

DRAFT
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS
BOARD OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS
REGULATORY RESEARCH COMMITTEE
July 29, 2011

TIME AND PLACE: The meeting was called to order at 1:06 p.m. on Friday July 29, 2011, Department of Health Professions, 9960 Mayland Drive, 2nd Floor, Board Room 2, Henrico, VA, 23233.

PRESIDING OFFICER: Jonathan Noble, OD

EMERGENCY EGRESS PROCEDURES: Dr. Carter read the emergency egress procedures.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jonathan Noble, OD

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT: Yvonne Haynes
David Kozera
Fernando Martinez

COURT REPORTER: Andrea Pegram, Court Reporting Services LLC

OTHERS PRESENT: Pete Hill, RN, MSN
Barbara Dunn, RN, PNP
Carola Bruflat
Dr. Janet B. Younger
Michele Satterlund
HoChong Gilles, RN, MS, FNP
Sherri Rose, MSN, RN, FNP
David DeBiasi, RN, BSN
Jan Towers, Ph.D., NP-C
Angela Starkweather, Ph.D., ACNP, CNRN
Tom Phillips
Michael Jurgensen, MSV
Mary Kesaman
Judy Collins, VCNP
Susan Motley, Virginia Nurses Association
Cynthia Fagan, VCNP
Betsy Crowell, VCNP
Betsy Crowell, VCNP
Philip Boykin, Hunton Williams for VCNP
Mary Duggan, AANP
Robin Hills, MS, WHNP-BC, CNE
Susan Ward, VHHA
Aimee Perron Seibert, VA AAP
Tyler S. Cox, MSV
Cal Whitehead, Psychiatric Society of Virginia
Nicole Pugor, VCU
Maureen Flattery

QUORUM:

With one member in attendance there was no quorum for a meeting of the Committee. Dr. Noble presided over the public hearing.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Pete Hill, RN, MSN

Elkton Family and Children's Medical Clinic

Mr. Hill came today to protect his patients. He stated that he believes nurse practitioners (NPs) should have autonomous practice.

Barbara Dunn, Ph.D., RN, CPNP

Dr. Dunn is a pediatric nurse practitioner. She urges the Board to remove unnecessary restrictions on NP practice and reform regulations by adopting the National Council of State Boards of Nursing's *Consensus Model for APRN Regulation*.

Carola Bruflat, MSN, WHNP-BC/FNP-BC

Ms. Bruflat states that, as a nurse practitioner, she supports the recommendations of the 2010 Institute of Medicine Report (IOM) on the Future of Nursing that will remove barriers and allow practice to the full range commensurate with level of education, training and skills.

Dr. Janet B. Younger, RN, Ph.D., CPNP

Dr. Younger spoke on minimal competencies, maintaining continuing competency, content domains, psychometrically sound examinations, the current model of supervision in Virginia, similar professions without ongoing supervision requirements post licensure, and the relative low risk of harm.

Michele Satterlund

Virginia Association of Nurse Anesthetists (VANA)

Ms. Satterlund stated that while CRNAs in Virginia are governed by the same laws and regulations as NPs, the team approach to the practice of CRNAs is different from that of primary care NPs, and it is important the Board consider addressing the practice barriers specific to the various categories of Advance Practice Nurses (APNs). She said that failing to look at each category of APN independently may result in an inaccurate picture of the actual barriers. VANA applauds the Board for its hard work on this issue. Ms. Satterlund stated that the Board is moving in the right direction, and VANA urges the Board to look at real ways to effectively address these very real barriers to team healthcare practice.

HoChong Gilles, RN, MS, FNP

Ms. Gilles stated that she has been an RN for 13 years and an NP for 11 years. She said that she works at the Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Richmond, VA. Ms. Gilles' read a letter from her supervisor, Douglas M. Heuman, MD, FACP, FACG, AGAF

which stated that trained, experienced and qualified nurse practitioners are professional providers, and should be treated as such. Further, within their area of training and experience, they are often equal to or superior to most physicians. Ms. HoChong stated that when we delay care, harm is caused because it is the patient who suffers.

Sherri Rose, MSN, RN, FNP, LNC

Rose Legal Nurse Consulting, PPLC

Ms. Rose stated that our health care system is critically ill. It is her hope that in the next few years the system changes will begin to initiate improvements such that all U. S. citizens will have access to some form of health care--not just emergency rooms. Nurse practitioners will be desperately needed to fill in the gap to provide care for all. She said that it would be her pleasure to continue to provide care to the residents of the Commonwealth during this transition. She further stated that it was her sincere hope that she could do so with autonomy and in collaboration with all members of the health care team. She asked that the Committee note her support for the recommendations of the IOM Report on the Future of Nursing.

David DeBaisi, RN

AARP

Mr. DeBaisi stated that AARP supports a change in the *Code of Virginia* to enable NPs to practice without supervision.

Jan Towers, Ph.D., NP-C, CRNP, FAANP, AANP

Director of Health Policy, American Academy of Nurse Practitioners

Dr. Towers spoke on several topics, they included: that no other professions have two Boards that cover them and that it is an albatross which slows the profession down. She stated that it costs more money to have two oversight boards. She further stated that there is only one other state that has physician supervision like Virginia does. She indicated that when NPs are involved, overall costs go down. She stated Teams can have many forms; one is where no one is assigned team captain. (Medical Home is a great example). She said that NPs can be partners; they are not always employees. National scope barriers include prescriptive authority and working with a physician. Dr. Tower's stated that we have passed the stage where a protocol is needed because standards are already out there.

Angela Starkweather, Ph.D., ACNP-BC, CNRN

Assistant Professor, Adult NP Coordinator, VCU -

Dr. Starkweather indicated that research has been conducted by nurses, nurse practitioners, physicians, government agencies and non-government agencies and collectively, these studies have reached similar conclusions. She stated that no studies suggest that care is better in states that have more restrictive scope-of

practice regulations for advanced practice nurses than in those that do not. She stated that yet in Virginia, we continue practice restrictions that limit access to care and hinder advanced practice nurses from stepping in to fill the gaps in healthcare that currently exist for our most vulnerable populations.

Tom Phillips

Consumer, Financial Analyst

Mr. Phillips' stated that he recently read a newspaper article that the use of NPs would help keep down healthcare costs. He and his wife feel they are well informed citizens and feel that NPs are an outstanding group of professionals.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Without a quorum, previous meeting minutes were not able to be approved.

NEW BUSINESS: Written comment will be received until August 11, 2011 at 5:00 p.m. The revised report will be posted to the DHP website September 1, 2011.

ADJOURNMENT: With no other business to conduct, the meeting adjourned at 3:14 p.m.

Jonathan Noble, OD
Acting Chair

Elizabeth A. Carter, Ph.D.
Executive Director for the Board