

**MARYLAND BOARD OF PHYSICIANS
BOARD
OPEN MEETING MINUTES
4201 Patterson Avenue, Baltimore, MD
Room 100
February 28, 2024**

The Maryland Board of Physicians (the Board) met Wednesday, February 28, 2024 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.
Mark D. Baganz, M.D.
Marie-Alberte Boursiquot, M.D.
Jon S. Frank, Consumer Member
Alvin L. Helfenbein, Jr., Consumer Member
Ira Kornbluth, M.D.
Alden Littlewood, M.D.
Chika Logie, M.D.
Judith Singletary, Consumer Member
Ifeyinwa A. Stitt, 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; Rhonda Deans, Lead Allied Health Analyst; Madeline Delgreco, Health Policy Analyst; Lisa Dorsey, Licensure Supervisor; Matthew Dudzic, Policy Manager; Michael EID, Compliance Analyst Associate; Jennifer Ellis, Medical Consultant; Angela Gaither, Management Associate; Julie Gaskins, Health Policy Paralegal; Oriell Harris, Health Policy Analyst Associate; Ally Jones, Compliance Analyst Associate; Maureen Sammons, Intake Manager; Jalon Shell, Compliance Analyst Associate; Marty Teramani, Network Supervisor; Philip Thomas, Licensure Analyst; Michael Tran, Health Policy Analyst; Brooks Whigham, Probation Supervisor; Felicia Wright, Allied Health Manager

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. Wiesenberger, and seconded by Ms. Orbach, the Board voted to unanimously **APPROVE** all addendum requests to perform the advanced duties in attachment 1.*

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- December 20, 2023
- January 24, 2024

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

POLICY/LEGISLATION

Policy

- House Bill No. 676: Right to Try Act – Individualized Investigational Treatments for Discussion

Ms. Harris presented House Bill 676 - Right to Try Act. The bill would update current law to add the definition of individualized investigational treatment, eligible patient, and eligible facility. The bill would remove terminally ill and replace it with individualized investigational treatment. The Board has submitted a letter of information to the Health and Government Operations Committee. Board members discussed the bill's updates and decided to keep a neutral position for House Bill 676.

Regulations

- Proposed Regulations - Administrative Expungement

Ms. DelGreco sought a vote from the Board to affirm approval of pending regulations COMAR 10.32.02.02 and 10.32.02.18. The Board voted to affirm approval.

*On a motion made by Dr. Cymet, and seconded by Dr. Scholz, the Board voted to unanimously **APPROVE** to affirm the Proposed Regulations – Administrative Expungement.*

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Mr. Dudzic updated the Board on the 2024 session of the Maryland General Assembly. Mr. Dudzic provided the Board with the latest Physician Assistant Modernization Act status. He discussed HB 934/SB 830, a bill establishing limited-scope x-ray machine operators in Maryland under the Board. Mr. Dudzic informed the Board that the bill sponsors had thus far accepted feedback from the Board, including the creation of a registration process and sunset provision, increasing the clinical and didactic hours of training required, limiting supervision to a physician or a radiologic technologist and narrowing the method of required supervision to on-site and immediately available. Mr. Dudzic explained that there were still some remaining issues, including the program's effective date and instituting a civil penalty for registered operators.

*On a motion made by Dr. Scholz, and seconded by Dr. Ganti, the Board voted 8 to 6 to **APPROVE** the support of HB 934/SB 830 with amendments.*

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- FYI - Continuing Compact Violations and Lack of Transparency

Ms. Farrelly asked Mr. Finkler to update the Board on the continuing violations and the lack of transparency with the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact including its Executive Committee. As a reminder, Mr. Finkler reviewed the Board's previous attempts to resolve the Compact's violations and lack of transparency by advising the EC of the problems with the RFP for the

enhanced physician portal, continuing to request that the EC notify the Commission of its decisions and policy changes, and presenting the Board's recommended policies and bylaw changes at the Annual Meeting in November of 2023. Staff and Counsel also attended the Rules Committee to discuss the Board's proposed bylaw changes earlier this month.

Mr. Finkler reviewed that the Board provided a letter to Ms. Silas, Chair of the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact Committee, which was sent (via email only). The letter addressed several concerns regarding Statutes, Bylaws, Rules, and policies that IMLCC violated. It also included that commissioners were deliberately excluded from closed session meetings, but according to the "Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised, 12th edition, 9:26." Commissioners should never be excluded from discussions.

The letter concluded by asking Ms. Silas to confirm by responding to the letter that she understands what has been occurring and to re-commit the Executive Committee to oversee the Executive Director and his staff to ensure compliance with the provisions of the Compact in the future.

Ms. Farrelly advised that there was another "secret" meeting on February 26, 2024. The website stated that the meeting will be closed immediately with only the invited leadership team and staff participating in the closed session. The meeting was scheduled as a result of the Treasurer's concern with the fees and expenditures related to the contract for the enhanced physician portal.

