

**MARYLAND BOARD OF PHYSICIANS
BOARD
OPEN MEETING MINUTES
4201 Patterson Avenue, Baltimore, MD
Room 100
October 29, 2025**

The Maryland Board of Physicians (the Board) met Wednesday, October 29, 2025 with the following members present:

Panel B

Harbhajan Ajrawat, M.D., Board Chair
Julie Caffrey, D.O.
Ingrid Connerney, Consumer Member
Tyler Cymet, D.O.
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.
Dina El Metwally, M.D.
Alden Littlewood, M.D.
Lydia McCargo-Redd, Consumer Member
Charles W. Simmons, M.D.
Judith Singletary, Consumer Member
Scott G. Slater, Consumer Member
Esteban Schabelman, M.D.
Richard T. Scholz, M.D.

ABSENT: Vinu Ganti, M.D.; Djinge Lindsay, M.D.; TraShawn N. Thornton-Davis, M.D.

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

STAFF PRESENT: Christine Farrelly, Executive Director; Doreen Noppinger, Compliance Manager; Madeline Delgreco, Health Policy Analyst; Madelyn Estrella, Compliance Analyst Associate; Angela Gaither, Management Associate; Margaret Ellis-Jury, Lead AH Analyst; Monica Hampton, AH Analyst Associate, PAs; Justin McKinley, IT Tech./Support/Specialist 1; Eunice Onwuchekwa, Intake Manager; Jalon Shell, Compliance Analyst Associate; Michael Tran, Health Policy Analyst; Brooks Whigham, Probation Supervisor; Felicia Wright, Allied Health Manager

STAFF PRESENT VIA CONFERENCE CALL: Oriell Harris, Health Policy Analyst

GUEST PRESENT VIA CONFERENCE CALL: Zakiyyah Holmes, Administrator, MDH Office of the Secretary Boards and Commissions; Steve Wise, Lobbyist, MedChi

CALL TO ORDER

Dr. Ajrawat, Board Chair called the meeting to order at 9:25 a.m.

HOUSEKEEPING RULES - FYI for Board members

BOARD CHAIR UPDATES:

Dr. Ajrawat informed the Board members the importance of attending all meetings.

NEW BUSINESS

Allied Health Advisory Committee Appointment for Approval

Naturopathic Medicine Advisory Committee Appointment

- Stacey J. Kargman, NMD, L.Ac

*On a motion made by Dr. Caffrey, and seconded by Dr. Hann, the Board voted to unanimously **APPROVE** the Naturopathic Medicine Advisory Committee Appointment.*

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- September 24, 2025

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

POLICY

FYI - First Draft - General Licensee and Initial Applicant Provisions Regulations For Discussion

Ms. DelGreco presented draft regulations, "General Licensee and Initial Applicant Provisions" and informed the Board that the draft regulations were preliminarily posted on the Board's website to solicit public comment. The Board reviewed the regulations and were advised to email or call Ms. DelGreco with any further comments.

FYI - Second Draft - COMAR 10.32.02 Hearings Before the Board of Physicians Proposed Regulations

Ms. Harris presented to the Board an FYI regarding the Second Draft of COMAR 10.32.02: Hearings Before the Board of Physicians proposed regulations. These revisions aim to modernize and clarify the Board's hearing procedures, ensure consistency with current practice and administrative law, and enhance clarity for licensees.

Ms. Harris reminded the Board of the regulations' timeline so far and how, at the September Panel B meeting, the Board approved the proposed regulations to proceed with the next step of the promulgation process.

Following the September board meeting, however, a single substantive change was added on page 40 to clarify the procedure for when a respondent does not request a hearing. Other changes were minor and non-substantive, involving reorganization, terminology updates, and alignment with current Board procedures. Following a second posting of the regulations for public comment, the Board received a few comments from an external attorney regarding certain revisions. The Board members were advised that staff and counsel are currently reviewing these comments and plan to address the concerns through response letters.

Ms. Harris, Ms. Rubin and Ms. Farrelly responded to question from Board members.

Policy Update: Internationally Trained Physicians

Mr. Tran informed the Board that staff had met with Delegate Terri Hill regarding her intentions to reintroduce the bill for internationally trained physicians. Mr. Tran specified that Delegate Hill clarified in the meeting that she envisions a phased implementation of a new licensure pathway for FTPs, starting with initially accepting applicants trained in certain countries, such as England and Canada, while continuing work to incorporate additional countries over time (applicants from most other nations would remain ineligible for licensure until further expansion occurs). The Board agreed that a decision or a vote could not occur without further details on how certain countries would be initially selected over others. Some Board members expressed concerns about potential

equity and discrimination issues with a phased approach, given the lack of a current accrediting body for the postgraduate medical training programs.

Dr. Ajrawat will contact Delegate Hill Directly and determine how best to proceed.

OTHER BUSINESS – FYI ONLY

- Naturopathic Medicine Advisory Committee Open Meeting Minutes – March 21, 2025
- 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
- Initial Licensure List from 3rd Quarter - (July 1, 2025 to September 30, 2025)
- Reinstatement Licensure List from 3rd Quarter - (July 1, 2025 to September 30, 2025)

VOTE TO CLOSE SESSION

CLOSED SESSION: Pursuant to Maryland General Provisions Article §3-305(b)(15), on a motion made by Dr. Hann, and seconded by Dr. Caffrey, Full Board unanimously voted to close its meeting on October 29, 2025 at 10:00 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:

Full Board consulted with counsel in its closed session pursuant to General Provisions §3-305(b)(15) to discuss a cybersecurity incident.

VOTE TO CLOSE SESSION

CLOSED SESSION: Pursuant to Maryland General Provisions Article §3-305(b)(13), on a motion made by Dr. Hann, and seconded by Dr. Caffrey, Panel B unanimously voted to close its meeting on October 29, 2025 at 10:03 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. Panel A was dismissed.

SUMMARY OF CLOSED SESSION:

Panel B 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.
Panel B Chair