and future reference.

Announcements: The next Advisory Board meeting is scheduled for September 12, 2003.

Adjournment: There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Erwin E. Fender, PA-C., Chair

William L. Harp, M.D.

Colanthia D. Morton, PA Recording Secretary