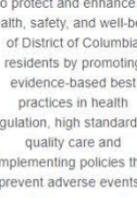


BOARD OF MEDICINE E-NEWSLETTER



MISSION STATEMENT

"To protect and enhance the health, safety, and well-being of District of Columbia residents by promoting evidence-based best practices in health regulation, high standards of quality care and implementing policies that prevent adverse events."

BOARD DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS

- 2019
- 2018
- 2017

BOARD MEETING DATES

FY 2020

- October 30, 2019
- December 11, 2019
- January 29, 2020
- February 26, 2020
- March 25, 2020
- April 29, 2020
- May 27, 2020
- June 24, 2020
- July 29, 2020
- August 26, 2020
- September 30, 2020

DC HEALTH

LaQuandra Nesbitt, MD, MPH
Director

Sharon Lewis, DHA, RN-BC, CPM
HRLA Senior Deputy Director

BOARD MEMBERS

Andrea Anderson, MD
Chairperson, Physician Member

Jeffrey Smith, MD
Physician Member

Vikisha Fripp, MD
Physician Member

David Wessel, MD
Physician Member

Joshua Wind, MD
Physician Member

William Strudwick, MD
Physician Member

Christopher Raczynski, MD
Physician Member

Joelle Simpson, MD
Physician Member

Konrad Dawson, MD
Physician Member

Preetha Iyengar, MD
DC Health Representative

Mr. Thomas Dawson, III
Public Member

Mr. Terrence Straub
Public Member

Mr. Thomas Smith
Public Member

Mr. Archie Rich
Public Member

BOARD STAFF

Frank B. Meyers, JD
Executive Director

Suzanne Fenzel, JD
Board Counsel

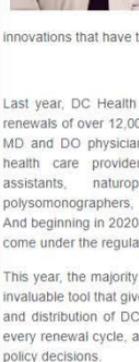
Ajay Gohil, JD
Board Counsel

Lisa Robinson
Health Licensing Specialist

Mary Harris
Health Licensing Specialist

Angela Braxton
Health Licensing Specialist

Charles Annor
Health Licensing Specialist



MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

Dear Fellow DC Health Licensees,

We are at the close of another year. Here at the Board of Medicine, we are working hard as usual to protect the health of the residents of the District of Columbia by providing competent and licensed health care providers. We wanted to use this forum to update you on some advances and innovations that have taken place since our last newsletter.

Renewals

Last year, DC Health staff and the Board of Medicine approved the renewals of over 12,000 licensees. While the majority of licensees are MD and DO physicians, the Board also licenses a diverse array of health care providers, including acupuncturists, anesthesiologist assistants, naturopathic physicians, physician assistants, polysomnographers, surgical assistants and trauma technologists. And beginning in 2020, athletic trainers will be the newest profession to come under the regulatory authority of the Board.

This year, the majority of you also completed the workforce survey; an invaluable tool that gives the District a periodic snapshot of the makeup and distribution of DC's healthcare workforce. This data is collected every renewal cycle, and is used by DC Health to inform its healthcare policy decisions.

Medical Trainees

Each year DC Health licenses thousands of new medical trainees who are coming to the District of Columbia to learn and practice medicine. Currently, we have over 1,300 Medical Training Licensees (MTL), or medical learners who have chosen a full time DC training program, and approximately 430 Medical Training Registrants (MTRs), or learners who come to DC for short term rotations. We continue to be proud of our licensed trainees and the many preeminent training programs and healthcare delivery centers in the District.

Federation of State Medical Boards (FSMB)

The DC Board of Medicine is one of the 70 state member boards of the Federation of State Medical Boards. DC sends a voting delegate annually to the national conference and we are proud to have appointed members serving on all levels of FSMB Governance and committees, raising our voices to craft national medical regulation policy. More information about FSMB can be found on their website [HERE](#)

New Members of the Board

We are pleased to welcome the following new Board Members:

1. [Dr. Joelle Simpson](#), Pediatric Emergency Medicine
2. [Dr. Christopher Raczynski](#), Child and Adolescent Psychiatry
3. [Dr. Konrad Dawson](#), Plastics and Reconstructive Surgery

I thank them for their service. Please [click](#) on their names to learn more about them.

Resident and Student Visitors to the Board

For the past several years we have invited student and resident members to the open sessions of the Board of Medicine to learn about the level of professionalism that comes with having a medical license. The Board welcomes all visitors, but especially invites our medical students in the District of Columbia to attend and learn more about the licensure and regulatory process. Information about past and future Board meetings, including agendas and minutes, can be found by going to our website [HERE](#), and scrolling down to the section titled "Board Meeting Materials".

New Policy Initiatives

New CME Requirements – We have worked within DC Health and salute the recent notice of the topics identified as public health priorities in the District of Columbia for the purpose of continuing education requirements. The proposed rules require licensed healthcare professionals to complete at least 10% of their required total continuing education in the public health priorities of the District, as determined and published every five (5) years. The Board of Medicine has long endorsed this concept, as it allows us to ensure that our licensees remain updated on current public health topics while preserving licensee autonomy and choice. More information about the notice can be found below, and you can expect more details as we approach next year's renewal cycle.

