

# NORTH DAKOTA BOARD OF MEDICINE

July 2022 News Blast

## North Dakota Board of Medicine

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### NEW: 2023 Meeting Schedule

October 21, 2022

January 27, 2023

April 28, 2023

July 28, 2023

October 27, 2023

## A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

At the July North Dakota Board of Medicine meeting the Board said goodbye to members Brenda Miller, MD (Bismarck), Thomas Carver, DO (Minot) and Rajendra Potluri, MD (Fargo). Drs. Miller and Carver served the Board faithfully for 8 years and have given much time and effort in their service to the medical community and citizens of North Dakota. The Board expressed its gratitude and appreciation for their contributions. They will be missed.

Service on the BOM requires a significant commitment. In addition to the two-day quarterly meetings which require substantial preparation, all Board members also serve on one of the Board's standing committees. The standing committees also require an additional time commitment for meetings and preparation, which are held between the quarterly Board meetings. ND physicians and physician assistants should be thankful for the members of our profession who step up and fill these important roles for our Board.

With the departure of Board members who have completed their terms, new members have been appointed by the governor. These include Zena Homan, MD, Obstetrics/Gynecology from Essentia Health in Fargo, Misty Anderson, DO, Internal Medicine with Sanford Health in Valley City, and Justin Horner, MD, Pediatric Cardiology from Sanford Health in Fargo. The process for appointment to the Board requires interested individuals to apply through a ND state application which is reviewed by the Governor's office. Appropriate

individuals are chosen to serve on the Board by the governor. Each appointment is for 4 years and is renewable one time. The Board solicits interested applications through announcements in the Board's newsletter and the NDMA News for years that positions are open. If you are interested in serving on the Board, watch for these announcements which are usually sent out in the spring of each year. The Board seeks broad representation from a variety of specialties and geographic locations in the state. All are encouraged to apply.

During the July meeting the Board discussed several important and timely issues. These included the Dobbs vs Jackson Woman's Health Organization Supreme Court decision, recent discussions with the naturopathic medicine providers in North Dakota, and better defining physician assistant privileging and credentialing requirements. Additionally, a discussion was held regarding the submission of inaccurate information on initial applications or license renewals which has become a significant problem for our Board. Further information on these issues can be found in the Board minutes which are available on the ND BOM website. The Board will keep all licensees informed of any practice implications of these issues as they evolve.

Finally, the Board looks forward to holding the October meeting at the UND School of Medicine and Health Sciences in Grand Forks. We hope to increase the exposure of the Board, especially to the entering members of health care professions, currently in training at the UND SMHS.

Sincerely, Robert P. Sticca, MD, FACS

## **WEBSITE AND DATABASE UPDATES**

The Board is pleased to announce that it has signed a new contract with Albertson Consulting for updates and improvements to its website and database. Updates to the website will include a new, secure licensee portal in which licensees will be able to upload documents directly (including CME verifications), renew and print licenses, update contact information, etc. You will be provided more information on the website and its features upon implementation.

## **OCTOBER 2022 MEETING**

The North Dakota Board of Medicine will hold its October 21<sup>st</sup> meeting at the UND School of Medicine and Health Science. This will give the medical students and licensees in Grand Forks the opportunity to attend the meeting in person and learn more about the Board and its operations. The Board invites all those interested to attend!

## **JULY MEETING HIGHLIGHTS**

At the July 29, 2022, meeting, the North Dakota Board of Medicine approved 129 Physician licenses, 60 Resident licenses, 15 Physician Assistant licenses, and 18 Genetic Counselor licenses. Eleven (11) Letters of Qualifications for State of Principal Licensure and 145 non-principal licenses were issued through the Interstate Medical Licensing Compact. The Board interviewed 4 applicants for licensure. The Board received reports from Investigative Panel A and Investigative Panel B regarding the number of complaints reviewed and acted upon. The combined reports showed that a total of 53 cases were reviewed: 1 case was referred for formal disciplinary action; 2 stipulations for discipline were approved; 5 Confidential Letters of Concern were issued; 8 cases were held over for further review; and all other cases were dismissed, or no further action taken. During the meeting, the Board issued Orders for disciplinary action on 2 licenses, removed conditions from 1 license, and issued 2 Orders of Completion.

