

**PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT POLICY COMMITTEE MINUTES**  
**February 12, 2004**

The meeting was called to order at approximately 10:38 a.m. on Thursday, February 12, 2004.

Committee members present: Lance Talmage, M.D.; Robert Zaayer, P.A.-C; Michael Bowen, P.A.-C, and Mrs. Sloan.

Staff members present: Diann Thompson, Mark Wayda, Shannon Baldwin, Cindy Dennison, Barb Sibla, Cathy Hacker, and Kay Rieve.

*I. Review of November 13, 2003 Minutes.*

Dr. Talmage moved to approve the November 13, 2003 Physician Assistant Policy Committee minutes. Mrs. Sloan seconded the motion. All members voted aye. The motion carried.

*II. Review of supplemental utilization plans*

The committee then discussed the supplemental utilization plan application from **Akron Radiology's** supplemental utilization plan application that is requesting that their PA(s) be allowed to perform Hip injections.

The committee noted that the Board had previously denied applications for this group due to the fact that these functions were harder to perform on the patients that were referred to a radiology practice and should be performed by a physician.

Dr. Talmage moved to deny this application, due to the complexity of the procedure. Mrs. Sloan seconded the motion. All members voted aye. The motion carried.

The committee then discussed the supplemental utilization plan application from **Jewish Hospital of Cincinnati's** supplemental utilization plan application that is requesting that their PA(s) be allowed to perform: central lines insertion to include PICC lines.

The committee noted that the application had the training, education and supervision that the Board had previously approved for this function.

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

The committee then discussed the supplemental utilization plan application from **Med CosMetix, LLC's** supplemental utilization plan application that is requesting that their PA(s) be allowed to perform: laser hair removal.

The committee noted that the application had the training, education and supervision that the Board had previously approved for this function.

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

The committee then discussed the supplemental utilization plan application from **Far Oaks Orthopedists** supplemental utilization plan application that is requesting that their PA(s) be allowed to perform: cortisone injection of the ankle for peroneal tendonitis and the feet for great toe and Morton's neuroma.

The committee felt that this function was within the abilities of a PA to perform.

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

The committee then discussed the supplemental utilization plan application from **Far Oaks Orthopedists** supplemental utilization plan application that is requesting that their PA(s) be allowed to perform: cortisone injection in the medial and lateral epicondyle of the elbows.

The committee noted that this was a fairly accessible space and a superficial injection. It was also noted that the training, education and supervision were adequate.

Dr. Talmage moved to approve this request. Mr. Bowen seconded the motion. All members voted aye. The motion carried.

The committee then discussed the supplemental utilization plan application from **Far Oaks Orthopedists** supplemental utilization plan application that is requesting that their PA(s) be allowed to perform: cortisone injections into the hands for ganglion cysts and trigger finger.

The committee noted that this was a superficial injection and that the training, education and supervision were adequate.

Dr. Talmage moved to approve this request. Mr. Bowen seconded the motion. All members voted aye. The motion carried.

The committee then discussed the supplemental utilization plan application from **Far Oaks Orthopedists** supplemental utilization plan application that is requesting that their PA(s) be allowed to perform: cortisone injections into the shoulders, shoulder joints, or subacromial rotator cuff.

The committee noted that they were unable to determine what injections would be made into the “shoulder”. The other parts of the application that referred to the shoulder joints seemed to be within the abilities of a PA with the training, education and supervision that were outlined in the application. The committee asked that staff request clarification of injection into the “shoulder”.

Dr. Talmage moved to table this application pending receipt of the above information. Mr. Bowen seconded the motion. All members voted aye. The motion carried.

The committee then discussed the supplemental utilization plan application from **Far Oaks Orthopedists** supplemental utilization plan application that is requesting that their PA(s) be allowed to perform: cortisone injection in the knee joints for both traumatic effusions and arthritic effusions and synovitis of the knee.

The committee noted that there was a high risk of disrupting the cartilage and a high risk of complications associated with this procedure.

Dr. Talmage moved to deny this application based on the above information. Mr. Bowen seconded the motion. All members voted aye. The motion carried.

The committee then discussed the supplemental utilization plan application from **Far Oaks Orthopedists** supplemental utilization plan application that is requesting that their PA(s) be allowed to perform: Cortisone injection in the hip for greater trochanteric bursitis and tendonitis.

The committee noted that this is a superficial subcutaneous injection and would be appropriate for PA's to perform.

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

The committee then discussed the supplemental utilization plan application from **Cardiology One's** supplemental utilization plan application that is requesting that their PA(s) be allowed to perform: noninvasive cardiovascular studies.

The committee noted that the training, education and supervision were adequate and that this function has previously been approved by the Board.

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

#### ***IV. Discussion of pending legislation***

Representatives of the Board and representatives of the PA Association met with the Committee at length to discuss the pending PA legislation--S.B. 147. Board staff indicated that the Board had yet to take a formal position on the bill but had expressed concerns about various portions of the bill. Specifically, Board staff related that the Board was disturbed by the manner in which the bill altered the relationship between the Board and the PAPC, apparently giving PAPC ultimate decision-making authority on most issues related to the practice and regulation of PA's. Board staff also asked that the bill be amended to address the situation in which all PAPC member terms expire at the same time. The Board is seeking a staggered expiration schedule to facilitate efficient operation of the PAPC.

Board staff further expressed the Board's concerns regarding the formulary as structured in the bill. The PA Association indicated that it is involved in some "big picture" thinking about the formulary and that it's structure might change substantially.

All parties shared information and questions regarding the PA educational process and the new Master's requirement in the legislation. Board staff expressed the Board's concern that the Master's education be rigorous, the Board's preference for ARC-PA accredited Master's programs, and the need to tighten the language on the non-ARC-PA accredited Master's programs in the bill.

The parties also discussed the current administrative burden placed on the Board by the PA plan approval process; Board staff indicated that it did not appear that the bill, as currently drafted, does much to relieve that burden, a fact that should please neither the Board nor the PA's. The parties pledged to continue to seek answers to some of those administrative issues.

The PA Policy Committee meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:15 p.m. on Thursday, February 12, 2004.

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 February 12, 2004.

---

Robert Zaayer, P.A.-C  
Chair

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