BOARD OF OPTOMETRY
CONTINUING EDUCATION COMMITTEE
JULY 15, 2010

TIME AND PLACE:	The Board of Optometry's (Board) Continuing Education Committee (CEC) meeting was called to order at 9:10 a.m. at the Department of Health Professions, 9960 Mayland Drive, 2nd Floor, Training Room 1, Henrico, Virginia.
CHAIRMAN:	Gregory P. Jellenek, O.D., Chair
MEMBERS PRESENT:	W. Ernest Schlabach, Jr., O.D.
STAFF PRESENT:	Leslie L. Knachel, Executive Director Eric Gregory, Assistant Attorney General, Board Counsel Elaine Yeatts, Senior Regulatory Analyst Carol Stamey, Operations Manager Asia Williams, Administrative Assistant Jim Banning, Administrative Processing Department
OTHERS PRESENT:	Bruce Keeney, Virginia Optometric Association (VOA) Bo Keeney, VOA Edward Mullen, National Association of Optometrists and Opticians (NAOO) Betty Graumlich, NAOO Cal Whitehead, Virginia Society of Eye Physicians and Surgeons Kim Langston, VisualResearch, Inc.
QUORUM:	With all members of the CEC present, a quorum was established.
ORDERING OF AGENDA:	No changes were made to the agenda.
PUBLIC COMMENT:	Mr. Keeney, representing the VOA, provided comment regarding the acceptance of continuing education (CE) coding courses that relate directly to the care of the patient. Additionally, Mr. Keeney expressed his concern regarding the large entity, OETracker, to control costs of licensees to track continuing education.
DISCUSSION ITEMS:	**CE Non-Compliance and Confidential Consent Agreements (CCA)** Mr. Banning provided an explanation in the proper use of CCAs and noted issues with non-compliance and monitoring requirements. He stated that the Committee may wish to consider amendment to its sanctioning reference points worksheet.

Dr. Schlabach moved to revise the sanctioning reference points worksheet to reflect that a CCA will be offered if the missing number of CE hours is three (3) hours or less and will require, making up the missing CE hours within 45 days and to remove the audit requirement. The motion was amended to include a "1st offense" sanction. The amended motion was seconded and carried.

CE Coding Courses
Ms. Stamey informed the CEC that many of the CE coding courses are classified as practice management by the Council on Optometric Practitioner Education (COPE). She further requested that the CEC review a list of CE coding courses to determine whether they are directly related to patient care so that the current CE audit could be completed. The courses reviewed are listed below.

1) Grand rounds, COPE 17485-PM, approved as patient care
2) Telling the Best Story, COPE 18335-PM, denied
3) Case Management, COPE 16366-PM, approved as patient care
4) Medicare Coding, COPE 21858-PM, approved as recordkeeping
5) Medicare Coding, COPE 21859-PM, approved as recordkeeping
6) Prevention of Medical Errors, COPE 25364-PM, approved as patient care
7) Implementing Electronic Medical Records, VOA, approved as recordkeeping
8) Expand Coding Knowledge, COPE 25513-PM, denied

OETracker/CE Audit
The use of OETracker in the CE audit process was discussed. Ms. Knachel referred the CEC to a past regulatory action document approved by the board that included comments regarding concerns about private industry sponsorship of OETracker. She stated that individual licensees may now submit their CEs via OETracker and suggested that a newsletter article on OETracker and CE audit be written for publication. In addition, Ms. Knachel stated that for future audits board staff could utilize OETracker by first downloading the recorded CE for each randomly chosen licensee to determine compliance with CE requirements. After the OETracker report has been reviewed, licensees will receive notification of having been audited and indicate whether they are in compliance following the OETracker report or in need of submitting additional CE documentation to the Board.

Dr. Schlabach moved to allow licensees to voluntarily use OETracker to track CE documentation for compliance with the random audit and that board staff will research the number of licensees utilizing OETracker, develop a customized OETracker report for Virginia and report results back to the CEC in a year. The motion was seconded and carried.

NEW BUSINESS: No new business was presented.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 9:45 a.m.

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Gregory P. Jellenek, O.D., Chair

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Leslie L. Knachel, Executive Director