



ALABAMA BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS **NEWSLETTER**

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Collaborative Practice Rules for Certified Registered Nurse Practitioners and Certified Nurse Midwives

On June 26, 1995, a new law outlining collaborative practice requirements for Certified Registered Nurse Practitioners (CRNP) and Certified Nurse Midwives (CNM) became effective. The statute defines "collaboration" as a formal relationship between the CRNP/CNM and the physician under which the nurse engages in advanced practice nursing by written protocol. According to the definition, collaboration requires professional oversight and direction; however, collaboration does not require direct on-site supervision of the CRNP or CNM by the collaborating physician.

A major change in the practice of CRNP's and CNM's instituted by the new statute will be the ability of these nurses to prescribe legend drugs to patients if such prescribing is authorized in an approved protocol signed by the collaborating physician and if the drug prescribed is on a formulary approved by the Board of Nursing and the Board of Medical Examiners. In addition to approving the formulary, the two boards are responsible for approving model practice protocols to be used in collaborative practice arrangements.

The new law mandated that a Joint Committee with the State Board of Medical Examiners and the Board of Nursing For Advanced Practice Nurses be established to recommend to both boards rules which will implement the statutory requirements for collaborative practice. The Joint Committee has met on a regular basis since October 1995 and has recently submitted proposed rules to the Board of Medical Examiners and the Board of Nursing. After publication

of the rules and a period for receiving comments, the proposed rules were finally adopted by both Boards. The rules become effective on July 25, 1996. Copies of the new rules can be obtained by contacting either the Alabama Board of Nursing or the Alabama Board of Medical Examiners.

The Joint Committee expects to have model practice protocols and a formulary submitted to the Board of Nursing and to the Board of Medical Examiners for recommended approval by the Boards at their July 1996 meetings. After the new rules become effective on July 25, 1996 and after both Boards have approved model practice protocols and a formulary, Certified Registered Nurse Practitioners, Certified Nurse Midwives and collaborating physicians may apply to the Alabama Board of Nursing for approval of a collaborative practice arrangement under the new law. No prescribing of legend drugs by Certified Registered Nurse Practitioners or Certified Nurse Midwives is authorized until a new application is submitted to the Alabama Board of Nursing and the collaborative practice arrangement is approved by both the Board of Nursing and the Board of Medical Examiners. Transition time from the old system to the new system is expected to take approximately six to eight weeks. If the protocols and the formulary are approved by both Boards at the July meetings, CRNP's and CNM's should be practicing under the requirements of the new law by the end of September 1996. ■

Alabama Board of Medical Examiners Public Action Report April 1996 through June 1996

On April 18, 1996, the Alabama Board of Medical Examiners considered the application for a certificate of qualification for a license to practice medicine in Alabama of Bruce Anthony Ames, M.D., California. The Board made a decision to deny Dr. Ames' application based on the fact that he had a disciplinary action taken against his license to practice medicine in California. Dr. Ames has filed an appeal with the Medical Licensure Commission of Alabama which is scheduled to be heard in July 1996.

On April 23, 1996, Michael Candio Caruso, M.D., Anniston, Alabama, license number 14848, voluntarily surrendered his certificate of qualification and license to practice medicine in Alabama. Dr. Caruso surrendered his certificate and license while under investigation by the Alabama Board of Medical Examiners for alleged violations of Ala. Code §34-24-360(1975) involving inappropriate use of controlled substances. Dr. Caruso is no longer authorized to practice medicine in the State of Alabama.

On April 18, 1996, the Alabama Board of Medical Examiners accepted the voluntary surrender of the certificate of qualification and license to practice medicine in Alabama of William Earl McCollum, M.D., Birmingham, Alabama, license number 5739. Dr. McCollum voluntarily surrendered his certificate and license after Administrative Complaints had been filed with the Medical Licensure Commission by the Board of Medical Examiners alleging that Dr. McCollum's license

should be disciplined on the grounds that he had been convicted of a misdemeanor involving medicaid fraud in state court, that he had been convicted of a felony in federal court, and that he had made fraudulent or untruthful statements to the Medical Licensure Commission on his license renewal form. The Medical Licensure Commission accepted the voluntary surrender of license in lieu of further proceedings, and the Administrative Complaints were dismissed. Dr. McCollum is no longer authorized to practice medicine in the State of Alabama.

