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Exempt Action: Final Regulation Agency Background Document

Agency name	Board of Medicine, Department of Health Professions
Virginia Administrative Code (VAC) Chapter citation(s)	18VAC85-50
VAC Chapter title(s)	Regulations Governing the Practice of Physician Assistants
Action title	Conforming to changes in the Code
Final agency action date	6/24/21
Date this document prepared	6/24/21

Although a regulatory action may be exempt from executive branch review pursuant to § 2.2-4002 or § 2.2-4006 of the *Code of Virginia*, the agency is still encouraged to provide information to the public on the Regulatory Town Hall using this form. However, the agency may still be required to comply with the Virginia Register Act, Executive Order 14 (as amended, July 16, 2018), the Regulations for Filing and Publishing Agency Regulations (1VAC7-10), and the *Form and Style Requirements for the Virginia Register of Regulations and Virginia Administrative Code*.

Brief Summary

Provide a brief summary (preferably no more than 2 or 3 paragraphs) of this regulatory change (i.e., new regulation, amendments to an existing regulation, or repeal of an existing regulation). Alert the reader to all substantive matters. If applicable, generally describe the existing regulation.

Amendments in regulations for the practice of physician assistants will clarify that they can have a practice agreement with one or more patient care team physicians and that the physician is not ultimately responsible for the acts of the assistant.

Mandate and Impetus

Identify the mandate for this regulatory change and any other impetus that specifically prompted its initiation (e.g., new or modified mandate, internal staff review, petition for rulemaking, periodic review, or board decision). "Mandate" is defined as "a directive from the General Assembly, the federal government, or a court that requires that a regulation be promulgated, amended, or repealed in whole or part."

The impetus for this regulatory change is conformity to changes in the Code of Virginia stemming from passage of HB2039, relating to the practice of physician assistants in collaboration and consultation with one or more patient care team physicians.

Statement of Final Agency Action

Provide a statement of the final action taken by the agency including: 1) the date the action was taken; 2) the name of the agency taking the action; and 3) the title of the regulation.

On June 24, 2021, the Board of Medicine amended 18VAC85-50-10 et seq., Regulations Governing the Practice of Physician Assistants in accordance with changes to the Code of Virginia by the 2021 Acts of the Assembly.