OTHER BUSINESS – FYI ONLY

- Physician Assistant Advisory Committee Open Meeting Minutes – January 3, 2024

VOTE TO CLOSE SESSION

CLOSED SESSION: Pursuant to Maryland General Provisions Article §3-305(b)(13), on a motion made by Dr. Wiesenberger, and seconded by Dr. Ganti, Panel B unanimously voted to close its meeting on February 28, 2024 at 10:30 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 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: February 28, 2024
 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. | Christine Michele Brown, PA-C | Kristin Nesbitt Silon, M.D. | 1. Joint Injections/ Joint Aspirations 2. Myofascial Injections/ Trigger Point Injections 3. Tendon Injections | Private Practice/Other | Acknowledged receipt on 10/31/2023 |
| 2. | Amanda Fredricka Comegys, PA-C | Paul Jeffrey King, M.D. | 1. Trochanteric Bursa Injection, 2. Arthrocentesis without Fluoroscopic Guidance (Shoulder), 3. Arthrocentesis without Fluoroscopic Guidance (Knee), 4. Arthrocentesis without Fluoroscopic Guidance (Hip), and 5. Tendon Sheath Ligament Injection | Private Practice/Other | Approved on 04/28/2021 |

Attachment 1

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|----|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|--|------------------------|------------------------|
| 3. | Leah C. Hester, PA-C | Sultana Jahan Afrooz, D.O. | 1. Trigger Point 2. Intra-Articular Injections (Ultrasound-Guided) | Private Practice/Other | Approved on 11/16/2023 |
| 4. | Sara Rachel Hoopes, PA-C | Clayton Phillip Alexander, M.D. | 1. Myofascial Injections/Trigger Point Injections | Hospital | Approved on 03/06/2023 |
| 5. | Lucien T. Joy, PA-C | Stephen M. Schenkel, M.D. | 1. Limited Early Pregnancy Diagnosis – Establish the presence or absence of a viable Intrauterine Pregnancy | Hospital | Approved on 01/19/2022 |
| 6. | Bryn Michelle Krane, PA-C, | Justin Randall Hoover, M.D. | 1. Reduction of Fracture: Wrist (Distal Radius), Forearm, Ankle, Finger 2. Reduction of Dislocations: Hip Elbow, Knee 3. Arthrocentesis: Wrist, Ankle Elbow, Finger(s) 4. Nerve Block: Fingers (Digital Blocks) | Private Practice/Other | Approved on 11/30/2016 |
| 7. | Robert Lewis, PA-C | Scott R. DeBoer, M.D. | 1. Femoral Central Venous Catheter Insertion 2. US-Guided Internal Jugular Central Venous Catheter Insertion 3. Arterial Line Catheter insertion 4. Lumbar Puncture | Hospital | Approved on 04/28/2021 |
| 8. | Alexa Michelle Milano, PA-C | Alexandra K. Pratt, M.D. | 1. Femoral Central Venous Catheter Insertion 2. Subclavian Central Venous Catheter Insertion 3. Ultrasound-Guided Internal Jugular Central Venous Catheter Insertion | Hospital | Approved on 10/12/2022 |

Attachment 1

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|-----|----------------------------|-------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|------------------------|
| | | | 4. Arterial Line Insertion | | |
| 9. | Alex Michelle Milano, PA-C | Alexandra K. Pratt, M.D. | 1. Central Line Insertion (Femoral , Subclavian, IJ) 2. Arterial Line Insertion | Hospital | Approved on 10/12/2022 |
| 10. | Kristin Ellen Murphy, PA-C | Gautam Ramani, M.D. | 1. Arterial Line Placement 2. Central Line Insertion 3. Moderate (Conscious) Sedation | Hospital | Approved on 03/31/2022 |
| 11. | Jessica S. Ortega, PA-C | Christopher M. Jones, M.D. | 1. Closed Reduction of Fractures – Wrist 2. Closed Reduction of Fractures – Phalangeal 3. Closed Reduction of Dislocations – Elbow 4. Arthrocentesis (Cortisone Injection) – Wrist 5. Arthrocentesis (Cortisone Injection) – Finger 6. Nerve Block (Digital Block) 7. Removal of External Fixation Devices (K-Wires) | Hospital Private Practice/Other | Approved on 08/24/2022 |
| 12. | Elizabeth Pham, PA-C | Peter Spiro Petropoulos, M.D. | 1. Botox Injections 2. Dermal Filler Injections 3. Body Contouring Procedures – Coolsculpting, EMSculpting, Radiofrequency 4. Mild Sedation – Nitrous Oxide | Private | Approved on 08/03/2023 |
| 13. | Kristin Lee Ridenour, PA-C | Scott R. DeBoer, M.D. | 1. US-Guided Internal Jugular Central Venous Catheter Insertion 2. Arterial Line Catheter Insertion 3. Lumbar Puncture | Hospital | Approved on 04/28/2021 |

Attachment 1

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|-----|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 14. | David McNeely Roberts, PA-C | Raghuveer Vallabhaneni, M.D. | 1. Central Line Placement (Femoral, Subclavian, Internal Jugular) 2. Arterial Line Placement | Hospital | Approved on 02/17/2022 |
| 15. | Theresa C. Rohrs, PA-C | Scott R. DeBoer, M.D. | 1. IABP (Balloon Pump Removal) | Hospital | Approved on 10/20/2021 |
| 16. | Henry Schneider, III, PA-C | Scott R. DeBoer, M.D. | 1. Subclavian Central Venous Catheter Insertion | Hospital | Approved on 03/24/2021 |
| 17. | Matthew R. Siska, PA-C | Jeffrey Gelfand, M.D. | 1. Arthrocentesis (Knee, Elbow, Ankle, Wrist) 2. Closed Reduction of Fractures (Ankle, Tibia, Radius and Ulna, Humerus, Finger) 3. Closed Reduction of Dislocations (Hip, Elbow, Knee, Ankle) 4. Digital Block | Hospital Private Practice/Other | Approved on 09/25/2019 |