On April 26, 1996, Robert H. Pine, M.D., Theodore, Alabama, license number 11753, agreed to the entry of a Second Voluntary Restriction against his certificate of qualification and license to practice medicine in Alabama. The terms of the Second Voluntary Restriction limit Dr. Pine's medical practice to a strictly supervised practice situation with any employment to be approved by the Board.

On March 27, 1996, Florinio S. Samson, M.D., Tuscaloosa, Alabama, license number 13158, agreed to the entry of a Second Voluntary Restriction against his certificate of qualification and license to practice medicine which replaced the original voluntary restriction of June 1995. The Second Voluntary Restriction limits Dr. Samson's medical practice to a specific employment situation approved by the Board of Medical Examiners and establishes other requirements which provide for a monitored and supervised practice. ■

1996 Coding Workshops for Hospital Personnel

The schedule for the 1996 coding workshops sponsored by the Medical Association of the State of Alabama and Alabama Quality Assurance Foundation is listed below. The programs available are Basic ICD-9-CM Coding, Advanced ICD-9-CM Coding, CPT-4/HCPCS and Medical Terminology. The coding workshops are designed for personnel working in hospitals, either in an in- or out-patient setting.

All workshops are located at the Holiday Inn Express in Birmingham. To register for the seminar or for further information please contact Melodie Cox at 1-800-760-4550 ext. 3202 or (205) 970-1600.

Basic ICD-9-CM Coding

September 10-11 -- A two-day workshop designed for entry-level coders, medical billing clerks and DRG/UR Coordinators. Attendees are required to bring all three volumes of ICD-9-CM.

\$125.00 - 10 CE Hours

CPT4/HCPCS

August 20, November 6 - This one-day workshop is designed to train outpatient billing clerks and hospital coders in CPT coding. This does not include physician offices and office billing information. Attendees are required to bring the current CPT-4 code book.

\$100.00 - 5 CE Hours

Advanced ICD-9-CM Coding

August 21-22 - November 7-8 -- A two-day workshop designed for participants with coding experience. Attendees are required to bring all three volumes of ICD-9-CM. **\$125.00 - 8 CE Hours**

Medical Terminology

September 12 - This is a one-day workshop designed to train personnel from the hospital business and admitting offices, outpatient and medical record departments and any others interested in learning basic medical terminology.

\$55.00 - 5 CE Hours ■

"The Disruptive Physician"

A special educational program on problems of the disruptive physician is being presented Friday, October 11, 1996 at the Pickwick Conference Center in Birmingham from 1:00-5:00 PM. This is a joint effort by the Alabama Hospital Association and the Medical Association of the State of Alabama in conjunction with the Alabama State Board of Medical Examiners and the Alabama Physicians Recovery Network. The problems of the disruptive physician on the hospital staff have become an increasing concern to hospital administrators, physicians in hospital leadership positions and regulatory bodies.

Attendees will learn clinical aspects and personality patterns of disruptive physician behavior, review current legal considerations of sexual harassment as it relates to disruptive physician incidents and understand the viewpoints and experience of hospital administrators and physician leaders addressing these problems.

Faculty includes: Vincent Caponi, President & CEO of St. Vincent's Hospital, Charles Ford, MD, Professor of Psychiatry at UAB; C. Wayne Hannah, MD, JD, Medical Director of Southeast Alabama Medical Center, Frances Heidt, Esquire and Fern H. Singer, Esquire of the law firm Sirote & Permutt, P.C., Ellann McCrory, MD, Vice Chairman of the Alabama State Board of Medical Examiners, Edward Munson, Chief Investigator of the Alabama State Board of Medical Examiners and Gerald Summer, MD, Medical Director of the Alabama Physicians Recovery Network.

