

NSBOM NEWSLETTER

Nevada State Board of Osteopathic Medicine, 901 American Pacific Dr., Unit 180, Henderson, NV 89014

January, 2014 Volume 10

Ways to Prevent Having to Appear Before the Board

The charge given the Nevada State Board of Osteopathic Medicine is to protect the health, safety and welfare of the people of the State of Nevada with the goal that all citizens receive the highest quality health care. ALL complaints received in the Osteopathic Board office must be processed.

The majority of complaints, after being thoroughly reviewed, are closed without any action being taken. Sometimes an investigation reveals violations of the Board's statutes and regulations, and such substantiated complaints will result in action being taken by the Board, whether by way of a letter of warning, a settlement agreement, or, in the rare case, a full and fair disciplinary hearing.

With that being said, there are ways that a practitioner can avoid having to appear before the Nevada State Osteopathic Medicine Board. The number one way to avoid have an appearance is to remain up-to-date with the rules and regulations in NRS and NAC chapter 633. As quickly as medicine and the law change, ignorance of the law is an invitation for trouble.

Some other simple tactics that could help avoid a Board appearance include (1) making and keeping well-documented patient records, (2) being attentive to your patients, and, (3) when appropriate, being available for communicating with the patient and/or the patient's family. Our experiences have shown that good communication diffuses frustrations and reduces lawsuits.

Another tip is to assure that you, as a practitioner, are vigilant and aware of your office's procedures such as scheduling appointments, handling of telephone messages from patients and release of medical records. **Be familiar with your office personnel and their attitude and interaction with patients because they reflect on you and how patients view you.**

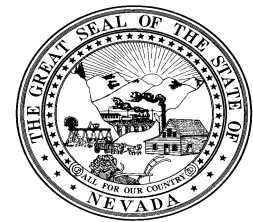
Remember that the first contact with your office sets the tone of the visit. Remain up-to-date with current billing methods and insurance procedures. The physician or medical provider is ultimately responsible for all that transpires in his or her office, everything from the front desk to proper billing.

Sometimes, regardless of the treatment provided or actions of the practitioner, the patient will not be pleased and may file a complaint. In such a case, we have found that the best results come when the practitioner submits a respectful and complete response to the allegations and provides well-documented medical records.

In conclusion, the vast majority of practitioners in Nevada are superb medical providers and the citizens of this state should be grateful for them. However, even excellent practitioners get caught up in their busy schedules and lives. It is during these busy times that it would be especially wise to take a breath and not forget to be attentive to your patients. Always remember to treat each patient as you would want you or your family to be treated.

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Interested in applying for a position on the Board?

The interactive Boards and Commissions application may be completed and printed from the Governor's website:

<http://gov.nv.gov/contact/>

Contact is Annalyn Carrillo (702) 486-2500, or by email, abcarrillo@gov.nv.gov

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NEW REGULATION TO REDUCE SOME RENEWAL FEES PENDING APPROVAL...

On February 11, 2014, the Osteopathic Board will hold a Hearing to approve R040-13. The proposed Regulation would then go to the Legislature for final approval before it can be added to NAC 633. The Regulation includes reducing renewal fees for Osteopaths from \$500 to \$450 and for Physician Assistants from \$400 to \$250 beginning in the 2015 renewal period. The proposed Regulation also removes the requirement for new Physician Assistant applications to go through the Federation Credentials Verification Service so that the verification will be performed by the Board staff. This will speed up the process for licensing PAs.

NEWS FROM NOMA

The Annual Convention will be held April 24-26 and will include the DOT Workshop. NOMA will also offer two One Day Conferences, one in Reno and one in Vegas.

2014 BOARD MEETING SCHEDULE

January	14
February	11
March	11
April	8
May	13
June	10
August	12
September	9
October	14
November	11
December	9

ALL MEETINGS ARE HELD AT THE BOARD OFFICE AT 6:00p.m. UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED

REMINDER...

Physician assistants must be licensed with the Osteopathic Board in order to be supervised by an Osteopathic Physician. You can contact the Board to confirm the PA is licensed and in good standing. All physician assistants and/or APRNs and their supervising physicians MUST sign a supervising agreement form and mail it into the Board office. REMEMBER YOU MUST NOTIFY THE BOARD IN WRITING WITHIN 10 DAYS OF TERMINATING AN AGREEMENT WITH A PA or APRN.

HAVE YOU HEARD?

