

**MARYLAND BOARD OF PHYSICIANS
BOARD
OPEN MEETING MINUTES
4201 Patterson Avenue, Baltimore, MD
Room 100
December 20, 2023**

The Maryland Board of Physicians (the Board) met Wednesday, December 20, 2023 with the following members present:

Panel B

Harbhajan Ajrawat, Board Chair
Julie Caffrey, D.O.
Ingrid Connerney, Consumer Member
Tyler Cymet, D.O.
Vinu Ganti, M.D.
Natalie Orbach, PA-C
Carol E. Ritter, M.D.
Martha Schaerr, Consumer Member
Richard T. Scholz, M.D.
Maxine E. Turnipseed, Consumer Member
Scott J. Wiesenberger, M.D.

Panel A

Mark D. Olszyk, M.D.
Marie-Alberte Boursiquot, M.D.
Jon S. Frank, Consumer Member
Alvin L. Helfenbein, Jr., Consumer Member
Ira Kornbluth, M.D.
Chika Logie, M.D.
Judith Singletery, Consumer Member
Ifeyinwa A. Stitt, M.D.

ABSENT: Mark D. Baganz, M.D.

OFFICE OF ATTORNEY GENERAL STAFF PRESENT: Stacey Darin, Assistant Attorney General; David Finkler, Assistant Attorney General; Noreen Rubin, Assistant Attorney General; David Wagner, Assistant Attorney General

STAFF PRESENT: Christine Farrelly, Executive Director; Ellen Douglas Smith, Deputy Director; Doreen Noppinger, Compliance Manager; Madeline Delgreco, Health Policy Analyst; Matthew Dudzic, Policy Manager; Michael EID, Compliance Analyst Associate; Angela Gaither, Management Associate; Julie Gaskins, Health Policy Paralegal; Oriell Harris, Health Policy Analyst Associate; Margaret Ellis Jury, Allied Health, ND; Ally Jones, Compliance Analyst Associate; Maureen Sammons, Intake Manager; Elsie Sanchez, Compliance Analyst; Jalon Shell, Compliance Analyst Associate; Christa Sutton, AH Analyst-RCP/RAD Tech.; Marty Teramani, Supervisor; Michael Tran, Health Policy Analyst; Brittney White, AH AT/Perfusionist Polysom; Felicia Wright, Allied Health Manager

GUEST PRESENT: Steve Wise, Esq., Schwartz, Metz, Wise & Kauffman, P.A. Representing United Therapeutics/Lung Bioengineering; Brandi Zofkie, Senior Director, Lung Bioengineering/Ex Vivo Lung Specialist; Dr. Bartley Griffith, The Thomas E. and Alice Marie Hales, Distinguished Professor in Transplantation, Professor of Surgery, Tenured; Mike Roberts, Sr., Director, Regulatory Affairs; Jay Cormier, VP, Lung Strategy & Operations; Sam Popa, Director, Clinical Services; Kelly Turner, Sr., Director, Clinical Program Management; M. Natalie McSherry, Esq., Kramon and Graham Attorneys at Law

GUEST PRESENT VIA CONFERENCE CALL: Kara Cossis, Chair, Physician Assistant Advisory Committee (PAAC)

CALL TO ORDER

Dr. Ajrawat, Board Chair called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

HOUSEKEEPING RULES - FYI for Board members

NEW BUSINESS

Physician Assistants Delegation Agreement Addendum for Advanced Duties

The Physician Assistant Advisory Committee (PAAC) determined that the physician assistants meet the criteria for advanced duties established in statute and regulations, and voted to recommend approval of the addendums to the Board.

*On a motion made by Dr. Cymet, and seconded by Dr. Scholz, the Board voted to unanimously **APPROVE** all addendum requests to perform the advanced duties in attachment 1.*

Athletic Trainers Evaluation and Treatment Protocols for Approval

The Athletic Trainers Advisory Committee reviewed the Evaluation and Treatment Protocols, determined that the athletic trainers meet the criteria established in statute, and voted to recommend approval to the Board.

