

NEWSLETTER

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May 8, 2006

Important

PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT LEGISLATIVE CHANGES

Our law was changed during the latest legislative session to allow osteopathic physicians to supervise three physician assistants. Our current rules only allow for two physician assistants and will need to be changed before the Board will be able to approve a third Physician Assistant for any office based practice.

The changes to our law are shown below for your information. The Board will be proposing new rules this summer to accommodate the changes for the number of PA's and the continuing education requirements. Watch your mail for additional information.

Article 14A. Assistants to Osteopathic Physicians and Surgeons

"A supervising physician shall not **supervise** at any time more than **three osteopathic physician assistants**, except that a physician may supervise up to four hospital-employed osteopathic physician assistants, *Provided*, That an alternative supervisor has been designated for each."

"As a condition of renewal of osteopathic physician assistant certification, each osteopathic physician assistant shall provide written documentation satisfactory to the board of participation in and successful completion of continuing education in courses approved by the board of osteopathy for the purposes of continuing education of osteopathic physician assistants. The osteopathy board shall promulgate legislative rules for minimum continuing hours necessary for certification renewal. These rules shall provide for **minimum hours equal to or more than the hours necessary for national certification**.

This was enrolled as House Bill #4108. It passed on March 11, 2006, and goes into effect ninety (90) days from passage.

AOA: www.Osteopathic.org
www.DO-Online.org
800-621-1773

NATIONAL PROVIDER IDENTIFIER (NPI)

The *Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA)* mandated the adoption of standard unique identifiers for health care providers. Per the **National Plan and Provider Enumeration System (NPPES)** website the purpose of this provision is to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the electronic transmission of health information. The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has developed the NPPES to assign these unique identifiers. NPPES collects identifying information on health care providers and assigns each a unique **National Provider Identifier (NPI)**.

Visit their website at <https://nppes.cms.hhs.gov/NPPES/> for more information.

BILLING FORMS (CMS-1500) TO BE REVISED

If you are using any paper forms to bill your insurance carriers, please be advised that the billing form is being revised to accommodate the new National Provider Identifier (NPI). By October 1, 2006 insurance carriers should be ready to accept the newly revised claim form. The form was last revised in December 1990. As of February 1, 2007 the current claim form is to be discontinued and only the new form will be accepted including to rebill any old claims that may have been submitted on the old form. Visit Palmetto's website www.PalmettoGBA.com for more information.

OFFICE DISPENSING

Due to numerous requests the Board will be reviewing information on office dispensing. If you have any comments or suggestions, you may forward them to the Board office.

CME ON-LINE

The College of Osteopathic Medicine at Michigan State University is offering CME on line. You may preview the content, take a competency test, the test is corrected, and you are immediately provided with a test score, **ALL ON-LINE**. The content is approved by the AOA for Category IB credit. Go to:

<http://hal.bim.msu.edu/cmeonline>

**RENEWAL OF A
PROFESSIONAL LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY**

If you, as a physician, are practicing as a Professional Limited Liability Company (PLLC), you are required to send the Board office, on or before the first day of July each year, a renewal fee of \$100.00; documentation that the PLLC carries at least one million dollars of professional liability insurance; and a copy of the annual report that is filed with the Secretary of State's office.

No renewal forms are mailed!

END OF LIFE CARE REQUIREMENTS

All physicians and physician assistants are required to complete two (2) hours of CME in end of life care including pain management for this renewal period. **Beginning July 1, 2005, this coursework requirement will become a one-time requirement, and all licensees who have not completed the coursework requirement shall complete the coursework requirement prior to his/her first license renewal.** You may view a video from WVU: 304-293-3937; www.cme.wvu.edu; or cme@wvu.edu.

Other websites are:

www.learnwell.org

powerpak.com

lecturehall.com

www.camcinstitute.org/wvsma

MISCELLANEOUS

Our deepest sympathies are extended to the families of Stuart Zuckerman, D.O., John Thompson, D.O., James Stookey, D.O., Kenneth Cole, D.O., and Arnold Cooperman, D.O.

If a physician wants to incorporate or establish a PLLC, **ALL** transactions must first be approved by the Board office.

2006 HOLIDAYS—BOARD OFFICE CLOSED

May 29, 2006 - Memorial Day
June 20, 2006 - West Virginia Day
July 4, 2006 - Independence Day
September 4, 2006 - Labor Day
October 9, 2006 - Columbus Day
November 7, 2006 - Election Day
November 10, 2006 - Veterans' Day
November 23, 2006 - Thanksgiving
November 24, 2006 - Lincoln's Day
December 25, 2006 - Christmas

It is the duty of each physician to be knowledgeable of the Rules and Regulations that govern their profession. These may be located at:

www.legis.state.wv.us (Code) Chapter 30, Article 14
www.wvsos.com/csr (Rules) Title 24, Series 1

West Virginia Board of Osteopathy:

E-Mail: bdosteo@mail.wvnet.edu

Website: www.wvbdosteo.org

304-723-4638 or

800-206-6625

Per the Board's Legislative Rules, §24-1-15, **all correspondence is mailed to each licensee at the last known address.** It is the responsibility of each physician to make the Board office aware of any address and phone number changes. You may do this in writing, by phone, or even e-mail.

URGENT!

To Physicians licensed in West Virginia that have an expiration date of June 30, 2006:

License renewals are due by June 30, 2006. If you do not renew your license by that date, you should not practice medicine. Late renewals are permitted until September 30, 2006; however, applications postmarked after June 30 require an additional late payment fee of \$50.00.

Licensees who fail to renew by September 30, 2006 must reinstate their license, which requires you to complete a new application, not just a renewal form.

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