

**MARYLAND BOARD OF PHYSICIANS
BOARD
OPEN MEETING MINUTES
4201 Patterson Avenue, Baltimore, MD
Room 100
September 24, 2025**

The Maryland Board of Physicians (the Board) met Wednesday, September 24, 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.
Vinu Ganti, M.D.
Michael Hann, M.D.
Dallas Lea, II, M.D.
Tara Mahan, P.A.
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.
TraShawn N. Thornton-Davis, M.D.

ABSENT: Supneet Saluja, M.D.; Djinge Lindsay, M.D.

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

STAFF PRESENT: Christine Farrelly, Executive Director; Doreen Noppinger, Compliance Manager; Augustine Chen, Compliance Analyst Associate; Rhonda Deans, Lead AH Analyst; Madeline Delgreco, Health Policy Analyst; Lisa Dorsey, Licensure Supervisor; Madelyn Estrella, Compliance Analyst Associate; Angela Gaither, Management Associate; Margaret Ellis-Jury, Lead AH Analyst; Justin McKinley, IT Tech./Support/Specialist 1; Eunice Onwuchekwa, Intake Manager; Jalon Shell, Compliance Analyst Associate; Christa Sutton, AH Analyst-RCP/RAD Tech.; Michael Tran, Health Policy Analyst; Brooks Whigham, Probation Supervisor

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, President of the Federation of State Medical Boards (FSMB)

CALL TO ORDER

Dr. Ajrawat, Board Chair called the meeting to order at 9:08 a.m.

HOUSEKEEPING RULES - FYI for Board members

BOARD CHAIR UPDATES:

- Dr. Ajrawat mentioned that the Federation of State Medical Boards (FSMB) Conference will be held in Baltimore next year. He, Ms. Farrelly, and Dr. Ganti are working together on the conference, and hopefully, the Board members will attend.
- We will also present alternative ways of licensing in the January 2026 session since the HB1199 Physicians - Licensing - Internationally Trained Physicians did not pass at the last session.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR UPDATES:

- Ms. Farrelly announced to the Board that the 2026 Board Meeting Calendar is available on their iPads.
- Since August 2025, our fiscal staff have received promotions to other agencies. Justin McKinley, IT Tech/Support/Specialist 1, and Elizabeth Cox, License Analyst Associate, have been assisting in our fiscal operations department.
- The Health Occupational Boards were just recently granted an exemption from the hiring freeze because of being special funded so we are beginning to post our vacant positions.
- Ms. Farrelly shared her experience attending the International Association of Medical Regulatory Authorities (IAMRA) conference in Dublin, Ireland, as a Presenter. The presentation described a collaboration with the Federation of State Medical Boards (FSMB), focused on using Artificial Intelligence (AI) to solve real world regulatory problems.

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 addendum to the Board.

*On a motion made by Dr. Ganti, and seconded by Dr. Caffrey, the Board voted to unanimously **APPROVE** all addendum requests to perform the advanced duties for Danielle Marie Auth, PA-C / Benjamin David Bernstein, M.D. and Connor James Hall, PA-C / Sohrab Shahab, M.D. (Attachment 1)*

Allied Health Advisory Committee Appointments for Approval

Physician Assistant Advisory Committee Appointment

- Theresa Lewis, Consumer Member

Genetic Counseling Advisory Committee Appointment

- Benita Edwards Wilson, Consumer Member

Polysomnography Professional Standards Advisory Committee Appointment

- Bernesta C. Williams, M.D., Physician

*On a motion made by Dr. Lea, II, and seconded by Dr. Caffrey, the Board voted to unanimously **APPROVE** all of the above Allied Health Advisory Committee appointments.*

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- August 27, 2025

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

POLICY

Proposed Regulations - COMAR 10.32.02 - Public Comment Update

Following the public comment period on the Board's website, Ms. Harris presented an update on the proposed COMAR 10.32.02 regulations, which were initially shared as an FYI during the January 2025 Full Board meeting. These regulations were originally brought to the Board on January 29, 2025, where the Board approved a draft of these regulations to be sent for stakeholders' engagement and feedback. Following the internal and external stakeholders' meeting on June 17, 2025, the revised regulations were brought back to the Board. On July 23, 2025, the Board voted to approve posting the COMAR 10.32.02 revised regulations on the Board's website to solicit public comment.

The Board received a public comment from Alan Dumoff, on behalf of the Maryland Society of Integrative Medicine. Mr. Dumoff's concerns had previously been addressed in a response letter from the Board dated July 22, 2025, following his participation in the regulations stakeholders' meeting. In response to his most recent comments, submitted after the proposed regulations were posted on the Board's website, Board staff informed Mr. Dumoff that it remains open to further discussion in the future. Board staff recommended that the Board approve the proposed regulations to proceed in the next step of the promulgation process.

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

Proposed Regulations - Employment Prohibitions and Mandated Reports by Employers

Ms. DelGreco presented proposed regulations, "Employment Prohibitions and Mandated Reports by Employers". The Board voted to approve posting the draft regulations to the website to solicit public comment.

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

OTHER BUSINESS – FYI ONLY

- Physician Assistant Advisory Committee Open Meeting Minutes – August 6, 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

VOTE TO CLOSE SESSION

CLOSED SESSION: Pursuant to Maryland General Provisions Article §3-305(b)(13), on a motion made by Dr. Ganti, and seconded by Ms. Connerney, Panel B unanimously voted to close its meeting on September 24, 2025 at 9:34 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



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: September 24, 2025
 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.	Danielle Marie Auth, PA-C	Benjamin David Bernstein, M.D.	1. Ablative/Non-Ablative Laser Therapy (Clear Lift Laser Therapy, Laser Hair Removal Therapy, Skin Tightening Laser Therapy) 2. Botulinum Toxin (A/B) Injections 3. Dermal Filler Injections	DA approved on 09/20/2024
2.	Connor James Hall, PA-C	Sohrab Shahab, M.D.	1. Flexible Laryngoscopy 2. Nasal Endoscopy	NCA received on 05/12/2025