*On a motion made by Dr. Scholz, and seconded by Dr. Ganti, the Board voted to unanimously **APPROVE** the Athletic Trainers Evaluation and Treatment Protocols in attachment 2.*

Radiologist Assistant – Advanced Procedures Requests for Approval

Application 1

- Danial Syed Bokhari, M.D., and Jason K. Lee, Radiologist Assistant

Application 2

- Melissa Riedy Spevak, M.D., and Jason K. Lee, Radiologist Assistant

To perform the following advanced procedures:

Advanced Procedures

- Fistulogram
- Swallowing Study

Other Advanced Procedures

- Intussusception Reduction

*On a motion made by Dr. Wiesenberger, and seconded by Dr. Scholz, the Board voted to unanimously **APPROVE** the Radiologist Assistants – Advanced Procedures Requests for Application 1 and Application 2.*

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- October 25, 2023
- November 16, 2023

*On a motion made by Dr. Ganti, and seconded by Dr. Wiesenberger, the Board voted to unanimously **APPROVE** the full Board and Panel minutes.*

POLICY/LEGISLATION

Policy

- Ex Vivo Lung Perfusion Presentation

Representatives of Lung Bioengineering provided an oral presentation to the Board regarding the status of its ongoing multi-stage clinical study. Mr. Steve Wise informed the Board that the clinical study was expected to conclude in mid-2025. Lung Bioengineering has submitted data to the Food and Drug Administration. Dr. Bartley Griffith provided the Board with an overview of the practice of ex vivo lung perfusion, including the involvement and oversight of the transplanting physician during the process.

Regulations

- Proposed Regulations - Respiratory Care Practitioners – Public Comment Update

After no public comment, Ms. Harris requested Board approval to submit proposed amendments to COMAR 10.32.11 to the Maryland Department of Health - Office of Regulation and Policy Coordination to continue in the next steps of the promulgation process.

*On a motion made by Dr. Ganti, and seconded by Ms. Turnipseed, the Board voted to **APPROVE** the amendments and to continue with the promulgation process and Dr. Cymet abstained.*

- Proposed Regulations - Perfusionists - Public Comment Update

After no public comment, Ms. Harris requested Board approval to submit proposed amendments to COMAR 10.32.20 to the Maryland Department of Health - Office of Regulation and Policy Coordination to continue in the next steps of the promulgation process.

*On a motion made by Dr. Ganti, and seconded by Dr. Wiesenberger, the Board voted to unanimously **APPROVE** the amendments and to continue with the promulgation process.*

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Mr. Dudzic provided the Board with an update regarding its preparations for the 2024 session of the Maryland General Assembly. Mr. Dudzic informed the Board of the status of its two legislative proposals regarding physician assistants and general provisions, as well as other potential legislation that may impact the Board. Mr. Dudzic further discussed the timeline for the legislative session and the process for providing input and testimony on bills during session.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT & UPDATES

- PA Reciprocity

The Board approved the creation of an expedited pathway for physician assistant licensure through reciprocity agreements with the D.C. and Virginia in accordance with Attachment #3.

*On a motion made by Dr. Cymet, and seconded by Ms. Orbach, the Board voted to unanimously **APPROVE** licensure by reciprocity for physician assistants with D.C. and Virginia.*

- PA Endorsement

The Board approved the creation of an expedited pathway for physician assistant licensure by endorsement in accordance with Attachment #4.

*On a motion made by Dr. Cymet, and seconded by Ms. Orbach, the Board voted to unanimously **APPROVE** licensure by endorsement for physician assistants.*

Updates

Ms. Farrelly, Ms. Douglas Smith, and Mr. Finkler attended the IMLCC's Annual Meeting and presented several policy, rule, and bylaw changes related to increasing transparency and overreach by the Compact's Executive Director and its Executive Committee. All of the Board's recommendations have been referred to the Rules and Administrative Procedures Committee.

Ms. Farrelly spoke with several other Board Executive Directors and the consensus was to not send a letter to Public Citizen, in response to its report.

OTHER BUSINESS – FYI ONLY

- Physician Assistant Advisory Committee Open Meeting Minutes – October 4, 2023
- Athletic Trainer Advisory Committee Open Minutes – July 11, 2023 and Closed Minutes – June 13, 2023

VOTE TO CLOSE SESSION

CLOSED SESSION: Pursuant to Maryland General Provisions Article §3-305(b)(8)(13), on a motion made by Dr. Wiesenberger, and seconded by Ms. Schaerr, Panel B unanimously voted to close its meeting on December 20, 2023 at 10:05 a.m., in room 100, to comply with the statutory requirement under Health Occ. §1-401 that prevents public disclosure of medical review committee proceedings.

