

Therapeutic Cannabis Medical Oversight Board
January 6, 2021, Remote Meeting (Zoom)
Meeting Minutes

Members Present: Virginia Brack, Heather Brown, Corey Burchman, Jerry Knirk, Jill MacGregor, Richard Morse, Molly Rossignol, Seddon Savage, Tricia Tilley (for Jonathan Ballard), Lisa Withrow

Members Absent: Cornel Stanciu

DHHS Staff: Michael Holt, DPHS Program Administrator; Tricia Tilley, DPHS Deputy Director

Meeting commenced at 5:34 pm

Member Introductions

- New Board member, Jill MacGregor, APRN, representing clinical specialty of Family/Internal Medicine.
- Current Board vacancies, representing clinical specialties: Obstetrics and Gynecology and Palliative Care

Board Chairperson

Representative Jerry Knirk is nominated and approved as Chair for a second year-long term.

- Motion: Savage; Second: Morse
- Discussion: A two year term is standard among boards and tends to be effective
- Vote: 9-0 (unanimous; Brown not yet present)

Minutes

Meeting minutes from 12/2/20 were approved.

Motion, Tilley; Second, Rossignol; Vote: 9-0 (unanimous; Brown not yet present)

2021 Meeting Schedule

Question raised whether the Board's meeting day/time could be reviewed for the possibility of a different day/time during regular business hours (up until 6pm).

- Discussion ensued, but the issue was not resolved.
- Decided to conduct this exercise via email; Holt to send email to members asking for member availability and compile information

2020 Workplan – Therapeutic Cannabis 101 Slide Deck

Board reviewed and discussed final edits to slides.

- DHHS will edit the slides for editorial and format consistency
- Other notes:
 - Paginate the table of contents
 - Should recent WHO action on cannabis be added to the slides? Decision not to add this information
 - Testing section to be updated by DHHS based on administrative rule

- Throughout, change terminology from “clinical best practices” to “recommended clinical practices”
- Vote on content
 - The vote would be provisional based on a final review of the final slide deck after DHHS edits
 - Decision not to vote; the final slides must be brought back to Board for final vote. (voice vote)

2021 Workplan

- Review of the Board’s statutory responsibilities at RSA 126-X:12, IV
- Discussion of areas of interest for 2021:

Savage

- Explore issues around the different standards for non-pharmaceutical therapeutic cannabis and pharmaceuticals. Are there conflicts of interest for an entity (ATC) that produces, sells, and educates about cannabis products?
 - Burchman: cannabis industry is the one of the most highly regulated industries; marketing is not allowed, health claims are not permitted. Comparison between cannabis and pharma is not appropriate.
 - Burchman asked to prepare a presentation on this topic for the Board
- Review ATC education materials for clinical accuracy, sources of information, etc.

Brack

- ATC staff training standards
 - Burchman: no state that his company operates in has training requirements for staff

Morse

- Lab testing issues
- Qualifying conditions: epilepsy should not be on the list of qualifying medical conditions
- Pharmaceutical/non-pharmaceutical discussion
 - Burchman: there are 150 compounds in cannabis; FDA will not approve a botanical; we are on the cusp of “pharma-ing” this product

Holt to schedule a representative from the testing lab to present to the Board on laboratory testing issues.

Rossignol

- Develop statement to reassure providers about participating in the program
- Patient outcomes and effectiveness
 - Burchman: very difficult to do this kind of work
 - Tilley: we can work on different surveys and processes

Withdraw

- Survey of providers and patients asking what they want the Board to work on
- Patient-related issues: cost of product, access to the program, providers who don't participate

Burchman

- Patient access issues: why is cannabis so expensive; cannabis insurance program

Brown

- Patient access issues: cost, delivery service, more educational opportunities for providers

Holt observed that no member indicated that they wanted to look at new qualifying medical conditions to be potentially added to the list of allowable conditions.

Member Updates

None

Public Comments

Keenan Blum (Prime ATC)

- Asked that the Board activities be focused on helping the ATCs do a better job: better clinical information, better educational opportunities, better materials.

Dan Stockwell

- Has a federal hemp license; offered to be a resource on hemp-related questions

Meeting adjourned at 7:38 pm.

All in favor, by voice vote