

**Louisiana State Board of Nursing  
Credentialing Committee Meeting Minutes  
October 24, 2006**

- Call to Order** The meeting of the Louisiana State Board of Nursing Credentialing Committee was called to order by James Harper, Chair, at 1:00 p.m. on October 24, 2006 in the Clemons Room of the Cook Conference Center & Hotel, located at 3848 W. Lakeshore Dr., Baton Rouge, LA 70808.
- Roll Call**
- Committee Members Present**  
James Harper, MSN, APRN, CFNP, Chair  
Nora Steele, DNS, APRN, C, PNP  
Gail Poirrier, DNS, RN  
Bonnie Johnson, MN, RN
- Committee Members Excused**  
Frankie Rosenthal, MSN, APRN, CNS
- Staff Present**  
Margaret Griener, MPH, APRN, PNP, Director, Credentialing & Practice  
Barbara L. Morvant, MN, RN, Executive Director  
Brenda Kelt, Licensing Analyst  
Brandon Jordan, Licensing Analyst
- Staff Excused**  
Cynthia Morris, MSN, APRN, CNS, Assistant Executive Director
- Guests** Joni Nickens, APRN, FNP, Louisiana Association of Nurse Practitioners  
Deanna Harless, APRN, ACNP  
Teddi Schneider, APRN, FNP  
Lynne Pompetti, APRN, Adult PMHCNS  
Oladapo Folarin, M.D., Crossroads Hospital  
Michael Geissler, CRH/CEO, Crossroads Hospital  
Donna Cedars, Crossroads Hospital  
Antiqua Smart, RN
- Reorder Agenda** James Harper, Committee Chair, reordered the agenda.
- Motion** by G. Poirrier, seconded, that the chair be allowed to reorder the agenda.
- Vote** Poirrier - yes, Johnson - yes. Motion carried.
- Review of Minutes** The Committee reviewed the minutes of the July 25, 2006 Credentialing Committee meeting. Dr. Steele in attendance.
- Motion** by G. Poirrier, seconded, that the Committee approve the minutes of the July 25, 2006 Credentialing Committee.
- Vote** Poirrier - yes, Steele – yes, Johnson - yes. Motion carried.

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### Old Business

#### Agenda item 4.1

Agenda item 4.1: Report of Prescription Monitoring Task Force Recommendations and Legislation.

M. Griener reported that the task force is a recurring agenda idea. The only new information to share is that the Louisiana CDS (controlled and dangerous substance) licenses are now being issued by the Louisiana Board of Pharmacy, instead of the DHH. This was changed in July 2006 with legislation that provided the prescription monitoring program. The Board of Pharmacy anticipates the program will be up and running in 2007.

#### Agenda item 4.2

Agenda item 4.2: Task Force to review of 500 clinical hours requirement for APRN's to qualify for initial prescriptive authority.

M. Griener reported that one person invited to sit on the Task Force from LANA was unable to attend.

J. Harper reported that the first meeting of the Task Force was held October 13, 2006. Attendees present including himself were Dr. Gail Poirrer, Board Member; Dr. William LaCorte, ex-officio Board Member; Dr. Floyd Buras, President of the Medical Society; Dr. Deborah Garbee and Dr. Scharalda Jeanfreau, nurse instructors from LSU HSC; and Advanced Practice nurses Dorothea Kubricht and Joni Nickens.

G. Poirrer requested a correction on the draft of the Task Force minutes to show a revision at the bottom of page 8 to now read: "G. Poirrer reported that a PA (physician assistant) does not have to have a bachelor's degree to be accepted into the association, nor have any previous medical background."

J. Nickens distributed a copy of the 2002 revised "Position Statement on Nurse Practitioner Prescriptive Privilege" written by the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners (AANP). Ms. Nickens read aloud the following portion of this statement:

"Nurse practitioners are advanced practice nurses who have completed a formal educational program beyond that of the registered nurse. All nurse practitioners have advanced education in pathophysiology and pharmacology that prepares them to diagnose and prescribe medications and treatments within their specialty area. Nurse practitioners make independent and collaborative decisions about the health care needs of individuals, families, and groups across the life span. Four decades of research conclude that nurse practitioners, practicing within their scope of practice, provide safe, cost-effective, quality health care. Prescribing medications and devices is essential to the nurse practitioner's practice. Restrictions on prescriptive authority limit the ability of the nurse practitioners to provide comprehensive health care services."

