



BUREAU OF NATUROPATHIC MEDICINE
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NATUROPATHIC FORMULARY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Meeting Minutes
May 7, 2006

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS
PRESENT:**

Peter Wannigman, Naturopathic Doctor
(Chairman)
Soram Khalsa, Medical Doctor (Vice
Chair)
Mary Hardy, Medical Doctor
Trevor Holly Cates, Naturopathic Doctor
Michael Traub, Naturopathic Doctor
Paul Mittman, Naturopathic Doctor

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS
ABSENT:**

Larry Woodhouse, Pharmacist
Arthur Presser, Pharmacist

STAFF PRESENT:

Linda Brown

GUEST CONSULTANT:

Debra Wollner, Associate Professor,
Southwest College

I. Call to Order and Roll Call

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

II. Approval of the April 2, 2006 Meeting Minutes

The minutes were inadvertently omitted from the meeting packets so approval of the April 2 minutes was tabled for the next meeting.

III. Chairperson's Report

Dr. Wannigman briefly covered the last meeting and the discussion with Dr. Runbeck. Dr. Wollner stated that the Arizona Naturopathic Association still provides the 60 hours continuing education course on an as-needed basis. The review notes are available online and the committee members have been provided with the password. Dr. Wannigman urged the committee members to take a look at the website.

A couple of years ago every ND in Arizona had to attend 60 hours continuing education in order to keep prescribing rights. It was four 15-hour modules which were given about six times. As of 2006 every ND was to have taken it, and every student would then be getting it in the coursework at Southwest College. It was suggested that Christa Louise from NABNE be contacted to see if the content was going to be incorporated into the NPLEX.

IV. Bureau Report

Linda stated that a letter had gone out to the malpractice companies requesting information malpractice insurance for NDs and their supervising MDs. The Bureau had already received a reply from the Doctor's Company. The letter stated that they would not insure a "stand-alone ND." They may insure an ND that is being employed by one of their insured MDs. The cost to the MD would depend on the procedures being supervised. They would not insure an ND or supervising MD for naturopathic childbirth attendance. Dr. Khalsa volunteered to call the Doctor's Company, which is his insurer, and ask specifically what the cost would be to bring an ND into his office. Dr. Hardy stated that she would get the information on her insurance company to Linda so that a letter requesting the same information could be sent to them also. Also the Bureau should check with the American Naturopathic Council which is a subdivision of the American Chiropractic Council and NorCal. Dr. Wannigman stated that it needs to be pointed out that with NDs, supervision is only required for prescribing and no other procedures. Whereas with nurse practitioners, all procedures are being supervised. Dr. Khalsa stated that supervision of the prescribing is dependent on the ND being able to make an accurate diagnosis, so that there is an indirect interface with the diagnosis.

V. Discussion Regarding Prescribing and Required Coursework with Debra Wollner, Associate Professor, Southwest College

During Arizona's sunset review a couple of years ago, it was decided that they needed to "beef up" the pharmacy program. They put together a group to advise the state legislature comprised of MDs, NDs, PhDs, and PharmDs. Dr. Rick Herrier of the University of Arizona College of Pharmacy became involved. He was representing several different groups. They determined it would be 60 hours of continuing education and then determined what the content would be. The first 15 hours was drug interactions, pharmaco-kinetics and dynamics and neuropharmacology. The second segment was cardiology, hematology, renal, and respiratory. The third segment was infectious diseases, EENT, and dermatological. The final segment was endocrinology, drugs used in pregnancy and lactation, gastroenterology, rheumatology, immunomodulators.

Dr. Herrier found people who could teach the courses. He went to the pharmacy schools at the University of Arizona and Midwestern University and a number of PharmDs came up for the weekend and taught the content. So they developed the lecture notes, the power point presentations, the case studies, and came up and did the teaching for 15 hours on four different weekends. The doctors took a test at the end of each module. The course was audiotaped and is now available for \$1200. The courses have been incorporated into what is now being taught at Southwestern College. They now have 110 hours taught at the College.

It was discussed that perhaps California's requirement of 48 hours of pharmacology is too low and that California should look at licensing Arizona's audiocourse and requiring the 60 hour course for independent prescribing. There could be a 3 tier system. 1) NDs that do not

want to prescribe. 2) NDs that have 48 hours pharmacology as the law reads now and they can prescribe hormones and epinephrine; any other prescribing would be under supervision. 3) NDs who complete the additional 60 hour course and have restricted independent prescribing rights.

Dr. Wollner stated that if the committee has any more questions, they could email her.

It was discussed that it could be recommended that California require more pharmacology training than the current 48 hour requirement. Dr. Khalsa stated that for independent prescribing, NDs need to demonstrate clinical competence in prescribing.

California is limited in that we do not have a naturopathic college in the state and the Bureau has no funding to implement a test.

Dr. Wannigman asked if anyone would have an objection to a recommendation by the committee that Arizona's coursework and testing be implemented for California. It was stated that would be the most economical and expeditious way to do it. Dr. Mittman suggested that what Arizona has now would need to be re-done to update the material.

VI. Review/Discussion of the Draft Report

The committee reviewed the first draft of the legislative report. They went through the report page-by-page and made suggestions for changes. The changes will be incorporated into the next draft of the report. The draft report, along with the Minor Office Procedures report and the Childbirth Attendance report will be given to the Advisory Council at their May 21 meeting.

Dr. Mittman will draft something on "Why NDs Need to Prescribe" and send to Linda for the report.

VII. Review of Other States' Formulary Laws

It was commented that Idaho's laws were well written and it was good to see what the rest of the states were doing.

VIII. Discussion of Inclusionary/Exclusionary Pharmaceutical Formulary for Recommendation

It was stated that the committee would like input on the inclusionary or exclusionary formulary from the CMA, Medical Board, and Pharmacy Board. It was stated it would be best to have a formulary by category, rather than by individual drug. The committee reviewed the inclusionary and exclusionary drug category lists that were provided in the meeting packets that were prepared from the online Drug Facts and Comparisons. After discussion, it was decided that some categories from the inclusionary list needed to be moved to the

exclusionary list. The committee worked through part of the list, and will start with Dermatological Agents at the next meeting.

IX. Future Meeting Dates

The next meeting will be at Dr. Khalsa's office on June 4 at 10 a.m. A following meeting was tentatively scheduled for July 23.

X. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

XI. Adjournment

Dr. Hardy moved for adjournment. Dr. Khalsa seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned.