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**MICHIGAN TASK FORCE ON PHYSICIAN'S ASSISTANTS
RULES COMMITTEE WORK GROUP
MEETING MINUTES**

FEBRUARY 24, 2021

The Michigan Task Force on Physician's Assistants Rules Committee Work Group met on February 24, 2021. The meeting was held via Zoom.

CALL TO ORDER

Weston MacIntosh called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

ATTENDANCE

Members Present: Lara Davis, PA-C,
Christina Hopps, PA-C
Susan Laham, PA-C
Melissa Usiak, Public Member

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Dawn Gage, Manager, Licensing Division
Debi Haigh, Analyst, Licensing Division
Weston MacIntosh, Senior Policy Analyst, Boards and Committees Section
Stephanie Wysack, Board Support, Boards and Committees Section

Public Present: Thadd Gormas, Executive Director – Michigan Academy of Physician Assistants (MAPA)

WELCOME

MacIntosh explained how the meeting would be run. He stated that he would walk through the rules individually. Some rules needed language clean-up and other rules will need substantive changes.

RULES DISCUSSION: Physician's Assistants – General Rules (A copy of the draft rules, following today's discussion, is attached.)

R 338.6101 Definitions.

MacIntosh stated that no substantive changes were made to this rule.

The Rules Committee agreed with the language as presented.

R 338.6103 Training standards for identifying victims of human trafficking: requirements.

MacIntosh stated that no substantive changes were made to this rule.

The Rules Committee agreed with the language as presented.

R 338.6201 Educational program standards; adoption by reference.

MacIntosh stated that the Accreditation Review Commission on Education for Physician Assistant (ARC-PA) had recently updated their standards to the Fifth Edition.

The Rules Committee agreed with the language as presented.

R 338.6305 Licensure by endorsement; requirements.

MacIntosh stated that recently passed Public Act 329 of 2020 allows for Canadian licensed health professionals to apply for licensure in Michigan by reciprocity. The task for the Rules Committee is in deciding equivalency in education, training, and testing to those currently licensed as physician assistants in the United States.

Gormas stated that MAPA investigated licensure in Canada when the legislation was being talked about. They did not find any issues.

MacIntosh stated that the National Commission on Certification of Physician Assistants (NCCPA) requires education to be accredited by ARC-PA to be eligible to take the Physician Assistant National Certifying Exam (PANCE).

Hopps asked what other professions were allowing under this new legislation.

MacIntosh stated that each profession is a bit different. Some professions already have some provisions in their rules for Canadian education, so they are already partially there.

Laham stated that the Canadian requirements look similar to Michigan with accredited education and continuing education. She stated that deciding equivalence in the actual education or examination could be difficult.

MacIntosh stated that the Rules Committee should consider airing on the safe side, rather than putting something in the rules that they were not comfortable with and that may not protect the safety of the public.

Davis stated that the Canadian site, <https://canadianpa.ca/canada-us-pa>, linked individuals to the NCCPA when referring to the examination.

MacIntosh stated that he would contact the ARC-PA to see about getting more specific information.

Gormas stated that he would reach out to the past president of ARC-PA.

R 338.6308 Requirements for relicensure.

MacIntosh stated that clarifying language was added to the rule.

Subdivision (2)(d)(i): MacIntosh stated that language about Canadian licensure was added.

Subrule (3): MacIntosh stated that this rule was added to cover obtaining license verification.

The Rules Committee agreed with the language as presented.

Gormas stated that he had been part of the implicit bias training work groups and was wondering when that would be incorporated into the rules.

MacIntosh stated that implicit bias training would be included in the Public Health Code – General Rules to cover all health professions.

ADJOURNMENT

MacIntosh asked that any thoughts about Canadian licensure or anything else, in the draft should be emailed to him.

MacIntosh adjourned the meeting at 10:43 a.m.

Prepared by:
Stephanie Wysack, Board Support
Bureau of Professional Licensing

February 25, 2021