

NEWSLETTER

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May 1, 2007

Important

FOR YOUR INFORMATION—PLEASE READ

PHARMACY BOARD CAN LET PHYSICIANS CHECK ON PATIENT'S CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE USE

The Board of Pharmacy provides a system to monitor the use of controlled substances in West Virginia. A large number of the drugs being used illegally in West Virginia are prescription medications. 25 states currently have active monitoring programs. These programs are being used to deter and identify many types of illegal activities including prescription forgery and "doctor shopping." Pharmacies started reporting prescriptions filled for controlled substances at least weekly in December 2002. This system went online in September 2005. Anyone with a DEA number can register to use the system. Call Michele Hanchosky, an analyst at the West Virginia Board of Pharmacy, at (304) 558-8411 and she will provide you with the application necessary to register to use the system. Once registered, you will be able to check any patient you may suspect of improperly using the medication you are prescribing. You will know if a patient is obtaining controlled substances from other physicians. This Program can be a great benefit to your practice. Think about registering today.

IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY

Per our rules a physician has a duty to report a licensee in violation of our rules. Every physician should review our rules. Specifically causes for denial, probation, limitation, discipline, suspension or revocation of license.

Rule §24-1-18.1.13 "Failed to report to the Board any person whom the licensee knows is in violation of this rule or of provisions of WV Code"

"All communications with the Board charging a licensee with violations are conditionally privileged and a person making a communication is privileged from liability based upon the communication unless the person makes the communication in bad faith or for a malicious reason."

A D.O. NOW ABLE TO SUPERVISE THREE P.A. S

The following rule changes were passed this legislative session:

"Osteopathic physician assistants employed directly by medical care facilities shall perform services only under the supervision of a clearly identified supervising osteopathic physician, and the osteopathic physician shall supervise no more than three osteopathic physician assistants, except that a supervising osteopathic physician may supervise up to four hospital employed osteopathic physician assistants."

NEW CME REQUIREMENTS FOR P.A.s

"Each osteopathic physician assistant, as a condition of biennial renewal of the osteopathic physician assistant license, shall provide written documentation of participation in, and successful completion of, a minimum of one hundred hours of approved continuing medical education courses during the preceding two year period, under the same qualifications and restrictions as established by the NCCPA. The Board retains the discretion to determine which CME courses may be approved as suitable for continuing education of osteopathic physician assistants. Courses approved for continuing education credit by the NCCPA are presumptively approved by the Board of Osteopathy."

PRESCRIPTIVE WRITING PRIVILEGES FOR PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS

The Board shall approve a formulary classifying pharmacologic categories of all drugs which may be prescribed by an osteopathic physician assistant authorized by the Board to prescribe drugs. The formulary shall exclude Schedules I and II of the Uniform Controlled Substances Act, anticoagulants, antineoplastics, antipsychotics, general anesthetics, radiographic contrast materials and radiopharmaceuticals.

Physician Assistants' prescriptive writing should apply to the supervising physicians' common form of practice.

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.

You may send this as soon as you file the annual report with the Secretary of State—you do not have to wait until June 30, or until you hear from the Board that your renewal has expired.

NO RENEWAL FORMS ARE MAILED!

END OF LIFE CARE REQUIREMENTS

Beginning July 1, the two hours of end of life care including pain management coursework requirement will become a one-time requirement, and all licensees who have not completed the requirement shall complete the coursework prior to his/her first license renewal. All newly licensed doctors will receive a form to report their completion of this requirement. If you have not received a form please call the Board office today.

Possible websites: www.learnwell.org
www.camcinstitute.org

2007 HOLIDAYS—BOARD OFFICE CLOSED

May 28, 2007 - Memorial Day
June 20, 2007 - West Virginia Day
July 4, 2007 - Independence Day
September 3, 2007 - Labor Day
October 8, 2007 - Columbus Day
November 12, 2007 - Veterans' Day
November 22, 2007 - Thanksgiving
November 23, 2007 - Lincoln's
December 25, 2007—Christmas
December 24 & 31— 1/2 day holiday



PROPER OSTEOPATHIC IDENTIFICATION

The following are considered proper on stationery and signs:

1. John Doe, DO
2. John Doe, Osteopathic Physician & Surgeon
3. John Doe, Doctor of Osteopathy

It is strongly recommended that only the degree D.O. appear on stationery. No undergraduate degree should be used. Graduate degrees should not be used unless the degree recognizes work in a scientific field directly related to the healing arts. Advanced degrees in scientific fields such as public health, physiology, anatomy, pharmacy and chemistry may be used but their use is not recommended. Law degrees may be used if the physician carries on medical-legal activities.

2006 BOARD LICENSE DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS

William Gregory Dotzman, D.O.: Denied initial application on 4/27/06

Gary Ray Lutz, D.O.: License Surrendered on 11/2/06

John Bruce Payne, D.O.: Denied initial application on 4/27/06

David Paul Spears, D.O.: Issued a restricted license on 9/11/06

State Establishes a Voluntary Program for Doctors Needing Drug, Alcohol, or Mental Illness Treatment

Senate Bill 573 will be effective on June 6, 2007. The bill authorizes the WV Board of Osteopathy and Board of Medicine to establish a Physician Health Program. It is to encourage voluntary participation by an osteopathic physician or physician assistant in a board-designated physician health program to monitor alcohol, chemical dependency, or major mental illness. The agreement between the physician or physician assistant and the PHP shall include a jointly agreed upon treatment program and mandatory conditions and procedures to monitor compliance with the program of recovery. Any voluntary agreement entered into shall not be considered a disciplinary action or order by the Board, shall not be disclosed to the Board or as public information.

If aftercare monitoring is needed, you must verify that your program is a board-designated physician health program.

WV BOARD OF OSTEOPATHY

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OSTEOPATHIC PHYSICIANS: TREATING PEOPLE, NOT JUST SYMPTOMS