Check out the following stats pertaining to NSBOM's licensees per fiscal year (July 1 through June 30th):

Licenses	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/2014
D.O.	774	808	844	854
P.A.	66	77	84	92
Special	220	190	213	163
Inactive	73	81	94	106
DO Special	4	3	3	3
Temporary	2	2	0	0

Discipline	2010	2011	2012	2013
Settlements	72	15	5	8
Hearings	0	0	1	0
License Surrender	1	1	0	1
License Suspension	2	3	1	0
License Denial	0	0	1	1
Public Reprimands	0	0	0	0
Private Letters of Warning	74	26	9	26
Probation	1	2	3	2
License Revocation	0	0	1	0

(Please note: the Board was only given the authority to write private letters of warning by the 2009 Legislature.)

REMINDER: CME REQUIREMENTS

We have had a lot of calls regarding CME requirements. CME requirements have not changed and are as follows: DOs need proof of 35 credits with 10 of them AOA category 1A or AMA category 1. PAs need 20 hours of CME. CMEs must be taken in the calendar year January 1, 2014 thru December 31, 2014. If you are included in the 33% CME audit, your renewal reminder will be stamped "CME PROOF REQUIRED". CME proof must be received before your license renewal is approved and your licensee card is mailed.

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW... 2013 Legislation that Affects You

Assembly Bill 456

Effective January 1, 2014, all healthcare professionals must wear a name tag indicating their specific licensure or certification while providing health care services other than sterile procedures in a health care facility. All health care professionals are required to identify their type of license or certification when communicating to current and prospective patients, in advertisements, and when posting credentials at all practice sites.

To read the bill in its entirety go to: http://www.leg.state.nv.us/Session/77th2013/Bills/AB/AB456_EN.pdf

Senate Bill 319

As part of the biennial continuing education requirements for an osteopathic physician, the Board will now require at least 2 hours of continuing education credits in ethics, pain management, or addiction care. The Board will add this requirement on every odd year renewal application; therefore, you will be required to take at least 2 hours of CME in ethics, pain management or addiction care in 2014 for your 2015 renewal application.

To read the bill in its entirety go to: http://leg.state.nv.us/Session/77th2013/Bills/SB/SB319_EN.pdf

Senate Bill 21

Effective with this Board's 2015 licensure renewal cycle, all Nevada licensees will be required to indicate if they have or do not have a Nevada State Business license. The Board is required to generate a report for the State Controller to assist in the collection of debts owed to the State. The Board will begin collecting this information on the renewal forms for the 2015 renewal period. The Board is required to submit its report to the State by February 1, 2015.

To read the bill in its entirety go to: http://www.leg.state.nv.us/Session/77th2013/Bills/SB/SB21_EN.pdf

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FROM THE PHARMACY BOARD

NEW PRESCRIPTION MONITORING PROGRAM

The PMP is an electronic system that collects controlled substance prescription data. The PMP is available electronically to practitioners 24-hours per day, seven-days-a-week. A PMP report shows a healthcare provider all the controlled substance prescriptions dispensed to his or her patients including those prescribed by other practitioners. The PMP report is a tool for healthcare providers to monitor a patient's controlled substance use and affords an opportunity to discuss misuse and abuse with his or her patient.

In an effort to reduce costs and maintain the most efficient and effective program for our users, the PMP began using a new system, AWARe, commencing December 4, 2013. Benefits of the new system include: simple password retrieval; ability for practitioners to approve two staff members to have independent accounts; and a 24-hour Help Desk. In addition, the new system will allow users to request reports from PMPs in other states. Currently, the only western states with the ability to share data are Arizona, Colorado, and New Mexico, however, Idaho and Utah will be added in 2014.

To register, go to <https://nevada.pmpaware.net/> and click on "Create an Account". Enter all demographic information requested and click "Finish". Next login to your e-mail. There will be one e-mail containing an e-mail verification link. The link stays active for 20 minutes. The second e-mail contains a form that needs to be completed and returned. The completed form can be uploaded into PMP Aware, scanned and e-mailed to pmp@pharmacy.nv.gov or faxed to 775-687-5161. After completing the three steps, the account will be active. Once the physician has registered for a PMP account he or she can designate two employees to register for PMP Aware by selecting the "Role" "Delegate". Directions for registering and requesting reports from AWARe can be found at bop.nv.gov. Click Links and Prescription Monitoring Program. This page contains videos, written instructions, and user manuals.

Prescription drug overdose, dependence, and addiction are serious public health problems. The PMP provides healthcare providers with a tool to identify and address these problems for their patients. The mission of the PMP is to help improve health care by offering practitioners information to reduce prescription overdose, decrease "doctor shopping," and misuse of prescription controlled substances without limiting access to medication that is part of medically necessary treatment plans.