

PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT POLICY COMMITTEE MINUTES
January 10, 2002

The meeting was called to order at approximately 10:35 A.M. on Thursday, January 10, 2002.

Committee members present: John Booher, PA-C; Chairman, Anquetette Sloan, David Buchan, D.P.M.; Jeff Fisher, PA-C; Katherine Clark, D.O.; and David Keseg, M.D.

Staff members present: Tom Dilling, Kay Rieve, and Cathy Hacker.

I. Review of November 15, 2001 Minutes

Dr. Buchan moved to approve the November 15, 2001 Physician Assistant Policy Committee minutes. Mrs. Sloan seconded the motion. All members voted aye. The motion carried.

II. Review of physician assistant supplemental utilization plans

The committee began the meeting by discussing the supplemental utilization plan application from **Med Central Mansfield** that is requesting that their PA(s) be allowed to perform insertion of chest tubes under direct supervision.

Dr. Buchan noted that the Board had previously approved this procedure under emergency situations. Mr. Booher indicated that this procedure has been approved under both emergent and non emergent situations. Dr. Buchan stated that the Board had some concern with this procedure being done in the non emergency setting due to the significant possible complications and do we really want a non physician to perform. Mr. Booher indicated that in cardiothoracic surgery when the chest is already open that this is not an issue. Dr. Clark stated that inserting a chest tube in and urgent situation required more skill and concentration.

Dr. Buchan moved to approve this application. Dr. Clark seconded the motion. All members voted aye. The motion carried.

The committee then discussed the supplemental application from **Med Central Mansfield** that is requesting that their PA(s) be allowed to perform insertion of arterial lines.

The committee noted that the Board approved Cleveland Clinic department of Cardiothoracic & Vascular Surgery to insert arterial lines in August of 2001 with onsite supervision.

Mr. Booher noted that the application indicates in the clinical phase that the physician will observe 12 arterial line insertion, however, in the evaluation section of the application they indicate that the physician will observe 25 successful, uncomplicated cannulations to determine competency. The committee expressed concern as to exactly how many insertions would be performed to determine competency. Dr. Buchan stated that there were many physicians that felt that this was a complicated procedure and that it should not be routinely performed by PA(s). He further stated that he is not suggesting that PA(s) cannot perform these procedures. However, there are a lot of physicians that feel that this is beyond the scope of practice for a physician assistant. Mr. Booher indicated that this is a procedure performed by anesthetists and CRNA's when the patients are asleep and that PA(s) have been approved in the past to perform these procedures.

Dr. Clark moved to table this application pending receipt of the total number of procedures that will be directly observed to determine competency. Mrs. Sloan seconded the motion. All members voted aye. The motion carried.

The committee then discussed the application from **Med Central Mansfield** that is requesting that their PA(s) be allowed to perform removal of Swan Ganz catheters.

Mr. Booher noted that they are requesting this procedure to be performed with onsite supervision and that the training and education seemed adequate.

Dr. Buchan moved to approve this application. Mrs. Sloan seconded the motion. All members voted aye. The motion carried.

The committee then discussed the application from **Med Central Mansfield** that is requesting that their PA(s) be allowed to perform removal of intra aortic balloon pumps.

Mr. Booher noted that they are requesting this procedure to be performed with onsite supervision and that the training and education seemed adequate. Mrs. Rieve informed the committee that the January 2002 Board had just approved this function for another group with the same levels of supervision and training.

Mr. Booher moved to approve this application. Dr. Clark seconded the motion. All members voted aye. The motion carried.

The committee then discussed the application from **Med Central Mansfield** that is requesting that their PA(s) be allowed to perform endotracheal intubation.

Mr. Booher noted that it was 100% onsite supervision. Mrs. Rieve informed the committee that this function was just approved by the Board at its January 2002 meeting. Dr. Buchan stated that he was ok with PA(s) performing this procedure, however, he was having a hard time envisioning the need for a cardiothoracic PA to perform this procedure. Mr. Booher stated that he thought it would be performed in the ICU one day post-op after the tube has been pulled the patient becomes saturated and need to be intubated. Dr. Clark and Mr. Booher both stated that they felt this would be performed only under urgent conditions. Dr. Clark further stated that there were plenty of observed procedures to determine competency. Mr. Booher noted that ACLS does not certify anyone to perform intubation.