J. Nickens also distributed hand-outs from the American College of Nurse Practitioners and the AANP regarding nurse practitioner scope of practice. From the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners, copies of the Standards of Practice for Nurse Practitioners, and the eligibility requirements for certification by the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) for Family Nurse Practitioners showing that the graduate level academic course work must include both didactic and clinical components and a minimum of 500 hours of supervised clinical practice in the specialty area. Documentation supplied by the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners referencing a 2002 study entitled "Systematic review of whether nurse

practitioners working in primary care can provide equivalent care to doctors”, Ms. Nickens read a portion of the study’s report:

“...qualitative comparisons of the results reported showed comparable outcomes between NPs and physicians...No differences were detected in health status, prescriptions, return visits, or referrals.”

J. Nickens reported that currently there are forty (40) states that currently give prescriptive authority with APRN licensure after certification for nurse practitioners.

G. Poirrer stated that she would like to see Louisiana give prescriptive authority upon issuance of APRN licensure and national certification.

J. Harper asked the record to show Executive Director, Barbara Morvant had joined the meeting at 1:17pm.

J. Harper reported that the Task Force meeting was very interesting and thanked Ms. Griener on bringing together the various attendees who contributed.

M. Griener distributed a copy of a one page summary sheet highlighting the more important points covered at the October 13, 2006 Task Force meeting.

N. Steele requested clarification on the number of clinical practice hours.

M. Griener reported that it can vary and this is being reviewed by the National Council State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN), that not all of the certifying bodies are equal on their clinical practice hour requirements.

G. Poirrer requested to include in the discussion the issue of CNS (Clinical Nurse Specialist) nurse educations as well as NPs.

M. Griener reported that the current rules allow an APRN who is coming in from another state (APRN licensure by endorsement), the nurse can meet the 500 clinical practice hours by using their out-of-state APRN employment, and therefore be eligible to apply for initial prescriptive authority in Louisiana immediately after licensure. This rule change would help those nurse educators coming in from other states. However a faculty member who is a new APRN graduate would still be required to do the 500 clinical hours. One way to remedy this in a rule change would be to put in a provision for faculty members which would count “teaching time” part of the clinical practice, or, treat the nurse educators as an exception.

L. Pompetti requested clarification on whether Psych Mental Health CNSs would be included in the rule change.

J. Harper advised it would not as presently being discussed. A CNS would still need to meet the 500 hour rule, because the educational requirements for the CNS are so varied, they are not scripted like nurse practitioner programs. Not all CNS programs include the full 500 clinical hours during the course of the program.

B. Morvant advised that it would be difficult carve out the Psych Mental Health CNS and that small steps in the rule change would best serve the public.

J. Harper suggested that if Ms. Pompetti wishes this to be considered, to make a written request for it to be placed on agenda for the January 2007 Credentialing Committee.

**Motion**

**For item 4.2**

by N. Steele, seconded, that we direct Board staff to prepare a draft for rule making changes to LAC 46:LXVII, Chapter 45 to include prescriptive authority with initial licensure for Nurse Practitioners.

**Vote** Steele – yes, Johnson – yes, Poirrier – yes. Motion carried.

**Agenda item 4.3** Agenda item 4.3: National Council of State Boards of Nursing – Vision Paper: the Regulation of Advanced Practice Nursing.

M. Griener reported that the National Council is currently working with nurse educators and certifying bodies to come up with revised vision paper that would be agreeable to all parties.

**New Business** J. Harper requested committee jump down to the announcements before entering executive session.

**Agenda item 6.1** Agenda item 6.1: Announcements / National Certifying Corporation (NCC) announcement regarding Nurse Practitioner exam eligibility criteria.

M. Griener reported that the NCC is the last certifying body to require a masters level education in order to qualify to sit for their certifying exams. The NCC certifies the Women’s Healthcare Nurse Practitioner, and the Neonatal Nurse Practitioner. Starting January 1, 2007, NCC will no longer recognize Certificate education as an eligibility to take their certifying exams. The announcement also states that anyone who graduated prior to January 1, 2005 (for either exam) can no longer retake the exam if they let their eligibility or certification lapse.

**Agenda item 6.2** Agenda item 6.2: Announcements / Correspondence from the NCSBN and CGRNS regarding questionable licensing and English exam practices in the Philippines.

