

Minutes to the Meeting of the North Carolina Board of Pharmacy
Durable Medical Equipment Committee
April 25, 2006

Chairman Wayne Link called the meeting to order at 10:00am in the Chapel Hill office. Present for the Committee were members, Marcia Ladd, and Joey McLaughlin. Present for the staff were Denise Stanford, Steve Hudson, Krystal Brashers and JaCoby Lewis. Chairman Link confirmed that members of the Committee had no conflicts of interest with any matters coming before them on this date.

Minutes of the January 24, 2006 meeting were distributed, considered, and approved by the Committee.

OLD BUSINESS

Ms Ladd reported that she, Mr. Campbell, and Ms. Choi met with the Respiratory Care Board (RCB) during the preceding week to seek common ground regarding employees of DME businesses being allowed to fit mask on patients. A lengthy discussion followed, during which the Committee covered the training of DME technicians to fit mask; tech supervision; ways companies are avoiding compliance with the RCB's policy; and the Committee's desire to not be in an adversarial relationship with the RCB over this issue. The Committee decided that Ms Ladd would continue to work with the RCB to define "supervision" as it relates to this issue, and move forward to begin a DME technician certification program that would allow trained technicians to fit mask.

NEW BUSINESS

The Committee counted the ballots in the election for a successor to Mr. Link. The results of the count are as follows:

| | |
|-------------------|-----|
| Ralph McBride | 64 |
| Karen Link-Womack | 112 |

The Committee reviewed the current rules relevant to DME businesses, and directed Board counsel to draft the following changes, additions, or deletions to the rules:

- .1317 (7) - add "Glucometers"
- Add a requirement for the Person in Charge, or designee thereof, to be at the business from 9:00am to 5:00pm daily
- .1608 - specify that a 24 hour back up of oxygen is required; and require Board notification within 30 days for address changes
- Require that all prescription products in possession of a DME business must bear a current patient-specific label
- Prohibit DME businesses from receiving prescription products from patient/caregivers.
- Require that all records required by PPA be retrievable to the business address-of-record with the Board within 48 hours of notice
- .2612 (b) - delete "and shall not store any business or patient records".

The next item of business was to select a successor for Mr. Link as the Committee Chairperson for the upcoming year. The Committee designates Ms. Ladd by consensus.

NEXT MEETING

The Committee set the next meeting for 10:00am on July 11, 2006.

Wayne Link, Chairperson

Marcia Ladd

Parker Chesson

Mel Elliott

Joey McLaughlin