

MARYLAND BOARD OF ACUPUNCTURE

4201 Patterson Avenue
Baltimore, MD 21215
Room 105

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SESSION

MAY 10, 2011
1:00 p.m.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Steve Kaufman, L.Ac., Deneb Falabella, L.Ac, Kate Carter, L.Ac., Corinne Axelrod, L.Ac., Jan Exler, Consumer and Issie Jenkins, Consumer

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

Grant Zhang, L.Ac.

BOARD STAFF PRESENT: Penny Heisler, Executive Director, Cynthia Dobbins, Administrative Officer, Marian Ruth, Board Investigator and Richard Bloom, AAG

GUESTS:

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ESTABLISHMENT OF A QUORUM

Mr. Kaufman called the Acupuncture Board meeting to order at 1:00 pm and a quorum was established.

2. APPROVAL OF JANUARY 11, 2011 MINUTES

After review of the Minutes, Ms. Axelrod moved to approve the Minutes and Mr. Exler seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

3. OLD BUSINESS

A. CEU REQUIREMENTS

After a lengthy discussion, it was determined that the changes to regulations to revise CEU requirements for inactive/reinstatement required further work and was delegated back to committee. Ms. Jenkins volunteered to serve on the committee in addition to other members of the Board.

B. AURICULAR DETOXIFICATION SPECIALISTS

Ms. Heisler presented the Board with a draft of regulation changes that would create a reinstatement process and fee for Auricular Detoxification Specialists that failed to renew their registration. The Board reviewed the following changes and Ms Falabella moved to approve the changes to COMAR 10.26.01 and .02 and Ms. Jenkins seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

COMAR 10.26.01.03 Fees.

The following fees are established by the Board:

A. – I. (text unchanged)

J. Auricular detoxification [**aide**] *specialist* registration—\$50;

K. Auricular detoxification [**aide**] *specialist* registration renewal—\$25;

L. *Auricular detoxification specialist registration reinstatement- \$100;*

L. M. License verification—\$20; and

M- N. Roster—\$25.

10.26.02.07 Auricular Detoxification Specialist.

A.-E. (text unchanged)

F. Reinstatement of Expired Registration. An auricular detoxification specialist holding an expired registration may apply for reinstatement if the individual:

(1) Completes an application for reinstatement approved by the Board and

(2) Submits the auricular detoxification specialist reinstatement fee specified in COMAR 10.26.01L.

F. G. Setting. The clinical substance abuse program or professional setting where an individual performs auricular detoxification on patients with documented substance abuse concerns shall meet reasonable community standards.

G. H. Complaints.

(1) - (2) (text unchanged)

C. DRY NEEDLING

A copy of the Physical Therapy Board's proposed regulations to establish educational requirements for dry needling was attained and reviewed. The President of the Maryland Acupuncture Society (MAS), Tracy Soltesz, stated that MAS does not agree with the proposal. The Attorney General's Opinion stated that Physical Therapists' (PT's) must earn at least the minimum amount of hours as earned by physicians to practice acupuncture, which is currently 200 post entry level hours. The PT proposal requires that only 80 hours must be obtained post-entry level, and includes anatomy and physiology which are courses physicians complete as

undergraduates studies. Therefore these should not be counted as part of the 200 hours. Furthermore, the physicians are required to take all 200 hours in an accredited program, the only program of which is available to physicians at this time is at the University of California at Los Angeles and the Helms Institute, which includes approximately 300 hours of training in medical acupuncture which is greater than the statutory requirement cited by the Attorney General.

The Board asked Mr. Bloom to inquire about the legality of PT's continuing to practice dry needling without the regulatory educational requirements in place. Mr. Bloom stated that he will check into the matter and report back to the Board as soon as possible.

4. NEW BUSINESS

A. NEW LICENSES

Ms. Falabella moved to approve the list of applicants for licensure and Ms. Axelrod seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

B. STATISTICS

Ms. Heisler provided the Board with the following statistics. Ms. Axelrod recommended that the statistics be posted in the next newsletter and on the Boards' website.

MARYLAND BOARD OF ACUPUNCTURE STATISTICS May 2011

Total Active:
867

341 applied by exam
526 applied by accredited school

754 live in MD
5 live in DE
20 live in DC
11 live in PA
40 live in VA
4 live in WV
19 live in other states

New applications:

64 FY 2011
78 FY 2010
89 FY 2009

Renewals

231 FY 2011 (to date) (176 more projected)
336 FY 2010
320 FY 2009

Inactive

Total- 198
12 FY 2011 (to date)

26	FY 2010
13	FY 2009

Verification Requests

31	FY 2011 (to date)
43	FY 2010
44	FY 2009

Reinstatement

4	FY 2011 (to date)
6	FY 2010
6	FY 2009

C. Executive Director Update

Ms. Heisler informed the Board that she was asked to serve on a Blue Ribbon Advisory Panel on Internationally Educated Applicants for the NCCAOM. The Panel's charge is to develop proposed standards, policies and procedures to review and approve the qualifications of non-US. educated applicants for NCCAOM certification. The proposed timeline is to make the recommendation to the NCCAOM by December 2012.

Ms. Heisler also informed the Board that any legislative changes must be completed by the middle of July. The meeting adjourned at approximately 2:20 p.m.