Birth Control Legislation – Members of the Board of Medicine and the Board of Pharmacy worked together over several months to develop a questionnaire and patient education materials to operationalize the Defending Access to Women's Health Care Services Amendment Act of 2018. Additionally, both the Board of Medicine and Board of Pharmacy have approved proposed regulations which will be published in the near future for public comment.

Prescribing for Self, Friends, and Family – The Board is routinely asked for guidance on issues affecting our licensees, including questions regarding the appropriateness of physicians prescribing for themselves, friends and family. At my request, the Board has convened a subcommittee to research this important issue. Please stay tuned to our website for more information.

Post-Graduate Training Requirements – Currently applicants for a physician license must complete at least one (1) year of post-graduate training that is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME). Recently a Board sub-committee was formed to examine the current post-graduate training requirements for licensure in the District, and whether any changes need to be made.

Interstate Medical License Compact - In 2019, the District of Columbia officially joined the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact. While DC is a member, the Board continues to work to implement "compact licensure" at an administrative and technical level. Until this implementation is completed, DC is unable to issue or receive Compact licenses. Please continue to check our meeting minutes, electronic notices and newsletters for more information as to when "compact licensure" will go live, but in the meantime you can learn more about the Compact on their website [HERE](#).

And there is so much more! The Open Session of the Board of Medicine occurs on the last Wednesday of every month, starting at 8:30 AM. The meeting is open to all members of the public to attend.

Thank you for your continued service to the residents of the District of Columbia.

In service,

Andrea Anderson, MD, FAAP

Chair

DC Board of Medicine

DID YOU CHECK THE DC PDMP?

This year, when you renew your license, you will have the option to also register for the District of Columbia Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (DC PDMP).

The DC PDMP is an electronic database used to monitor and collect data on the dispensation of controlled substances. DC Health encourages you to check the DC PDMP before prescribing opioids.

Register Now for the DC PDMP:
<https://districtofcolumbia.pmpaware.net/login>

Website: <https://dc.health.dc.gov/pdmp>
Email Address: ahp.pmp@dc.gov

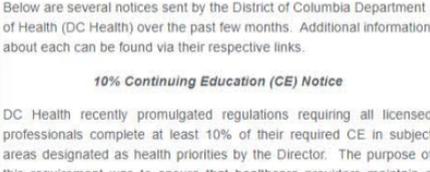
DC HEALTH Health Regulation & Licensing Administration
GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA MURIEL BOWSER, MAYOR

MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

DC Health held its first ever Department-wide Open House on September 26, 2019. Stakeholders were invited to attend as well as members of the general public. Both myself, Board staff and the the Board Chair represented the Board of Medicine during this event, and from the pictures below, you can see it was a huge success!



Dr. Andrea Anderson, Chairperson of the Board of Medicine, representing HRLA!



Board Chair Dr. Andrea Anderson (second from the left) with Board of Medicine staff (left to right) Frank Meyers, Angela Braxton, Mary Harris and Lisa Robinson.



Dr. LaQuandra Nesbitt, Director of DC Health, presenting awards to community stakeholders.

As 2019 comes to an end, I want to thank staff, Board members, stakeholders, and most importantly the public, for all of their efforts and support. Without them, the Board of Medicine would not be able to carry out its mission of public protection. We will need your continued help in 2020 to ensure that the District of Columbia remains one of the healthiest cities in America.

Speaking of 2020, I also want to remind everyone that 2020 will be a renewal year, so keep checking your email for important notices from DC Health regarding the 2020 renewal process and continuing education opportunities.

Thank you all again, and have a great holiday season and a wonderful new year!

Frank B. Meyers, JD

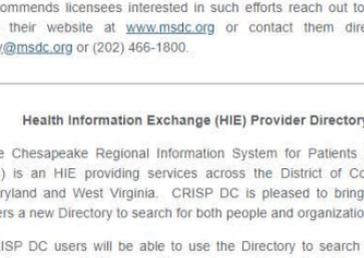
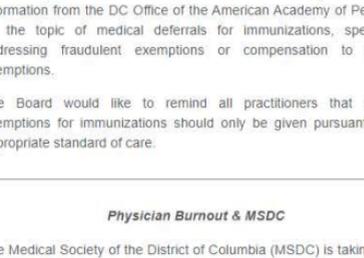
Executive Director

DC Board of Medicine | DC Board of Chiropractic

WORKFORCE SURVEY UPDATE

The DC Board of Medicine conducts a workforce survey each year during the renewal cycle. Following each renewal, staff from DC Health analyzes the data and then publishes a report of their findings. Copies of the past reports can be found online [HERE](#).

DC Health is changing the way these reports are being provided so they are more clear and concise. Beginning with the 2014 and 2016 reports, infographs have been created to highlight the major takeaways from each survey. Below are sample images of the current 2014 and 2016 infographs, which can also be found online [HERE](#).



