

Nevada State Board of
NURSING

**MINUTES OF THE
NURSING PRACTICE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
February 28, 2012**

CALL TO ORDER

The committee meeting was called to order by Debra Scott, MSN, RN, FRE, Executive Director, at 9:00 a.m., at the Board of Nursing offices via videoconference between 5011 Meadowood Mall Way, Ste. 300, Reno, Nevada 89502, and 2500 W. Sahara, Ste. 207, Las Vegas, Nevada 89102.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Debra Scott, RN, Board Executive Director, Chair
Doreen Begley, MS, RN, Board Member
Judith Carrion, RN Gayle LaChance-Bulger, RN
Cathy Dinauer, RN Zona Hickstein, RN
Vicky Hardaway, RN Margaret Konieczny, RN, MSN
Gail Alexander, RN Cynthia Gorham, RN, BSN, MHA

MEMBERS ABSENT

Diane Allen, RN Leighanne Shirey, RN, BSN
Marti Cote, RN Lisa Mantkus, RN
Holly Carpenter-Filson, RN

OTHERS PRESENT

Chris Sansom, MSN, RN, Director of Operations
Fred Olmstead, General Counsel
Patty Shutt, LPN, Site Operations Supervisor
Sherri Twedt, RN, Nurse Investigator
Nicole Walters, Sierra Nevada Nephrology
Chelsea Capurro, St. Rose
Susan Fisher, NAPSPAC
Dana Balchunas, Washoe County School District
Abraham Nagy, MD
Doris Allison, Dignity Health, San Martin
Connie Clemmons-Brown, St. Rose, San Martin

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by D. Scott at 9:00 a.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT: D. Balchunas requested information about the Board's Advisory Opinion on Standing Orders. She was instructed to contact Gail Trujillo, Board staff, for any supporting documents used in formulating the Advisory Opinion. Margaret Konieczny, committee member, recounted some comments that had been made about renewal reminder cards not being sent to nurses.

A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The minutes of the November 8, 2011 meeting were

reviewed and approved as written.

B. OLD BUSINESS

1. Board meeting follow up: January 2012 Board meeting: D. Scott gave the highlights of the January 2012 Board meeting and answered questions from the committee members.

C. NEW BUSINESS

1. Orientation of new committee members: There were no new committee members. D. Scott referred the committee members to the handouts related to member orientation for review as needed.
2. Legislative update: F. Olmstead gave an overview of the recent regulations that were passed by the Legislative Commission and suggested that the committee members review the LCB File R112-11 which is posted on the Board's website.
3. Review, discussion and action regarding low dose Ketamine administration: Connie Clemmons-Brown, VP and Chief Nurse Executive for St. Rose Dominican Hospitals presented this item to the committee. She explained the procedures, the indications, and the specific population that might receive this treatment. The committee approved that this procedure is within the scope of practice for a RN only in the very limited circumstance as described in the practice decision request. It was moved and seconded to direct Board staff to write a letter of support to confirm the unanimous decision by the Nursing Practice Advisory Committee that the administration of low dose Ketamine HCL via continuous intravenous infusion on a medical/surgical unit is within the scope of practice for a registered nurse in Nevada. This support is specific to the terms and precautions as described in the practice decision request. **MOTION CARRIED.**
4. Review, discussion and action regarding LPN's scope of practice related to completion of a GIP Focused Nursing Note: This agenda item was presented by D. Scott. The committee had several concerns related to the form. They are as follows:
 - It appears that the form is not specific to Nevada since it refers to "LVN" on the form. Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) is the term used for this level of nurse in Nevada.
 - The form is divided into 8 sections. The committee agreed that it is within the scope of practice for an LPN in Nevada to complete 3 sections of the form: Pain Management, Nonverbal Pain Assessment, and Symptom Assessment. Sections entitled Cardiopulmonary, Neuro/Cognitive/Behavioral, Genitourinary/Lower GI, Safety/Falls, and Wounds must be completed by a registered nurse (RN).
 - Under the title of the form and throughout the form, the term "assessment" is used. In Nevada, an LPN, at the direction of a RN, APN, licensed physician, PA or licensed dentist, contributes to assessment of health status by: collecting, reporting and recording objective and subjective data, observation of conditions or change in condition, and signs and symptoms of deviation from normal health status. The committee agreed that completing the remaining sections of the form were beyond the scope of practice for an LPN in Nevada.

The committee concluded that completing more than the three sections listed above is outside the scope of practice for an LPN in Nevada.

5. Review, discussion and action regarding a RN's scope of practice related to placing sutures: This agenda item was presented by Nicole Walters, RN, Sierra Nevada Nephrology Consultants Access Center, Reno. The committee reviewed an article submitted by Ms. Walters, in addition to the results of a survey conducted by Board staff. The survey found that 24% of the states responding reported that it is within the scope of practice for an RN to place sutures, 18% reported that it was not within the scope of practice for an RN to place sutures, and 18% of the states responding reported that it was in the scope of practice only for Registered Nurse First Assists (RNFA) to place sutures. Forty-one percent (41%) were silent, although these states encourage nurses to use a Scope of Practice Decision Tree as a guide for scope of practice questions. D. Scott also recommended use of this document which is available on the NSBN website at nevadanursingboard.org. After focused discussion, the committee voted unanimously that it is not within the scope of practice for a RN in Nevada to place sutures. MOTION CARRIED.
6. Review, discussion and action regarding committee meeting date change from October 9, 2012 to October 16, 2012: The committee voted unanimously to change the date of the October meeting to October 16, 2012. MOTION CARRIED.

D. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR AGENDA ITEMS FOR THE NEXT MEETING: No further recommendations were made as to future agenda items. Final Public Comment included D. Scott giving the committee information about the Nevada Action Coalition; a designation recently awarded the Nevada Alliance for Nursing Excellence and the Governor's Health Care Sector Council as partners in working toward meeting the recommendations of the Future of Nursing Initiative through the RWJF and the AARP. She announced that the Board has begun to publish its magazine, the NSBN News, by ePublication. Bulk Mailings will be made to Nursing Programs, Health Care Facilities, and other stakeholders.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 10:27 a.m.