

**MARYLAND BOARD OF PHYSICIANS  
BOARD  
OPEN MEETING MINUTES  
4201 Patterson Avenue, Baltimore, MD  
Room 100  
October 25, 2023**

The Maryland Board of Physicians (the Board) met Wednesday, October 25, 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  
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.  
Chika Logie, M.D.  
Kevin Pereira, M.D.  
Judith Singletary, Consumer Member  
Ifeyinwa A. Stitt, M.D.

**ABSENT:** Richard T. Scholz, M.D.

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

**STAFF PRESENT:** Christine Farrelly, Executive Director; Ellen Douglas Smith, Deputy Director; Doreen Noppinger, Compliance Manager; Zach Spivey, Probation Supervisor; Rhonda Deanes, Lead Allied Health Analyst, Madeline Delgreco, Health Policy Analyst; Matthew Dudzic, Policy Manager; Michael EID, Compliance Analyst Associate; Julie Gaskins, Health Policy Paralegal; Oriell Harris, Health Policy Analyst Associate; Ally Jones, Compliance Analyst Associate; Justin McKinley, IT Tech./Sup/Spec. Trainee; Jalon Shell, Compliance Analyst Associate; Michael Tran, Health Policy Analyst; Marty Teramani, Network Supervisor; Brittany White, AH AT/Perfusionist/Polysom; 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 9:05 a.m.

**HOUSEKEEPING RULES** - FYI for Board members

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Livanta**

*On a motion made by Dr. Cymet, and seconded by Dr. Ganti, the Board voted to unanimously **APPROVE** to allow Livanta to use Artificial Intelligence (AI) in peer reviews.*

**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 addendum to the Board.

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

## **POLICY/LEGISLATION**

### **Regulations**

- Proposed Regulations – Licensure of Perfusionists

Board staff sought approval to post draft regulation amendments for COMAR 10.32.20 to the Board's website for public comment.

*On a motion made by Dr. Wiesenberger, and seconded by Ms. Schaerr, the Board voted to unanimously **APPROVE** posting these proposed regulations to the Board's website for public review and comments.*

## **LEGISLATIVE UPDATE**

Mr. Dudzic provided the Board with an update regarding the Board's legislative proposals for the 2024 session of the Maryland General Assembly. Mr. Dudzic informed the Board that both proposals were proceeding smoothly through the approval process and had gone through bill drafting with the Department of Legislative Services, and that the Administration would inform the Board regarding which bills would be taken on as departmental bills by November 1. Mr. Dudzic also informed the Board of a legislative proposal put forth by the Board of Massage Therapy Examiners, which would expand the practice of massage therapy to include the use of instrument-assisted soft tissue manipulation.

## **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

- Compact

Board staff and counsel advised the Board of the continued issues with the governance of the Compact, including the Executive Committee's (EC) overreach in policymaking and in the RFP process, and several policy and transparency concerns that they have experienced. This includes the failure of the Compact to allow Commissioners into closed sessions and the failure of the Compact to produce requested records. After discussion, the Board decided Ms. Farrelly and Mr. Finkler should present this information at the Compact's November meeting.

*On a motion made by Ms. Schaerr, and seconded by Dr. Ganti, the Board voted to unanimously **APPROVE** Ms. Farrelly and Mr. Finkler to discuss the Board's concerns around policy, the RFP process, and lack of transparency at the Compact's Full Commission meeting in*

*November.*

**OTHER BUSINESS – FYI ONLY**

- Physician Assistant Advisory Committee Open Meeting Minutes – September 6, 2023
- Perfusion Advisory Committee Open and Closed Minutes – October 6, 2022
- Polysomnography Professional Standards Committee Open and Closed Meeting Minutes – August 25, 2022

**VOTE TO CLOSE SESSION**

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***CLOSED SESSION:*** Pursuant to Maryland General Provisions Article §3-305(b)(7)(8)(13), on a motion made by Dr. Wiesenberger, and seconded by Ms. Turnipseed, Panel B unanimously voted to close its meeting on October 25, 2023 at 10:11 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.

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**SUMMARY OF CLOSED SESSION:**

The Panel consulted with counsel in its closed session pursuant to General Provisions §3-305(b)(7) to obtain legal advice, §3-305(b)(8) to consult with staff about pending or potential litigation, and §3-305(b)(13) to review confidential licensure and investigative application information.

**CONVENE TO CLOSE**

Submitted by,

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Harbhajan Ajrawat, M.D.  
Board Chair