Dr. Buchan moved to approved this application. Mr. Fisher seconded. All members voted aye. The motion carried.

The committee then discussed the application from **Med Central Mansfield** that is requesting that their PA(s) be allowed to perform change of tracheostomy after 72 hours.

Mr. Booher noted that this was with onsite supervision and consistent with the rules. The committee noted that this has been approved by the Board with onsite and off site supervision at the Toledo Hospital in July 2000.

Dr. Buchan moved to approve this application. Mr. Fisher seconded the motion. All members voted aye. The motion carried.

The committee then discussed the application from **Med Central Mansfield** that is requesting that their PA(s) be allowed to perform vein and artery harvesting using open or endoscopic techniques.

Mr. Booher noted that this was 100% direct supervision with 35 directly observed procedures to determine competency.

Dr. Buchan moved to approve this application. Dr. Clark seconded the motion. All members voted aye. The motion carried.

The committee then discussed the application from **Cardiothoracic & Vascular Surgical Associates-Columbus** that is requesting that their PA(s) be allowed to perform vein and artery harvesting using open or endoscopic techniques.

Ms. Hacker informed that committee that Dr. Bush has left this group and they did not need to consider his request.

Dr. Buchan stated that he did not have any problem with this request. Dr. Clark noted that Cleveland Clinic had been approved with onsite supervision. Mr. Booher stated that in reading this application that the onsite supervision would be rare.

Dr. Buchan moved to approve this application. Dr. Clark seconded the motion. All members voted aye. The motion carried.

Tom Dilling arrived at this time.

The committee then discussed the application from **Dermatology Associates** that is requesting that their PA(s) be allowed to perform application of light based medical devices for the purpose of hair removal.

Dr. Keseg arrived at this time.

The committee noted that there was no documentation to show that the physician had been trained to perform this function. Dr. Buchan noted that the training requires an instructional session, however there was no indication of the actual number of hours of clinical and didactic training. Mr. Dilling stated that in order for a cosmetic therapist to perform this function the rules requires a course of not less than fifty hours. However, Mr. Dilling felt that the PA(s) have more training in anatomy and medicine than the cosmetic therapists and therefore, the fifty hour training requirement may not be necessary for the PA(s) as it does not contain extra laser training. Mr. Booher stated that he had received his laser training he could not imagine what they could train for fifty hours. A one day course consisted of physics and the basic science physics of how the laser functions to include safety issues. Mr. Booher further stated that he had sat on the laser committee for a couple of hospitals and the hospitals accepted the one day training course as adequate training. The Committee reviewed the application from HMT dermatology for the same function that was approved at the 10/01 Board and noted

Dr. Buchan noted that the initial patient evaluation would be done by the physician. Mr. Fisher stated that the rules regarding light based medical device use requires onsite supervision, however, it does not speak to the number of hours of training required of physician assistants. Mr. Dilling informed the committee that the cosmetic therapists had to complete a course in the use of light based medical devices that had been approved by the Board and consisted of least fifty hours of training of which thirty hours are clinical experience. Dr. Buchan stated that 20 hours of didactic and 30 hours of on the job training seemed adequate.

Dr. Buchan moved to table this application pending receipt of clarification of the number of didactic and clinical hours that will be required of the PA to perform this function as well as a verification of the physicians training. Mr. Fisher seconded the motion. All members voted aye. The motion carried.

The committee then discussed the application from **Anderson Medical Associates** that is requesting that their PA(s) be allowed to perform application of light based medical devices for the purpose of hair removal.

The committee noted that they had reviewed this application at their July 2001 meeting and tabled it at that time pending receipt from the physicians that they were trained to perform this procedure. The committee noted that physicians had submitted the requested documentation and that the clinical and didactic training for the PA seemed adequate.

Dr. Keseg moved to approve this application. Dr. Buchan seconded the motion. All members voted aye. The motion carried.

The PA Policy Committee meeting was adjourned at approximately 11:50 A.M. on Thursday, January 10, 2002.

I hereby attest that these are true and accurate minutes of the Physician Assistant Policy Committee of the State Medical Board of Ohio, meeting on January 10, 2002.

John W. Booher, P.A.
Chair

Copies of documents and/or materials referenced in the minutes of the Physician Assistant Policy Committee meeting are available at the Board offices.