SUMMARY OF CLOSED SESSION:

The Panel consulted with staff, consultants, or other individuals in its closed session pursuant to General Provisions §3-305(b)(8) about pending or potential litigation.

The Panel consulted with counsel in its closed session pursuant to General Provisions §3-305(b)(13) to review confidential licensure and investigative application information.

CONVENE TO CLOSE

Submitted by,

Harbhajan Ajrawat, M.D.
Board Chair



Board of Physicians

Wes Moore, Governor · Aruna Miller, Lt. Governor · Harbhajan Ajrawat, M.D., Chair

TO: The Board
 FROM: Rhonda Deanes, Allied Health Lead Analyst
 DATE: December 20, 2023
 SUBJECT: Physician Assistant Delegation Agreement Addendums for Advanced Duties

This is to confirm that the Physician Assistant Advisory Committee (PAAC) has reviewed the attached delegation agreement addendums and is recommending the following actions.

The Committee determined that the following physician assistants meet the criteria for advanced duties established in Health Occupations Article, §15-302, COMAR 10.32.03.06 Delegation Agreements – Approval, COMAR 10.32.09 Delegation of Cosmetic Procedures, and other criteria established by the Board.

Previously Board Approved Procedures RECOMMENDED for APPROVAL:

Physician Assistant	Supervising Physician	Requested Procedure(s)	Practice Setting	Date of Approval of Core Duties DA
1. Jay Young An, PA-C	Marc Wilson Hungerford, M.D.	1. Administer Joint Injections, with Immediately Available Supervision 2. Joint Aspirations, with Immediately Available Supervision	Hospital	Approved on 01/29/2020
2. Matthew T. Arminio, PA-C	Harpal Khanuja, M.D.	1. Insertion of Skeletal Traction Pins	Hospital	Acknowledged on 09/06/2022
3. Kaitlyn M. Ayerle, PA-C	Benjamin A. Petre, M.D.	1. Knee Injections (Steroid & Hyaluronic Acid)	Private Practice/Other	Acknowledged on 03/29/2023
4. Avery V. Cross, PA-C	Janak A. Vidyarthi, M.D.	1. Knee Injections 2. Subacromial Bursa Injections	Private Practice/Other	Acknowledged on 01/24/2023
5. Ruth Z. Feldman, PA-C,	Milan K. Joshi, M.D.	1. Follow up Medication Management 2. Psychiatric Evaluations	Private Practice/Other	Acknowledged Receipt on 08/24/2023
6. Sara Rachel Hoopes, PA-C	Clayton Phillip Alexander, M.D.	1. Myofascial Injections/ Trigger Point Injections (with Immediately Available	Hospital	Acknowledged Receipt on 02/13/2023

Attachment 1

			Supervision)		
7.	Lauren Murphy Mason, PA-C	Marc Wilson Hungerford, M.D.	1. Administer Joint Injections, with Immediately Available Supervision 2. Joint Aspirations, with Immediately Available Supervision	Hospital	Acknowledged Receipt on 11/07/2022
8.	Samantha Rene May, PA-C	Marc Wilson Hungerford, M.D.	1. Administer Joint Injections, with Immediately Available Supervision 2. Joint Aspirations, with Immediately Available Supervision	Hospital	Approved on 02/11/2022
9.	Elham Oumer, PA-C	Mubashar Choudry, M.D.	1. Venous Ablation	Private Practice/Other	Acknowledged Receipt on 01/11/2023
10.	Laci May Patterson, PA-C	Michael T. Travis, M.D.	1. Arthrocentesis (Knee, Shoulder, Finger, Wrist, Elbow)	Private Practice/Other	Acknowledged Receipt on 08/01/2023
11.	Laci May Patterson, PA-C	Michael T. Travis, M.D.	1. Arthrocentesis 2. Local and Regional Nerve Block Anesthesia	Ambulatory Surgical Facility	Acknowledged Receipt on 08/01/2023
12.	Lindsay Irene Pisanic, PA-C	Emily Marie Clarke-Pearson, M.D.	1. Botox Injections 2. Filler Injections	Private Practice/Other	Acknowledged Receipt on 08/14/2023
13.	Wilson C. Robinson, PA-C	Ronak K. Patel, M.D.	1. Cardiac Stress Testing	Hospital	Acknowledged Receipt on 10/29/2023
14.	Rahma S. Scott, PA-C	Paul Ruff, M.D.	1. Neuromodulator (Botulinum Toxin A/B) Injections 2. Soft Tissue Filler Injections	Private Practice/Other	Acknowledged Receipt on 09/19/2023
15.	Mark F. Wilt, PA-C	Christopher B. Haas, D.O.	1. Performing & Interpreting Pharmacological Stress Test 2. Performing and & Supervision Exercise Stress Test	Hospital	Acknowledged Receipt on 08/28/2023
16.	Justin Zeitler, PA-C	Erica Patterson Gaertner, M.D.	1. Intra-Articular Knee Injections	Private Practice/Other	Acknowledged Receipt on 05/30/2023