DC HEALTH NOTICES

Below are several notices sent by the District of Columbia Department of Health (DC Health) over the past few months. Additional information about each can be found via their respective links.

10% Continuing Education (CE) Notice

DC Health recently promulgated regulations requiring all licensed professionals complete at least 10% of their required CE in subject areas designated as health priorities by the Director. The purpose of this requirement was to ensure that healthcare providers maintain a knowledge of current public health topics while preserving autonomy and choice in which courses to take. This regulation is currently in effect for most profession regulated by the Board, but will not be in effect for MDs/DOs and PAs until sometime in early 2020.

While many of the regulations have been implemented, the list of health priorities had not been established until this month. A copy of the notice from DC Health is provided below, and can also be found online by click on the image for the Board's review.

PUBLIC NOTICE

IDENTIFYING PUBLIC HEALTH ISSUES FOR CONTINUING EDUCATION

The Director of the Department of Health (Director) hereby gives notice of the topics identified as public health priorities for the purpose of the continuing education required for the renewal, reactivation, or reinstatement of health professional licenses, certifications, or registrations issued in accordance with D.C. Official Code § 3-1201.01 et seq.

With the goal of enhancing the protection and promotion of public health and in accordance with the releasing authority under D.C. Official Code § 3-1201.01(2), the Director has promulgated rules regarding licensed health professionals to complete at least ten percent (10%) of the hours required for continuing education in the public health priorities of the District as determined and published every five (5) years or less frequently as deemed appropriate. The following topics have been identified as key public health priorities:

1. Responsible opioid prescribing and effective pain management.
2. Nutrition and obesity prevention.
3. Identifying and reporting abuse (child and adult), neglect (child and adult), human trafficking, and domestic violence.
4. Sexual health (including taking sexual history, discussing sexual experiences with patients, sexually transmitted diseases (including HIV/AIDS), HPV vaccines, contraception, and cancer, latent tuberculosis, safe sex, and birth control).
5. Ethics and appropriate patient interactions (i.e. boundaries, patient privacy, and communications including telehealth).
6. Smoking, vaping, and tobacco (including dangers, smoking cessation, and non-tobacco tobacco products).
7. Preparing your patients for an emergency and handling vulnerable populations in an emergency.
8. Identifying unmet needs (as necessary) in patients and providers (including complying with the Americans with Disabilities Act and the Occupational Safety and Health Act).
9. Vaccinations (including legal requirements and appropriate exemptions), and
10. Legislative bias, cultural competence and Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services (CLAS) in health and health care.

Each health professional licensing board shall disseminate the identified subjects to its licensees via electronic communication and through publications on its web page. It is the goal of this rule to engage and educate health professionals in the promotion and protection of public health. It is intended to be liberally interpreted by each health professional licensing board with regulatory authority over each license type.

The requirement for public health continuing education may be found in specific professional rules under Title 17 of the District of Columbia Municipal Regulations (DMCR), such as sections 7808.2 for audiologists (17 DCMR § 7808.2), sections 4906.4 for psychologists, (17 DCMR § 4906.4).

014518

HHS Guidance re: Opioids

Recently the US Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) issued a guidance for use by clinicians on the appropriate dosage reduction or discontinuation of long-term opioid analgesics.

More information about the HHS guidance can be found online by clicking on the image below.

Medical Deferrals for Immunizations

At the September 2019 meeting, the Board was presented with information from the DC Office of the American Academy of Pediatrics on the topic of medical deferrals for immunizations, specifically addressing fraudulent exemptions or compensation to provide exemptions.

The Board would like to remind all practitioners that medical exemptions for immunizations should only be given pursuant to the appropriate standard of care.

Physician Burnout & MSDC

The Medical Society of the District of Columbia (MSDC) is taking steps to address the issue of physician burnout through new programs and initiatives. The Board of Medicine is in support of such efforts, and recommends licensees interested in such efforts reach out to MSDC via their website at www.msdc.org or contact them directly at hay@msdc.org or (202) 466-1800.

Health Information Exchange (HIE) Provider Directory

The Chesapeake Regional Information System for Patients (CRISP DC) is an HIE providing services across the District of Columbia, Maryland and West Virginia. CRISP DC is pleased to bring its DC users a new Directory to search for both people and organizations.

CRISP DC users will be able to use the Directory to search for and locate peers and other practitioners in an attempt to better manage transitions of care. The Directory not only displays contact information but allows individuals to establish their own communications preferences, where they want referrals to be sent, if they are accepting new patients, and how best to reach them.

If you are a care provider and would like CRISP access, or want to learn more about the tools available, please contact ronald.emeni@crisphealth.org.

CONTACT US

District of Columbia Department of Health (DC Health)
District of Columbia Board of Medicine
899 N. Capitol St., NE, 2nd Floor
Washington, DC 20002
202-724-8800
dcbomed@dc.gov
<https://dc.health.dc.gov/home>