



MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA Licensing Program

LICENSING COMMITTEE

Doubletree by Hilton
San Diego Mission Valley
Brickstones Room
7450 Hazard Center Drive
San Diego, CA 92108

October 27, 2011

MINUTES

Agenda Item 1 Call to Order / Roll Call

Dr. Salomonson called the Licensing Committee meeting to order on October 27, 2011, at 3:17 p.m. Ms. Oseto called the roll and a quorum was present.

Members Present:

Janet Salomonson, M.D., Chair
Jorge Carreon, M.D.
Silvia Diego, M.D.
Shelton Duruisseau, Ph.D.
Gerrie Schipske, R.N.P., J.D.

Members Absent:

Hedy Chang

Other Members Present:

Barbara Yaroslavsky, Board President

Staff Present:

Janie Cordray, Research Program Specialist
Tristina Craft, Senior Investigator
Kurt Heppler, Legal Counsel
Teri Hunley, Business Services Manager
Armando Melendez, Business Services Staff
Cindi Oseto, Licensing Manager
Regina Rao, Business Services Staff
Eric Ryan, Supervising Investigator
Kevin Schunke, Education Outreach Manager
Anita Scuri, Department of Consumer Affairs, Supervising Legal Counsel
Jennifer Simoes, Chief of Legislation
Cheryl Thompson, Executive Assistant
Renee Threadgill, Chief of Enforcement
Linda Whitney, Executive Director
Curtis Worden, Chief of Licensing

Guests Present:

Julie D'Angelo Fellmeth, Center for Public Interest Law (CPIL)
Maxine Duruisseau
Karen Ehrlich, L.M., Midwifery Advisory Council
Amanda Friedman, CPIL
Laurel Holmes CPIL
Harrison Robbins, M.D.

Agenda Item 2 Public Comments on Items Not on the Agenda

No public comment was given.

Agenda Item 3 Approval of Minutes from the May 5, 2011 Meeting

It was M/S/C to approve the minutes from the May 5, 2011 meeting.

**Agenda Item 4 Overview Presentation on Physician and Surgeon
International Medical School Graduates**

Mr. Worden and Ms. Oseto provided an overview presentation on physician and surgeon international medical school graduates (IMG). An IMG is an individual who attended and graduated from a medical school not accredited by Liaison Committee on Medical Education (LCME) or Committee on Accreditation of Canadian Medical Schools (CACMS). All medical school education must be from a medical school that is recognized by the Medical Board of California (MBC). There is primary source verification from all medical schools that the applicant attended and/or graduated. The applicants must pass the background check from the Department of Justice and Federal Bureau of Investigations. The applicant must also provide the following: 1) valid U.S. social security number that allows the applicant to work in the U.S.; 2) educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates Certification (ECFMG) Status Report; 3) evidence of passing the USMLE Step 1, Step 2 (CK), Step 2 (CS), and Step 3 (within four attempts); 4) satisfactory completion of a minimum of two years of postgraduate training accredited by the Accreditation Council on Graduates Medical Education (ACGME) or Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada (RCPSC); 5) verification that all medical school student clinical rotations meet the requirements of Business and Professions (B&P) Code Sections 2089 and 2089.5; and 6) license verification if licensed in another state. In addition, the applicant must not have done anything that would be cause for denial.

Dr. Salomonson expressed her concern that that the background checks do not reveal if applicants had criminal activity in the country where they attended medical school. Mr. Worden explained that the application review process is very thorough and staff can catch inconsistencies and breaks in medical education and postgraduate training. In addition, many of the applicants are U.S. citizens or they are immigrants who have been in the U.S. for a long period of time and who also have had background checks in the immigration process. Ms. Scuri stated that no government system is perfect, but there are some good built-in checks and balances that help minimize any problems that may arise.

Dr. Diego asked about collaboration with medical schools regarding primary source verification. Ms. Oseto commented on the responsibility and the importance of applicants working directly

with their medical school and postgraduate training programs to provide primary source verification.

Agenda Item 5 **Overview Presentation on Medical School Designation and Recognition of International Medical Schools**

Mr. Worden and Ms. Oseto provided an overview presentation on medical school designation and recognition of international medical schools. Prior to 2008, the World Health Organization (WHO) created and maintained a list of international medical schools reported by the medical schools, students, governments, and others, but they did not accredit or approve these medical schools. Beginning in 2008, WHO transferred this responsibility to the University of Copenhagen to maintain and edit the list of international medical schools; however, this is not an accreditation or approval process. The Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates (ECFMG) does not accredit or approve medical schools. ECFMG creates and maintains a list of international medical schools verified by the appropriate country's oversight agency, sponsors international J-1 visas for physicians, administers English language assessments to international medical school students, and administers USMLE Steps 1, Step 2CK, and Step 2CS. In addition, issues an ECFMG certification status report/certificate for the following: 1) successful passage of the English language assessment; 2) USMLE Steps 1, Step 2CK, and Step 2CS; and 3) graduation from a medical school on the ECFMG list.

The LCME is the national recognized accrediting agency authorized by the U.S. Department of Education to accredit medical schools in the U.S., Canada, and U.S. Territories. LCME conducts assessments of the school's fiscal soundness and educational curriculum, and conducts site visits, at the physical location, of medical school facilities and teaching hospitals to reach a determination of the school's eligibility for accreditation. There is no recognized international accrediting agency to conduct assessments and evaluation of any international medical school. The MBC evaluates international medical schools, in accordance with B&P Code Sections 2089 and 2089.5, and California Code of Regulations (CCR) Section 1314.1, and conducts an assessment of the fiscal soundness and educational curriculum. MBC may conduct site visits at the physical location of medical school facilities and teaching hospitals to reach a determination of the school's eligibility for accreditation.

Agenda Item 6 **Agenda Items for February 2-3, 2012 Meeting in San Francisco, CA**

There were no agenda items identified for the February 2-3, 2012 meeting in San Francisco. The Board members will notify Mr. Worden if any items are identified at a later date.

Agenda Item 7 **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 4:15 p.m.