Board of Physicians

Wes Moore, Governor · Aruna Miller, Lt. Governor · Damean W.E. Freas, D.O., Chair

TO: The Board
 FROM: Board Staff
 DATE: December 20, 2023
 SUBJECT: Evaluation and Treatment Protocols


This is to confirm that Board Staff has reviewed the attached Evaluation and Treatment Protocols and determined that the following athletic trainers meet the criteria for Evaluation and Treatment Protocols established in Health Occupations Article, §14-5D-11 Supervision; Evaluation and Treatment Protocols and COMAR 10.32.08.06 Evaluation and Treatment Protocols.

Specialized tasks are not included in these protocols. Board staff is therefore recommending approval of the Evaluation and Treatment Protocols for the following athletic trainers:

Attachments: Evaluation and Treatment Protocols for the following athletic trainers;

Athletic Trainer	Supervising Physician
Anthony C. Benyarko, ATC	Yvette L. Rooks, M.D.
Marybeth E. Bindel, ATC	Brian W. Shinkle, D.O.
Allison L. Boll, ATC	Yvette L. Rooks, M.D.
Stacy M. Carone, ATC	Kyle H. Yost, D.O.
Melissa M. Chepulis, ATC	Yvette L. Rooks, M.D.
Christopher R. Durr, ATC	Yvette L. Rooks, M.D.
Jeremy M. Eith, ATC	Gabriel L. Petrucelli, M.D.
Jeremy M. Eith, ATC	John P. Tabacco, M.D.
Katelyn E. Engen, ATC	Yvette L. Rooks, M.D.
Erik A. Fabriziani, ATC	Sumit Bassi, M.D.
Katherine M. Foelber, ATC	Robert C. Gillis, M.D.
Jacqueline P. Goff, ATC	Mark A. Stabaugh, M.D.
Brittany E. Jackson, ATC	Kyle H. Yost, D.O.
Tyler J. Jackson, ATC	Louis E. Kovacs, M.D.
Lynessa R. Jones, ATC	Matthew W. Christian, M.D.
Alexandra D. Manurung, ATC	Jay P. Shah, M.D.
Jana R. Ponder, ATC	Kenneth Fine, M.D.
Samantha E. Reynolds, ATC	Kyle H. Yost, D.O.
Brian L. Simerville, ATC	Yvette L. Rooks, M.D.
Meghan E. Sullivan, ATC	Kyle H. Yost, D.O.
Gina Tolomei, ATC	Jonathan Packer, M.D.
Michael Ziemianski, ATC	Yvette L. Rooks, M.D.

FOCUS SHEET

TO: Board
 FROM: Christine A. Farrelly, Executive Director 
 DATE: December 20, 2023
 RE: Expedited Licensure by Reciprocity – Physician Assistants

Background: To increase licensure portability for physicians, Virginia, D.C., and Maryland established a reciprocity agreement between the three jurisdictions. Physicians with a valid license in one jurisdiction can apply for a license in one or both of the other jurisdictions through an expedited process.

Given the success of this licensure pathway, reciprocity is being proposed for physician assistants in Maryland, Virginia, and D.C.

Statutory Requirements: The Board's statute allowing reciprocity (§14-307(j)) is very broad and gives the Board discretion to determine whether the applicant was licensed under requirements substantially equivalent to the Board's. Additionally, a proposed bill will be introduced during the 2024 legislative session that will allow the Health Occupations Boards to engage in reciprocity agreements. Attached is a chart that compares the initial licensure requirements of Virginia, D.C., and Maryland for physician assistants.

