What you need to know about our laws . . .

IN THIS ISSUE, WE ARE REPEATING SOME REGULATIONS AND STATUTES AS MANY LICENSEES ARE STILL NOT AWARE...

NAC CHAPTER 633 contains the Nevada laws pertaining to osteopathic physicians and physicians’ assistants and can be found on the Board’s website. www.bom.nv.gov. In a continuing effort to assist the Board’s licensees, you will find an unofficial version of NAC chapter 633 on the website. This version contains the 2007 and 2009 revisions to the regulations. These revisions have been adopted by the Board and approved by the Legislative Commission. The Legislative Counsel Bureau has not yet assigned section numbers to certain sections of the regulations, but all sections are in full force and effect now. The same goes for SB 273 which went into effect October 1, 2011.

If you wish to view other applicable statutes and regulations, they can be found on the Legislature’s website, www.leg.state.nv.us.

REMINDER: NAC 633.260 HAS BEEN CHANGED!! Each person who holds a license with the Osteopathic Medicine Board or in this State shall: (a) file with the Board his proper and current mailing address; and (b) notify the Board in writing of any change in his address within 30 days after the change. The notification must provide both his old and his new mailing address.

Also, each person who holds a license to practice osteopathic medicine in this State and who intends to close his or her osteopathic medical practice shall notify the Board in writing at least 30 days before closing the practice. The notice must specify: (a) the person who or facility that will maintain the health care records of the person’s patients for the period required by NRS 629.051; and (b) how the patients of the osteopathic medical practice were notified of the closure of the practice.

Failure to comply with the requirements of this section in a timely manner is ground for initiating disciplinary action pursuant to NRS 633.511.

Do you supervise a PA-C or an APN?

• All physician assistants and their supervising physicians MUST sign a supervising agreement form and mail it into the Board office.
• It is IMPERATIVE that a collaborating agreement form be completed and sent in to us for all APNs.
• Physicians will be required to sign a letter stating they are compliant with NRS 633.469 regarding requirements of supervision.
• A supervising physician may not supervise more than a total of three physician assistants and advanced practitioners of nursing at a time and must report to the Board within 10 days of any termination of a supervising physician agreement.

National Board of Osteopathic Medical Examiners launches new newsletter - NBOME has launched a new quarterly newsletter, The Osteopathic Examiner, to provide information about the NBOME’s many activities in the arena of assessment for osteopathic competencies and related health care professions.

FSMB celebrates 100 years of operation. The FSMB and the nation’s state medical boards have played a vital role in helping shape the basic infrastructure for health care delivery in the United States. There will be a 100th Annual Meeting in April in Fort Worth, Texas, a special symposium in October in Washington, D.C., and the publication of a book about our history later this year. Please visit Centennial website.

NSBOM BOARD MEMBERS

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MORE ABOUT OUR BOARD & STAFF

Our newest board member is Dr. Ronald Hedger. He was raised in Las Vegas and received his BA degree from UNLV in psychology/communications. His osteopathic medical education was done in Southern California at Western University of Health Sciences/COMP where he received his DO degree in 1984. Dr. Hedger is Board Certified by the American Osteopathic Board of Family Physicians and is a Diplomat of the National Board of Osteopathic Medical Examiners.
So what has your Board been doing lately...

The statistics contain on this page indicate NSBOM and staff have not been greatly impacted by the sluggish economy and is still showing signs of a more active Board.

Also, please note the NSBOM board meetings are being conducted on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 6pm.

NOTE FROM NOMA:
The Annual Convention will be held April 27-28 in Las Vegas, 15 credits are offered. There will also be One Day Conferences in Las Vegas in September and November for 10 credits each and two One Day Conferences in Reno in June and August for 15 credits each. 2012 is the end of the three year cycle for Board Certification and there are many ways to earn hours if you need them. Check the website: www.nevadaosteopathic.org or contact Denise Selleck-Davis, at NOMA (702) 434-7112 for more information.

Why are unsafe injection practices occurring?

A common question that arises is “Why is this happening?” In most cases the healthcare professionals involved are unaware their actions are a safety risk for them and their patients. Here are a few reasons we have encountered so far:

- **Lack of awareness**—The healthcare worker is unaware that they are doing anything inappropriately.
- **Poor/insufficient training**—Proper techniques are glossed over and shortcuts outside of accepted practices are shared.
- **Economics**—The apparent driving force behind the 2008 Nevada hepatitis C outbreak.
- **Lax procedures**—Over time and without refresher training, short-cuts are sometimes developed.
- **Time pressures**—In today’s world of do more faster, some healthcare providers develop shortcuts to increase efficiency but inadvertently decrease safety.
- **Distractions**—Constant interruptions can lead to unintended consequences in any field.
- **Provider addiction**—Placed in the spotlight by a RN in Colorado who used patients' painkillers and then reused the syringes filled with a saline solution on her patients. Approximately 35 patients are reported to have contracted hepatitis C.
MANY LICENSEES ARE STILL FORGETTING ABOUT THAT “PESKY” REPORTING STATUTE (NRS 633.527). Physicians and physician assistants are required to report to the Board when they are served with a summons and complaint in a medical malpractice case, as well as report any type of a disposition of that lawsuit, and whether that matter is referred to mediation or arbitration. Licensees are mandated to report such information within 45 days of notice. Physicians may be fined up to $5,000 per violation of this statute. The 2011 Legislature has amended this statute to include the requirement PA’s notify the Board as well about such events in medical malpractice cases.