

NORTH DAKOTA BOARD OF MEDICINE

August 2020 News Blast

North Dakota

Board of Medicine

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The North Dakota Board of
Medicine meets three times
per year.

The next meetings of the
Board are November 20,
2020 and March 26, 2021.

Reminder To Those Practicing In A Medical Spa Setting

Recently the Board has been made aware of issues regarding the practices of physicians signing off on records wherein a RN had evaluated, prescribed and treated patients with Botox and injectables in a medical spa setting. The Board wishes to remind its licensees that those licensed by other boards are required to work within the scope of their license. Specifically speaking, a physician must evaluate a patient and prescribe the legend medication to be administered prior to a RN administering the medication. Please see the following NDAC 54-05-02-04 and NDAC 54-05-02-05; Board of Nursing Administrative Rules regarding Registered Nurse scope of practice; and NDCC 43-12.1-02 (5) and NDAC 61-04-02-01; Board of Pharmacy Administrative Guidelines for Practitioner dispensing in ND). The North Dakota Board of Nursing has issued a guidance statement regarding this issue that can be found at:

https://www.ndbon.org/Practice/PracticeGuidance/Aesthetic_Practices.asp

July Meeting Highlights

At our July 24, 2020 meeting our Board approved 166 physician licenses and 60 resident licenses. The Board also approved 21 Physician Assistant licenses and 13 Genetic Counselor licenses. The Board received a report that the office staff had between March 10, 2020 and July 8, 2020 issued 115 licenses through the Interstate Medical Licensing Compact. The Board interviewed two 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 47 cases were reviewed; 30 cases were dismissed; 6 cases were dismissed with a confidential letter of concern; 1 case was referred for formal action; 7 cases were held over for further review and 3 stipulations resolving formal action were approved.

The Board was provided an update from its hiring committee that they accepted the formal resignation of Bonnie Storbakken and that they had advertised the position to seek her replacement as Executive Director.

The Board received a report from the North Dakota Professional Health Program regarding the number of active participants in their program and the possible expansion to serve other licensees outside of the Board of Medicine.

The Board held its annual elections and voted to have the current officers continue to serve for another year. As such, Rupkumar Nagala, MD is the Chair of the Board; Robert Sticca, MD is the Vice Chair of the Board, and Ann Reich, public member, is our Treasurer.

NEWS

Reminders Relating to COVID-19

Governor Burgum has issued several executive orders since North Dakota confirmed the first case of COVID-19 within the state. One Order allows an out of state provider to provide care within North Dakota so long as they hold a license in good standing in another state. The Order is on our website and can be found at the bottom of this news blast. The North Dakota Department of Health is issuing an “Authorization to Practice” during the COVID epidemic. The application process is being handled through the North Dakota Department of Health and they can be reached via email at dohlicensure@nd.gov or by phone at (866)-207-2880.

There have been no other statutory or rule changes regarding licensure, renewals, CME requirements, etc. As such, our office is operating under the same structure we always have. Our office is following recommendations of social distancing and is working mostly remotely during this time. All staff are available via telephone and email. We thank you all for your understanding as we move through this period of uncertainty. We also thank you all for your expertise and efforts in treating patients with COVID-19.

INFORMATIONAL LINKS:

CDCC’s Clinical Pocket Guide to Tapering Opioids:

https://www.cdc.gov/drugoverdose/pdf/clinical_pocket_guide_tapering-a.pdf

Interstate Medical Licensing Compact: <https://www.imlcc.org>

Executive Order 2020-05.1: <https://www.governor.nd.gov/sites/www/files/documents/executive-orders/Executive%20Order%202020-05.01.pdf>