

Memo

To: NJDHA
From: Paul J. Bent
CC: Becky Pugh / Russell F. Bent
Date: February 22, 2017
Re: NJ State Board of Dentistry Public Session

On Wednesday, February 1st, I had the pleasure of attending the meeting of the NJ State Board of Dentistry Public Session. The meeting was held at the Board Office in Newark and covered the following:

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: January 18, 2017

Approved with minor changes.

II. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

A. Continuing Education:

All CE courses were approved. No specific number of applicants was given.

III. APPEARANCES:

1. 10:00 A.M. - Deputy Director Howard Pine and Sharon Joyce, Assistant Attorney General - Discussion concerning "Opioid Prescribing Emergency Regulations."

Based on the Governor's finding that opioid abuse has created a public health emergency, Boards of Dentistry, Medical Examiners, Optometry and Nursing are all initiating emergency regulations regarding the prescribing of opioid drugs. Some aspects of these regulations include a limit of no more than a 5 day supply of opioid based drugs for acute pain, written acknowledgement that the doctor has advised the patient of the dangers of opioid drugs and CE requirements for CDS registrants.

A draft copy of these emergency regulations are attached.

2. 11:00 A.M. - Dr. Robert Albin & Dr. Alan R. Hecht - Discussion concerning office inspections for anesthesia permit holders.

Both are members of the Oral Surgery Society. Their society currently provides office inspections for anesthesia permit holders. The Board had several questions regarding how the program operates and a general discussion of trying to include PCS and enteral sedation permit holders in such a program.

IV. REPORTS SUBMITTED PURSUANT TO N.J.A.C. 13:30-8.8:

1. Dr. Yoonchan P. Han – 79 year old female patient under local anesthesia and NO for an extraction became confused and “could not wake up”. EMS was called and patient was taken to the ER. Board accepted this as informational.

V. ORDERS FILED WITH THE BOARD:

1. Dr. Mohammad Rabah - Consent Order filed on December 21, 2016.
2. Dr. Jeffrey Aron - Consent Order of Reinstatement filed on December 21, 2016.
3. Dr. Marc Mehlman - Consent Order filed on January 4, 2017.

Board accepted all three as informational. No details were provided.

VI. OTHER MATTERS:

1. Ohio State University is seeking approval to offer two distance education programs in New Jersey.

The Board was not sure what approval was being sought as the programs being mentioned are for RDH's and appears to be AA to BS type programs. Staff will reach out to Ohio State University to get clarification if they are seeking CE approval or something else.

2. Correspondence from Rebecca Welch Pugh, RDH, NJDHA Executive Director requesting clarification regarding the use of Digital Scanners (such as the iTero Element Intraoral Scanner) for the taking of final impressions. She is questioning whether a dental hygienist and a registered dental assistant can take final impressions with a digital scanner?

Board believes an RDH or RDA can use a digital scanner so long as the dentist reviews any images before being considered final impressions. The Board believes it has already acted upon a similar question and has asked staff to review and get back to the Board at the March meeting.

VII. ADJOURNMENT: