

**MARYLAND BOARD OF PHYSICIANS  
BOARD  
OPEN MEETING MINUTES  
4201 Patterson Avenue, Baltimore, MD  
Room 100  
February 25, 2026**

The Maryland Board of Physicians (the Board) met Wednesday, February 25, 2025 with the following members present:

**Panel B**

Harbhajan Ajrawat, M.D., Panel B Chair  
Julie Caffrey, D.O.  
Ingrid Connerney, Consumer Member  
Tyler Cymet, D.O.  
Vinu Ganti, M.D.  
Michael Hann, M.D.  
Dallas Lea, II, M.D.  
Tara Mahan, P.A.  
Supneet Saluja, M.D.  
Maxine E. Turnipseed, Consumer Member  
Martha Schaerr, Consumer Member

**Panel A**

Ifeyinwa A. Stitt, M.D.  
TraShawn N. Thornton-Davis, M.D.  
Dina El Metwally, M.D.  
Djinge Lindsay, M.D.  
Alden Littlewood, M.D.  
Esteban Schabelman, M.D.  
Richard T. Scholz, M.D.  
Charles W. Simmons, M.D.  
Judith Singletery, Consumer Member  
Scott G. Slater, Consumer Member

**ABSENT:** Lydia McCargo-Redd, Consumer Member

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

**STAFF PRESENT:** Christine Farrelly, Executive Director; Ellen Douglass, Deputy Director; Doreen Noppinger, Compliance Manager; Andromeda Bacchus, Administrative Specialist, III; Elizabeth Carver, Compliance Analyst Associate; Rhonda Deans, Lead AH Analyst; Madeline Delgreco, Manager, Policy/Legislation; Angela Foglestad, AH Analyst Associate AT/Perfusionist/Polysom; Angela Gaither, Management Associate; Troy Garland, Compliance Analyst; Margaret Ellis-Jury, Lead AH Analyst; Justin McKinley, IT Tech./Support/Specialist 1; Dr. Chandresh Shelat, Physician Clinical Specialist; Jalon Shell, Compliance Analyst Associate; Brooks Whigham, Intake Manager; Michael Tran, Health Policy Analyst; Felicia Wright, Allied Health Manager

**STAFF PRESENT VIA CONFERENCE CALL:**

Oriell Harris, Health Policy Analyst

**GUEST PRESENT VIA CONFERENCE CALL:** Kara Cossis, P.A. Chair, Physician Assistant Advisory Committee (PAAC); Zakiyyah Holmes, Administrator, MDH Office of the Secretary Boards and Commissions; Michael Llufrio, Maryland Professional Rehabilitation Program - Director of Operations; Allan Browder, Jr., (MPRP) - CFHM Executive Director; Arthur Hildreth, MD, MPRP - Medical Director; Holly Wade, LCPC, MPRP - Clinical Manager II; Amber Thrasher, LCSW-C, MPRP - Clinical Manager II; Margaret Kroen, LCSW-C, MPRP - Program Director; Karen Dionesotes, MD, MPH, MPRP - Medical Director; William Zitzmann, MD, MPRP -Medical Director; Astrid Richardson-Ashley, LCSW-C, MPRP - Senior Clinical Manager

**CALL TO ORDER**

Harbhajan Ajrawat, M.D., Acting Board Chair called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

**HOUSEKEEPING RULES** - FYI for Board members

## NEW BUSINESS

### **Physician Assistant Advanced Duties Addendums for Approval**

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. Scholz, and seconded by Dr. Caffrey, the Board voted to unanimously **APPROVE** all addendum requests to perform the advanced duties. (attachment 1)*

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- January 28, 2026

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

### **PRESENTATION**

Margaret Kroen, LCSW-C, Program Director of the Maryland Professional Rehabilitation Program (MPRP), gave a presentation on MPRP, its philosophy, what it does, its outcomes, and its collaboration.

Margaret Kroen, LCSW-C, responded to the Board's questions and comments. The Board, Counsel, and Staff participated in the discussion.

### **POLICY/LEGISLATION POLICY**

The Communication, Education, and Policy Unit presented to the Board three draft reports from the Federation of State Medical Boards (FSMB) for review and information. These reports address emerging regulatory and ethical challenges within the modern healthcare landscape.

#### **FYI - FSMB Ethics and Professionalism Committee on Physician Collective Bargaining and Unionization Report**

Physician Collective Bargaining and Unionization: This report explores the factors compelling physicians to participate in collective bargaining and the resulting implications for medical regulation. It provides a framework for understanding how unionization affects the duty to protect patient welfare and maintain continuity of care.

#### **FYI - Draft Guidance on Recent Trends in Prescribing and Dispensing**

Trends in Prescribing and Dispensing: This guidance responds to the proliferation of medical practices, such as IV hydration clinics, GLP-1 prescribing for weight management, and assisted therapies. The report provides actionable tools to mitigate risks of patient harm and exploitation in these often-under regulated environments.

#### **FYI - Draft SMB Workgroup on Oversight of Clinical Decision-Making Report**

Oversight of Clinical Decision-Making: This report examines how corporate consolidation and complex management structures impact physician practice. It offers recommendations to help boards protect clinical independence and ensure that patient safety remains the top priority in medical decision-making.

Board staff advised that the FSMB is requesting public comments on all three drafts by March 13, 2026. Following the comment period, the FSMB Board of Directors will consider final versions for submission to the FSMB House of Delegates in May 2026. Board members were encouraged to submit any feedback via the provided form link by the March deadline.

