



**BUREAU OF NATUROPATHIC MEDICINE**  
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**Naturopathic Medicine Childbirth Attendance  
 Advisory Committee Meeting**

**Meeting Minutes  
 May 10, 2006**

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:** Donnalee Hart, ND  
 Cynthia Watson, MD  
 Faith Gibson, LM  
 Amy Levi, Ph.D., CNM  
 Paul Crane, MD

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:** Farra Swan, ND

**STAFF PRESENT:** Tonya Blood, BNM Chief  
 Francine Davies, Program Coordinator  
 Linda Brown, BNM Program Assistant  
 Norine Marks, Legal Counsel

**I. Call to Order and Roll Call**

The meeting was called to order at 6:15 PM – Roll call was taken. Quorum not present at time of roll call.

**II. Welcome Dr. Martin**

Dr. Martin has made application to the California Naturopathic Childbirth Attendance Advisory Committee to replace Dr. Swan. A letter of recommendation from the Bureau Chief has been sent to the Director of the Department of Consumer Affairs.

**III. Approval of Minutes from Meeting of March 29, 2006**

Discussion: Since committee members come from differing backgrounds, they would like to see a list of definitions of acronyms at the beginning of each set of meeting minutes.

ACNM: American College of Nurse Midwives  
 ACNO: American College of Naturopathic Obstetricians  
 AMCB: American Midwifery Certification Board  
 ANMCAB: American Naturopathic Medical Certification & Accreditation Board  
 BRN: Board of Registered Nurses  
 CNM: Certified Nurse Midwife  
 LM: Licensed Midwife  
 ND: Naturopathic Doctor  
 NARM: North American Registry of Midwives  
 NABNE: North American Board of Naturopathic Examiners

NPLEX: Naturopathic Physicians Licensing Examinations

Section IV, page 3, paragraph 7, line 5: “. . . from CM (**add:** or CNM) program (**replace** “certified” with “accredited”) by ACNM.”

Section IV, page 3, paragraph 8, line 4: **Strike** everything after “NARM exam.”

Section IV, page 4, paragraph 2, line 3: **Change** “ACME” to “AMCB”.

Section IV, page 4, paragraph 2, line 4: **Strike** sentence beginning, “NARM is . . .”

Section IV, page 4, paragraph 2, line 5: **Correct** “LMN” to “LMs”.

Section IV, page 5, paragraph 2, line 4: **Correct** “AMCD” to “AMCB”.

Section VI, page 6, paragraph 6, line 1: **Correct** “Patricia” to “Shanon”.

Section VI, page 6, paragraph 6, line 8: **Correct** spelling of Dr. Fantozzi.

Motion to approve Minutes as corrected – Dr. Watson.

Motion seconded by Amy Levi. Vote by roll call – unanimous to accept as corrected.

#### **IV. Review Draft and Finalize Committee Goals, Tasks, and Issues.**

Discussion of draft of committee report to be given to Naturopathic Medicine Advisory Committee at their next meeting to be held May 21, 2006.

**Goals:** OK as written.

**Tasks:** Bullet 2 - delete– beyond scope of committee.

Bullet 3 – Review (delete “define”) ND requirements tested under (exchange “NPLEX” for “CNME”).

Bullet 4 – Review (delete “define”), add at the end of the sentence “for Naturopathic Childbirth Attendance”.

Bullet 5 – Rewrite: Compare equivalency of NARM and ACNO to AMCB exams.

Discussion: NARM is used nationally for midwifery, ACNO used by NDs in some states,

NARM is utilized in all states when NDs need separate licensure for midwifery. In states where midwifery is included in the scope of practice for NDs, ACNO is used.

The AMCB was used as a standard when statutes were written. Committee needs to show that NARM and ACNO are substantially equivalent to ease the way for people from different backgrounds and different states (to practice childbirth attendance).

NARM has already been shown to be substantially equivalent to AMCB in other contexts (LMs). Information prepared by the Assembly Committee on Health regarding SB 350 (August 17, 1993) states that applicants for licensed midwives must pass a licensing exam equivalent to but not identical to the exam given by the AMCB. The committee will look at the document in question and decide if the information can be used in the Report to the Legislature.

Bullet 6 – Discussion: Naturopathic universities, other than NCM and Bastyr, are fulfilling NARM programs. Additionally, the Department of Education approved accreditation for non-nurse midwifery using MEAC (Midwifery Education Accreditation Council). A MEAC accredited program graduate would be eligible to take the NARM. NARM is the testing branch, MEAC is the accrediting branch. Bastyr is the only naturopathic university accredited by MEAC. MEAC accreditation is accepted but not required, but could be recognized as equivalent, as well. Change bullet to read: “Assess educational and training programs available to naturopathic doctors.”

**Conflicts/Issues:** Delete Bullets 1,2 & 3.

Major issues: MD supervision and carry-over language from the midwifery statutes to ND childbirth statutes. Put a table in the Report to the Legislature showing malpractice information gathered by the Bureau.

Discussion: The Formulary Committee has the same issue. In regards to nurse practitioners and MD supervision: supervision does not need to be direct supervision. If you are in an institutional setting, you have a physician with which to collaborate or consult with. Home birth situations require collaboration with physicians for transfer of care. LMs and CNMs have identical MD supervision requirements. Just because workarounds have never been challenged in court does not change the definition of MD supervision to the Medical Board or the BRN. There is no actuarial data that separates actual liability from vicarious liability. Liability carriers choose not to deal with them separately. Suggestion for Bureau to ask for separate data from malpractice carriers. Dr. Watson will present report to the Naturopathic Medicine Advisory Committee.

Amy Levi: Motion to accept amended report to present to Naturopathic Medicine Advisory Committee at next meeting with delegation to Dr. Hart to review.

Dr. Watson – seconded motion. Quorum present, roll called, report accepted.

#### **V. Update by Working Groups**

Amy Levi is securing information on tests. Dr. Martin and Dr. Hart have begun looking at the educational programs and hope to provide a template to the committee before the next meeting.

#### **VI. Public Comment**

None

#### **VII. Set Date for Next Meeting**

Next meeting: June 28th at 6 PM.

#### **VIII. Meeting Adjourned**