The Board received updates from its respective committees. The PHP committee reported that it continues collaborating with the PHP to issue written policies and procedures. The Budget committee reviewed the office's current finances with no concerns, finding the finances to be tracking with the Board's budget. The IT Committee presented a proposed contracts for updating the Board's website and database, which was approved by the Board. A new, improved, secure website will hopefully be rolled out by the end of the year, and will include a new licensee portal allowing secure access to licensee information and records and the ability to upload CME documents.

The Laws, Rules, and Legislative Committee reported updates to the administrative rules which will go before the Legislative Administrative Rules Committee for discussion at its September meeting. The LRL Committee also provided information on its discussion with naturopath licensees and whether to bring these licensees under the Board's jurisdiction. At this time, the naturopaths are exploring other options with different licensure Boards, finding the Board of Medicine would not be a good fit for them, but would like to continue its discussion on seeking prescriptive authority at the next legislative session.

## **2022 CME AUDIT**

2022 is an audit year for physician CME requirements. Physicians will be notified if selected in a random audit to submit CME verification. As a reminder, the law requires 60 AMA/AOA Category 1 CME hours every three years. For those licensed for more than one year but less than two years, 20 hours are required, and those licensed more than two but less than three years, 40 hours are required.

## **NEWS**

### **Refer a Child to with Make-A-Wish® North Dakota**

At Make-A-Wish North Dakota, we create life changing wishes for children ages 2 1/2 to 18 years old who have a critical illness that puts their life in jeopardy. Medical professionals are one of our main referral sources to connect children with their wish come true. If you know a child with a critical illness, we invite you to refer them today by visiting

[md.wish.org](http://md.wish.org). In addition to our referral form, you will also find our medical guidance sheets regarding eligibility within sub-specialty departments. Thank you!

### CDC Guidance on Monkeypox

The FSMB, along with the CDC and AAMC, has asked all state medical boards to share the following guidance on the latest information and resources to plan and prepare for monkeypox virus outbreaks.

<https://www.fsmb.org/siteassets/communications/aamccdcmonkeypoxresourceguide061322-final.pdf>

### NDBOM Collaboration with ACCME

Physicians can now have CME providers report CME credit for North Dakota licensees directly to the ACCME Program and Activity Reporting System (PARS). All that is required of physicians is to request your CME provider to report your attendance. A report is then submitted to the Board certifying attendance. This will streamline CME audits, allowing physicians to utilize the ACCME database instead of self-reporting individual CME during an audit. Physicians may also create their own account at the ACCME's CME Passport: <https://www.cmepassport.org> which will allow you to find available CME, track what CME credits have been reported by providers, and generate a transcript of your credit that can be sent directly to the Board. To learn more, please access the ACCME website at <https://www.accme.org/state-medical-licensing-boards-collaboration>. For more information on the CME Passport, please access: <https://accme.org/about-cmepassport>.

### Medicaid requires PDMP checks

A new federal law went into effect on October 1, 2021, which requires all health care providers to check the PDMP for a Medicaid enrollee's prescription drug history before prescribing controlled substances to the enrollee. If you have any questions regarding the new requirements or regulations, please contact Brendan Joyce at the North Dakota Department of Human Services ([bjoyce@nd.gov](mailto:bjoyce@nd.gov)).

### 2021-2022 N.D. Health Care Professional Loan Repayment Program

The North Dakota Primary Care Office announces the opening of the 2021-2022 North Dakota Health Care Professional Loan Repayment Program cycle. The application and new website are now live and can be accessed through the following: <https://www.health.nd.gov/nd-communities/primary-care-office>. Please visit the website for more information and contact information for any questions.

### A Continued Thank-You to our Licensees

We again want to provide our continued support and thanks to all practitioners for your tireless work and expertise in treating patients with COVID-19 and combating this virus.

### INFORMATIONAL LINKS:

#### **CDC's Clinical Pocket Guide to Tapering Opioids:**

[https://www.cdc.gov/drugoverdose/pdf/clinical\\_pocket\\_guide\\_tapering-a.pdf](https://www.cdc.gov/drugoverdose/pdf/clinical_pocket_guide_tapering-a.pdf)

#### **Interstate Medical Licensing Compact:**

<https://www.imlcc.org>

#### **FBI Informaiton on Wire Fraud Scheme against Health Care providers:**

<https://files.constantcontact.com/4487d704801/038c165a-5863-4b69-8630-b461754c7cc7.pdf>

#### **ND DHS updates to Child Abuse and Neglect hotline and reporting:**

<http://www.nd.gov/dhs/services/childfamily/cps/>