### **FYI - Update Regarding Clinical Study with Lung Bioengineering, Inc.**

On January 23, 2026, Lung Bioengineering, Inc. provided the Board with a status update regarding its ongoing clinical trials of ex vivo lung perfusion. (*attachment 2*)

### **For Approval COMAR 10.32 – Revisions**

Ms. DelGreco presented updates to regulations COMAR 10.32 for Board discussion. Ms. DelGreco explained that the updates ensure regulatory alignment with SB 423/HB 776 – Maryland Medical Practice Act and Maryland Physicians Assistants Act - Revisions, which went into effect on October 1st, 2025. Main updates include standardizing language, removing outdated information, establishing a single central location for provisions applicable to all licensees, and establishing a single central location for provisions applicable to all employers. The Board questioned the provisions regarding mandated employer reporting. Ms. DelGreco explained that the requirements were already statutorily established. The Board voted to approve posting the policy to the website to solicit public comment.

*On a motion made by Ms. Schaerr, and seconded by Dr. Ganti, the Board voted to unanimously **APPROVE** posting these proposed revisions to the Board's website for public review and comments, if no comments are received, to proceed with the promulgation process.*

### **BOARD CHAIR UPDATES**

Dr. Ajrawat thanked the Policy staff and Board Counsel for the legislation and policy meetings held on Friday mornings and stated that the meetings were very productive. He mentioned that he testified in Annapolis on a bill and said the process is extensive and that he will provide updates later.

Dr. Ajrawat stated that the Federation of State Medical Boards (FSMB) Annual Conference will be held in Baltimore from April 30, 2026, through May 2, 2026. He added that Board members attending the FSMB Conference would benefit and better understand the FSMB's purpose.

Dr. Ajrawat reminded Board members to submit their 2025 Financial Disclosure Filings no later than April 30, 2025. At the following link below:

**Ethics Commission office at the following website:**  
**(<https://efds.ethics.maryland.gov>)**

### **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S UPDATES**

Ms. Farrelly mentioned that she would email information concerning meals and per diem to Board members attending the Federation of State Medical Boards (FSMB) Conference and asked whether any additional Board members are interested in attending. Ms. Farrelly informed the Board that she would forward the list of Board members attending to FSMB for registration.

**OTHER BUSINESS – FYI ONLY**

- Physician Assistant Advisory Committee Open Meeting Minutes, January 7, 2026
- Athletic Trainer Evaluation and Treatment Protocols without Specializes Tasks
- Athletic Trainer Evaluation and Treatment Protocols with Previously Approved Specialized Tasks and or Dry Needling Specialized Tasks

**ADJOURNMENT (The Board will adjourn to exercise its quasi-judicial and administrative functions.)**

Submitted by,

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Harbhajan Ajrawat, M.D.  
Acting, Panel B 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 25, 2026  
 SUBJECT: Physician Assistant Advanced Duties Addendums for Board Approval

This is to confirm that the Physician Assistant Advisory Committee (PAAC) has reviewed the attached Collaboration 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 Collaboration Agreements – Approval, COMAR 10.32.09 Delegation and Assignment of Performance of Cosmetic Medical Procedures and Use of Cosmetic Medical Devices, and other criteria established by the Board.

**Previously Board Approved Procedures RECOMMENDED for APPROVAL:**

	Physician Assistant	Supervising Physician	Requested Procedure(s)	Date of Approval of DA/Notification of CA
1.	Taylor Erin Allen, PA-C	Marianne Edwards Dawn, M.D.	1. Intralesional Injections 2. Punch Excisions*  <i>*Approve as "Punch Excisions limited to 2.5 cm or less above the neck."</i>	NCA received on 05/06/2025
2.	Jessica Lynn Henderson, PA-C	Nelson Velazquez, D.O.	1. Excision and Repair of Malignant Lesions* 2. Skin Excisions* 5. Intralesional Injections  <i>*Approve as "Excision and Repair of Malignant Lesions limited to 2.5 cm or less above the neck," and "Skin Excisions limited to 2.5 cm or less above the neck."</i>	DA approved on 09/23/2024

3.	Vivlyn Mathies Kimou, PA-C	Jeanne E. O'Brien, M.D.	1. Hysterosalpingography (HSG)	NCA received on 10/24/205
4.	Jennifer Lynn Nunnelee, PA-C	Nelson Velazquez, D.O.	1. Botox Injections 2. Chemical Peels 3 Moh's Repairs 4. Excision of Skin Cancers* 5. Intralesional Injections  <i>*Approve as "Excision of Skin Cancers limited to 2.5 cm or less above the neck."</i>	NCA received on 10/06/2025



January 22, 2026

Christine Farrelly  
Executive Director  
Maryland Board of Physicians  
4201 Patterson Ave.  
Baltimore, MD 21215

RE: Lung Bioengineering, Inc. Update on Clinical Study

Dear Ms. Farrelly:

On behalf of my client, Lung Bioengineering, Inc., ("LBI") I am writing to provide the Board of Physicians ("Board") with a status update on the company's ongoing clinical study of *ex vivo* lung perfusion. You will recall that LBI provided an in-person, thorough review on the status of the study during the Board's December 20, 2023, meeting.

At that time, we explained to the Board that LBI's application to the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) would be submitted in 2024, which it was. We further explained that this would commence an up to 10-month FDA review process. Our expectation was that the study would conclude at some point in 2025, but we cautioned that this timeline was driven by the FDA and not LBI.

In mid-2025, the FDA responded to our application with a series of questions. LBI has worked diligently to provide responses and will submit those to the FDA in February of this year. FDA will review these responses and reply to LBI, but LBI cannot predict when that reply will be received. At such time as we have a decision from the FDA or any material information to share with the Board in this regard, we will promptly provide it, as LBI has done throughout this process.

In the meantime, should the Board have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at [swise@smwpa.com](mailto:swise@smwpa.com) or 410-244-7000.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'J. Steven Wise'.

J. Steven Wise