Full details will be mailed in the early fall. Please call the MASA Education Department at (334) 263-6441 for further information. ■

CME Calendar - 1996 Dates

July 18-21—Destin FL
Urology Seminar
Contact: UAB Division of CME
(205) 934-2687
CME Credit: 11 hours of Category 1

July 31—Gadsden AL
Issues in Elder Care
Contact: Joy Bryan, Mountain View Hospital
(800) 245-3645
CME Credit: 5 hours of Category 1

August 1-2—Huntsville AL
Psychiatry Update 96: Anxiety and Depression
Contact: UASOM/Huntsville - Office of CME
(205) 551-4490
CME Credit: 6 hours of Category 1

August 2-4—Guntersville AL
Summer CME Regional - "Pulmonary Update"
Contact: MASA Education Department
(334) 263-6441
CME Credit: 8 hours of Category 1

August 5—Destin FL
Health Law Update
Contact: UAB Division of CME
(205) 934-2687
CME Credit: 6 hours of Category 1

August 6—Gadsden AL
Managed Care Liability
Contact: Joy Bryan, Mountain View Hospital
(800) 245-3645
CME Credit: 1 hour of Category 1

August 6—Destin FL
ReThinking the Delivery of Ambulatory Care
Contact: UAB Division of CME
(205) 934-2687
CME Credit: 6 hours of Category 1

August 7-10—Destin FL
Sixteenth National Symposium of Healthcare Executives
Contact: UAB Division of CME
(205) 934-2687
CME Credit: 11 hours of Category 1

August 9-11—Gulf Shores AL
Summer CME Regional - "Pulmonary Update"
Contact: MASA Education Department
(334) 263-6441
CME Credit: 8 hours of Category 1

August 9-11—Ponce Puerto Rico
Impact of Echocardiography in Clinical Cardiology Practice
Contact: UAB Division of CME
(205) 934-2687
CME Credit: 18 hours of Category 1

August 9—Gadsden AL
Self Image & Soul: Tools to Facilitate Character Psychological Change
Contact: Joy Bryan, Mountain View Hospital
(800) 245-3645
CME Credit: 6 hours of Category 1

August 10—Florence AL
Fourth Annual Shoals Cardiology Update 1996
Contact: UASOM/Huntsville - Office of CME
(205) 551-4490
CME Credit: 6 hours of Category 1

September 11-13—Birmingham AL
7th Annual PTCA
Contact: UAB Division of CME
(205) 934-2687
CME Credit: TBA

September 13—Gadsden AL
Turning Points: Treating Families In Transition & Crisis
Contact: Joy Bryan, Mountain View Hospital
(800) 245-3645
CME Credit: 6 hours of Category 1

September 25-29—Destin FL
14th Annual Rheumatology on the Beach
Contact: David McLain, M.D., FACP, FACR
(205) 877-2555
CME Credit: 14 hours of Category 1

September 27-29—Pine Mountain GA
International Conference on Color Doppler
Contact: UAB Division of CME
(205) 934-2687
CME Credit: TBA

October 4-6—Orange Beach AL
Seventh Alabama Cancer Congress
Contact: UAB Division of CME
(205) 934-2687
CME Credit: TBA

October 5-11—Pittsburgh PA
Surgery of the Pelvis and Acetabulum
Contact: UAB Division of CME
(205) 934-2687
CME Credit: TBA

October 8-11—TBA
Alabama Primary Health Care Association Annual Meeting
Contact: UAB Division of CME
(205) 934-2687
CME Credit: TBA

October 9—Gadsden AL
Contemporary Treatment for PTSD
Contact: Joy Bryan, Mountain View Hospital
(800) 245-3645
CME Credit: 3 hours of Category 1

October 11—Birmingham AL
Disruptive Physician Seminar
Contact: MASA Education Department
(334) 263-6441
CME Credit: 4 hours of Category 1

WWW Homepage:
<http://www.masalink.org>

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NEWSLETTER
OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS



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