



BUREAU OF NATUROPATHIC MEDICINE
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NATUROPATHIC FORMULARY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Meeting Minutes
April 2, 2006

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS
PRESENT:**

Peter Wannigman, Naturopathic Doctor
(Chairman)
Cynthia Watson, Medical Doctor
Larry Woodhouse, Pharmacist
Michael Traub, Naturopathic Doctor
Paul Mittman, Naturopathic Doctor
Arthur Presser, Pharmacist

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS
ABSENT:**

Soram Khalsa, Medical Doctor
Mary Hardy, Medical Doctor
Trevor Cates, Naturopathic Doctor

STAFF PRESENT:

Tonya Blood
Linda Brown

GUEST CONSULTANT:

Dr. Craig Runbeck, Executive Director,
Arizona Naturopathic Physician Board of
Medical Examiners

I. Call to Order and Roll Call

Chairman Wannigman called the meeting to order after a slight technical delay. Roll call was taken and a quorum was present.

II. Approval of the February 26, 2006 Meeting Minutes

Dr. Traub had not received his packet in the mail and requested it be mailed to him a day earlier. Dr. Wannigman suggested that anyone who does not receive their packets by Friday before the meeting call or email Linda so that the documents can be faxed to them.

Dr. Wannigman requested the minutes be changed on page 2, paragraph 2, to read "Dr. Wannigan spoke about *what he viewed as* the original intent of SB 907." He also suggested that the "to do" list be changed to read "Develop a training program that would *justify* (rather than 'allow') ND prescribing." Dr. Traub moved that the minutes be approved as amended. Dr. Watson seconded. Roll call was taken and the minutes were approved as amended.

III. Chairpersons Report

Dr. Wannigman requested that committee members all do their best to attend the remaining meetings.

He reminded committee members that everyone is to submit a bio to Linda for the report.

There was a discussion as to whether members had a pharmacy syllabus from each of the schools. It was suggested that Dr. Cates may have been working on that and that it could be assigned to her to provide for the committee so they can be reviewed for the report.

There was discussion about Dr. Wannigman's outline for the legislative report. There are five bullet points:

- Clarification of IV route of administration (as relates to substances in B&PC 3640(c)(1)).
- Rationale for NDs to prescribe
 - Allow patients opportunity to decrease reliance on medications under care of oversight of ND rather than traditional allopathic paradigm.
 - Reality in other states with broad prescriptive authority is NDs do not do that much prescribing [There was discussion that NDs do not get the same clinical or hospital experience in their training, but that there is movement in that direction. There have been little problems with ND prescribing. It was suggested that we look at disciplinary actions in other states.]
- Prescription drug formulary (furnishing vs. prescribing; inclusionary vs. exclusionary; upkeep – through statute or regulation; safety record in other states)
- Arizona blueprint – objectives and rationale for developing the program
- Untenable situation of furnishing (roadblocks, MDs cannot get malpractice insurance while supervising NDs)

IV. Bureau Report

Linda corrected a statement that she made at the last meeting about an ND changing an MD's prescription. The provision of law in the Medical Practice Act that prohibits that is directed at unlicensed practitioners and would not apply to NDs.

V. Review of Arizona's Required Postgraduate Pharmacology Course

Dr. Craig Runbeck, Executive Director for the Arizona Naturopathic Physician Board of Examiners, participated in the meeting by teleconference. He has held that job for five years and is also a naturopathic physician. Prior that he was Executive Director of the Arizona Naturopathic Physicians Association. During the sunset review process, naturopathic physicians gained unlimited prescribing authority. The pharmacy profession and some active legislators helped to craft the current laws. It was decided to require 60 hours of

pharmacotherapeutics. It was structured as continuing education over two years of 30 hours per year. There was also a required test. The program was optional and about 80 decided not to participate and do not have full prescribing rights. Southwest College now has incorporated the entire program as part of their pharmacy requirements. The other colleges are attempting to do the same. The pharmacy profession came up with the exclusionary formula which identifies four areas of drugs that are out of scope of naturopathic physicians. It was broader than what was expected, but was easier for the pharmacists and has worked out really well. NPLEX is expanding their pharmacy component in their exam, mainly because of this evolution in prescribing authority.

There was discussion that the 110 hours is equivalent to the 110-120 hours required by MD programs. It was suggested that Dr. Wollner, who helped to develop Southwest College's program be asked to participate in a future meeting.

It was discussed that in California, we should try to guarantee that no matter where an ND went to school, they should have the requisite amount of coursework. Maybe the CNDA could purchase the program from Arizona. By also requiring the exam, MDs would have some assurance that the NDs have a certain level of training. It was stated that Arizona has given the NPLEX their question pool in order to help to upgrade the NPLEX exam. It was stated that NPLEX is moving toward an integrated examination and that the pharmacy will no longer be a separate pharmacology exam.

VI. Review History of Other States' Formulary Laws

It was requested that committee members need the rest of the state's laws for review. Linda will get the other laws to the members. The discussion was tabled.

VII. Discussion of Pharmaceutical Formulary for Recommendation

Dr. Wannigman asked if anyone had any thoughts or arguments as to why California should have an inclusionary formulary, rather than exclusionary. Most states are inclusionary. It was stated that it may be easier to keep an exclusionary formulary up to date, but it could be looked at both ways.

It was stated an ND must operate under the scope of practice, with what they are competent and trained to do. Anything outside their scope, needs to be referred.

Drugs Facts and Comparisons was discussed and it was suggested that committee members take time to peruse it. Some of the major categories were discussed. It was suggested that Linda contact the company to see if we could get online access.

Linda stated we need to increase the formulary a little at a time, baby steps. Dr. Presser agreed. The formulary can be added to over time after NDs have established a track record. "Evolutionary rather than revolutionary."

Dr. Watson stated that anti-convulsants should be excluded.

It was stated that there is a track record of relative safety of prescribing in other states. This is not a new thing. We are not inventing the wheel.

Dr. Watson suggested that CMA be asked whether they could approve of an exclusionary list.

Tonya suggested that the committee need to look at having both an inclusionary and an exclusionary list; have a "back-up plan" ready.

VIII. Future Meeting Date(s)

May 7, 2006, 10:00 a.m.

June 4, 2006, 10:00 a.m.

The next Naturopathic Advisory Council meeting is May 21 in Sacramento.

There was discussion as to why the meetings are only on weekends, and it was suggested that future meetings could be on a weeknight. It was stated that it should be discussed when other members are present. Dr. Wannigman stated it would be difficult for him because he likes to be at the meeting location. It was stated that a vote could be taken at a future meeting.

IX. Public Comment

There were no public members present.

X. Adjournment

Dr. Watson made a motion to adjourn. Dr. Woodhouse seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 1:45 p.m.