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North Carolina Board of Pharmacy

Published to promote voluntary compliance of pharmacy and drug law.

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Item 1142 – Board of Pharmacy Members 2001

Seated left to right: Michael Overman, Asheville and Jack G. Watts, Burlington, president; Standing left to right: Wallace Nelson, Edenton, vice-president; L. Stan Haywood, Asheboro, Robert (Bob) Crocker, Farmville; and Tim Rogers, Raleigh.



Item 1143 -Disciplinary Actions Full Hearings July

Return Goods Hearings: ESI Lederle Generics, Philadelphia, Pa and Pharmacia and Upjohn, Kalamazoo, Mich, were subjects of hearings before the North Carolina Board of Pharmacy regarding their noncompliance with Board Rule. 2901 regarding return goods. Board Order for both companies: 30 days from the date of the receipt of Board Order respondent's products are ineligible for use in product selection in North Carolina, unless complies with set out conditions.

Prehearing Conferences

July

- John B. Zatti (DOB June 26, 1943), Durham, was the subject of a Prehearing Conference held April 9, 2001, with Mr Watts regarding the dispensing of clonidine on a prescription which called for Premarin 0.3 mg and the patient ingesting one dosage unit of clonidine before discovering the error. Recommendation: Letter of Warning and directed to be more careful in the dispensing of drugs in the future and comply with statues and regulations governing the practice of pharmacy and the distribution of drugs. Accepted by: Mr Zatti June 28, 2001; the Board July 17, 2001.
- **Vernon A. Faircloth** (DOB April 2, 1953), Fayetteville, was the subject of a Prehearing Conference held May 21, 2001, with Mr Overman regarding the dispensing of Tussionex on an order for prednisolone. The Tussionex was also labeled prednisolone. Recommendation: Caution and within 90 days of Board's acceptance of this order he shall submit a written proposal to the Board for the lawful and accurate dispensing of multi-orders of liquid prescription drugs to the same patient and that for 12 months from the date of the Board's acceptance of the order the respondent shall notify the Board's director of investigations of any error in the dispensing error committed by him if the patient leaves the store with the



- James McCowen (DOB April 4, 1936), Greensboro, was the subject of a Prehearing Conference held June 20, 2001, with Mr Haywood regarding the dispensing of amoxicillin on an order for naproxen with the patient ingesting the incorrect product for three days before the error was discovered. Recommendation: Warning to exercise greater care in his dispensing practices in the future; review his practice environment and make any changes necessary to prevent the occurrence of dispensing errors; not violate any law or regulation governing the practice of pharmacy. Accepted by McCowen July 10, 2001.
- Arthur Costin (DOB October 20, 1943), Clinton, was the subject of a Prehearing Conference held April 26, 2001, with Mr Rogers regarding the dispensing of Cefzil to a patient with incorrect directions on the label and also indicating no refills when refills were left on the prescription. Recommendation: Letter of Caution for his actions in this matter and cautioned to be more careful in the dispensing of drugs in the future and to comply with statutes and regulations governing the practice of pharmacy and the distribution of drugs. Accepted by Costin June 26, 2001.
- Savanah Swartout (DOB March 18, 1968) and The Medicine Shoppe, Hope Mills, were the subject of a Prehearing Conference held May 21, 2001, with Mr Overman regarding the dispensing of Tapazole 100 mg on an order for Tapazole 5 mg; failure to conduct drug utilization reviews on prescription drug orders; failure to make and keep an accurate record of prescription drugs compounded in the pharmacy; failure to make and keep records regarding patient's refusals to accept counseling on new drugs. Recommendation: For the actions in committing an error in the dispensing of a prescription drug the license is suspended for a period of three days, stayed one year with specific conditions. Accepted by Swartout July 13, 2001; accepted by Swartout on behalf of The Medicine Shoppe July 13, 2001.

Item 1144 – Volunteers for Emergencies

The members of the Board of Pharmacy asked that staff solicit all pharmacists licensed in North Carolina to request volunteers who may be interested in assisting in a public health emergency. The last such event in this state was Hurricane Floyd and a small cadre of pharmacists did work in the aftermath of that event.

With recent concerns over different acts of terrorism, we do not know what this country may face in the future. If it is necessary to assemble a group of pharmacists on short notice, it will be helpful to have a list of people who would be willing to serve, depending on their circumstances. If you are interested in this concept and are willing to serve, please e-mail your name, address, telephone number, and e-mail address

to volunteer@ncbop.org. Item 1145– Online Renewals

The Board has received many favorable comments regarding the first year for renewing licenses online to practice pharmacy. Some of the benefits are:

- ♦ Speed
- Immediate response informing a pharmacist, "you are renewed."
- Continuing education is not initially challenged. Your name may come up in an audit but that is true for everyone.
- It avoids the lost-in-the-mail situation, which can occur on renewals.

If problems are incurred please do not hesitate to contact Tom Buedel in the Board office at tbuedel@ncbop.org for assistance.

Item 1146 – Late Renewals

While there is a grace period for renewals of licenses and permits, pharmacists should be aware that the Board takes a dim view of delinquent renewals, particularly permits. During a discussion last year on this subject, it was the consensus of the members that pharmacists who renew their license late could receive an active suspension of one-third of the days the renewal is late. For pharmacy permits, the active suspension could be up to five days, depending on the circumstances of the late submission.

Item 1147 – Selling Samples

Shortly before the deadline for this *Newsletter*, a pharmacist who had pleaded guilty in federal court to one felony count of conspiring to sell samples was sentenced to a six-month active sentence, plus six months of probation, and a \$150,000 fine. It is a violation of the Prescription Drug Marketing Act of 1987 to buy, sell, or trade samples.

Item 1148– Devices and Medical Equipment Notice

All Devices and Medical Equipment (DME) permit holders should by now have received their new and approved original permit. This is a formal document signed by the members of the DME Subcommittee and is appropriate for framing and display in your place of business. Inspectors expect to see this document on the wall when they arrive for their regular visit.

Dispensers of DME to patients in this state need to now register even if they are located out-of-state. Companies can call, fax, or e-mail the Board for applications. If you are aware of any out-of-state providers who are serving patients in this state, please make them aware of the new requirement.

The Pharmacy Board and the North Carolina Department of Agriculture are now cooperating to coordinate their activities in inspections for oxygen and other items. This should result in better compliance on everyone's part.

Item 1149 – Technician Registration

As of January 1, 2002, pharmacy technicians must register with

the Board of Pharmacy. Please contact Wanda Andrews in the Board office if you have specific questions. The registration form may be downloaded from the Board's Web site at <u>www.ncbop.org</u>.

Item 1150 – DME Subcommittee Members 2001

Seated left to right: Teresa Gregory, Chairman, Statesville; Wayne Link, Lynn. Standing left to right: Stan Haywood, Asheboro and Larry Lankford, Durham. Not pictured Tim Rogers, Raleigh.

Item 1151– Clinical Pharmacists



Please note that pharmacists may qualify to be designated as a clinical pharmacist practitioner if they meet the following criteria:

- I. RPh License, and
- II. Board of Pharmacuetical Specilities Certification or completion of an American Society for Health Systems Pharmacists-approved residency, including two years clinical* experience **or**
- III. Pharm D with three years clinical experience plus a Certificate Program or
- IV. BS with five years clinical experience with two Certificate Programs Certificate Programs are defined at .3101(2)(b).

Also note that clinical pharmacist practitioners need 35 hours of continuing education to renew their status each year.

*NCAC 46.3101(b)(2)(A-S)

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