The one area where Maryland differs from Virginia and D.C. is Oral and Written English Competency. Virginia and D.C. do not have an oral English language competency requirement; however, both jurisdictions require written English language competency.

The statute further requires that an applicant be in good standing under the laws of the other jurisdiction, submit an application, complete a criminal history record check, and pay a licensure fee. The jurisdiction where the applicant is licensed must offer a similar licensing process for individuals licensed to practice medicine in Maryland. This statutory requirement will be met if Virginia and D.C. offer the same reciprocity process for Maryland licensed physician assistants.

A reciprocity agreement would expedite the licensure process by minimizing the applicant's need to submit all credentials to the Maryland Board.

For Consideration:


Will the Board deem D.C.'s licensure requirements as substantially similar to those of Maryland for physician assistant licensure reciprocity?

Will the Board deem Virginia's licensure requirements as substantially similar to those of Maryland for physician assistant licensure reciprocity?

Will the Board enter into reciprocity agreements with D.C. and Virginia to create an expedited pathway for physician assistant licensure?

Minimum Requirements for Initial Licensure - (Physician Assistants)	Maryland	Virginia	DC
18 + years old	X	X	X
Good moral character (from character & fitness questions) Includes malpractice	X	X	X
Graduate of a PA Training Program accredited by the Accreditation Review Commission on Education for the Physician Assistant, OR, <i>Alternative:</i> Passed the NCCPA exam before 1986 and practiced continuously	X		
After 10/01/2003, must have 1 of the following: 1. A bachelor's degree 2. At least 120 credits at the college level	X		
English language competency (oral)	X	Not required	Not required
English language competency (written)	X	Not required	Not required
Passed the national certifying exam given by the NCCPA (PANCE)	X	X	X
Current NCCPA Certification	X	X	X
CHRC	X	Not required	X
NPDB Self-report	Not required	X	X
Character References – 3	Not required	Not required	X
Verification of licensure in other States	X	X	X

FOCUS SHEET

TO: Board
 FROM: Christine A. Farrelly, Executive Director 
 DATE: December 20, 2023
 RE: Expedited Licensure by Endorsement – Physician Assistants

Background: The Maryland Board of Physicians (the Board) has made significant progress in providing online delegation agreements, and IT is currently working on an online initial licensure application for physician assistants. In the interim, the Board has developed and posted fillable PDF versions of applications.

Even with these efforts, there are additional expedited licensure pathways to explore.

Endorsement: While “reciprocity” involves a formal agreement *among jurisdictions*, “endorsement” means issuing a license to an *individual applicant*.

By offering licensure by endorsement, Maryland would accept the physician assistant’s current license as sufficient evidence that the licensee has met some or all of the requirements for licensure. “Endorsement” generally requires additional minimum qualifications set by the Board, usually around experience.

The endorsement model recognizes the due diligence of the jurisdiction(s) that previously licensed the physician. A physician assistant endorsement applicant would not have to undergo a lengthy credentialing process except to fulfill Maryland-specific requirements.

Proposed Licensure by Endorsement Process: To be licensed by endorsement, an applicant must submit an application, complete a criminal history record check (CHRC), and pay a licensure fee.

Licensure by endorsement would be an expedited licensure process where the Board, rather than the applicant, would do all verifications where possible. Once the Board verifies the following requirements, the Board can issue an expedited license to the applicant.

Proposed Requirements for Licensure by Endorsement: A physician assistant in good standing with a license in at least one state would be granted a license by endorsement if the applicant meets **ALL** of the following requirements and has:

1. Good moral character;
2. Graduate of a PA Training Program accredited by the Accreditation Review Commission on Education for the Physician Assistant;
3. Current NCCPA Certification;

4. At least one current, unrestricted license in good standing in a United States jurisdiction for the **five years (to be determined by the Board)** immediately preceding application to the Board;
5. Been engaged in active, clinical practice, defined as 30 or more hours per week or more than 1600 hours per year, for **three to five years (to be determined by the Board)** after graduation and immediately preceding application;
6. No pending complaints or investigations against any license held;
7. No actions reported on a current report from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services National Practitioner Data Bank;
8. No disciplinary history toward any license held;
9. No criminal history;

For Consideration:

Will the Board adopt and approve licensure by endorsement for physician assistants?

Will the Board approve the above requirements for licensure by endorsement?