M. Griener reported that documentation received, particularly from CGFNS, alerted the Board there have been irregularities in the licensing of nurses in the Philippines and on the IELTS English proficiency testing examination. The test was leaked, and there is a risk that some of the individuals who took the test in June 2005, and some who took the test in 2006, may have had the results when they tested.

M. Griener clarified that in Louisiana, foreign educated nurse graduates must go through CGFNS for licensure in our state. The foreign educated nurse may either take the Certificate Program which requires the nurse to take a CGFNS exam, pass the NCLEX and have their nursing school transcripts evaluated by CGFNS. The other option is for the foreign educated nurse to pay CGFNS to prepare a CES report for our Board which only evaluates the nurse’s transcripts if they do not need a Visa Screen. Our Board also requires all nurses, foreign educated or not, to have taken the NCLEX exam as an eligibility for licensure. M. Griener advised that with the risk of compromised testing in the Philippines, we will be particularly watchful of those foreign nurse graduates applying for licensure if they only produce the CES exam to our office.

**Agenda item 6.3** Agenda item 6.3: Announcements / NCSBN announcement regarding Puerto Rico ceasing to be a member board.

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M. Griener reported that Puerto Rico has removed itself from the National Council for NCLEX testing with Pearson. We may have issues with nurses applying for licensure from Puerto Rico because they will now have to pay a non-member fee to take the NCLEX test, although our rules still require them to pass the NCLEX exam.

**Executive Session** The Committee went into Executive Session at 1:55 pm to start review of agenda items 5.2.

**Motion** by G. Poirrer, seconded, that the Committee go into Executive Session.

**Vote** Poirrier - yes, Steele – yes, Johnson - yes. Motion carried.

The Committee came out of Executive Session at 2:00 pm

**Agenda item 5.1(i)**

**Motion** by G. Poirrer, seconded, that full Schedule II to APRN Deanna Fredericks Harless, ACNP is approved.

**Vote** Poirrier - yes, Steele – yes, Johnson - yes. Motion carried.

The Committee returned to Executive Session at 2:05 pm.

The Committee came out of Executive Session at 2:07 pm

**Agenda item 5.1(ii)**

**Motion** by N. Steele, seconded, that full Schedule II to APRN Kathy Browning Hancock, ANP, FNP is approved.

**Vote** Poirrier - yes, Steele – yes, Johnson - yes. Motion carried.

The Committee returned to Executive Session at 2:11 pm

The Committee came out of Executive Session at 2:15 pm

**Agenda item 5.1(iii)**

**Motion** by G. Poirrier, seconded, that full Schedule II for APRN (Ms.) Teddi Poche Schneider, FNP, is approved.

**Vote** Poirrier - yes, Steele – yes, Johnson - yes. Motion carried.

The Committee returned to Executive Session at 2:20 pm.

The Committee came out of Executive Session at 2:25 pm

**Agenda item 5.2(iv)**

**Motion** by G. Poirrier, seconded, approval for full Schedule II to APRN John Eric Rogers, ACNP.

**Vote** Poirrier - yes, Steele – yes, Johnson - yes. Motion carried.

The Committee returned to Executive Session at 2:30 pm

The Committee came out of Executive Session at 3:00 pm

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**Agenda item 5.2**

**Motion**

by N. Steele, and seconded, to deny request for controlled substances for APRN Lynne Carol Pompetti. Ms. Pompetti is instructed by the Credentialing Committee to reapply for the addition of controlled substances and ensure that both the new collaborative practice agreement, and signed letter of explanation requesting controlled substances contain the following revisions:

- the collaborative practice agreement properly reflect the APRN's licensed scope of practice as an Adult Psychiatric and Mental Health Clinical Nurse Specialist.
- remove all wording and listing of drugs related to the treatment for chronic or intractable pain management.

Ms. Pompetti is directed to submit the new application for controlled substances, revised letter of explanation, and collaborative practice agreement by the end of December 2006 to the Board office for acceptance on the agenda for the next Credentialing Committee scheduled January 23-24, 2007 in order to review her request before committee with said revisions.

**Vote**

Poirrier - yes, Steele – yes, Johnson - yes. Motion carried.

The Committee came out of Executive Session at 3:10 pm

**Adjournment**

The Committee adjourned at 3:11 pm.



**Submitted by:**

**Margaret Griener, Director - Credentialing and Practice**

**Approved 1/23/2007**

/bck