



AUDIOLOGY PRACTICE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

October 20, 2011

Department of Consumer Affairs
2005 Evergreen Street
"Hearing Room"
Sacramento, CA

Committee Members Present

Alison Grimes, Au.D., Chair, Audiologist
Robert Green, Au.D., Audiologist
Sandra Danz, Hearing Aid Dispenser
Rodney Diaz, M.D.

Staff Present

Annemarie Del Mugnaio, Executive Officer
Spencer Walker, Legal Counsel
Breanne Humphreys, Staff
Ily Mason, Staff

Board Members Present

Monty Martin, M.A.
Lisa O'Connor, M.A.
Carol Murphy, M.A.
Jaime Lee, Esq. Public Member

Board Members Absent

Deane Manning, Hearing Aid Dispenser

Guests Present

Dennis Van Vliet, Audiologist
Cynthia Peffers, HHP CA
Tricia Hunter, HHP CA
Gloria Peterson, HHP CA
Marcia Raggio, CSHA, SFSU

I. Call to Order

Chairperson Grimes called the meeting to order at 3:25 p.m.

II. Introductions

Those in attendance introduced themselves.

III. Develop Proposed Regulatory Amendments for Audiology Aide Supervision Standards and Practice Limitations (California Code of Regulations 1399.154-1399.1354.4)

Chairperson Grimes stated that the Board had previously begun working on developing draft regulations specifying the supervision standards and scope of responsibility for audiology aides pursuant to legislative changes that occurred in 2009 under SB 821. She stated that the legislative change provided a broader definition of supervision for audiology aides; therefore, the Board is tasked with defining the appropriate levels of supervision for aides and should consider whether exclusionary language regarding tasks that are outside the scope of responsibility for an audiology aide should be specified by regulation. Chairperson Grimes reported that the Board conducted a survey of all licensed audiologists a few years ago regarding the supervision of aides and the appropriate tasks that should be assigned to an audiology aide, but stated that the Board received very few responses and the responses received were largely critical of using audiology aides at all.

Ms. Del Mugnaio reported that the Board has researched national position documents on the use of audiology aides and commented that there are plenty of national and state regulatory documents the Board can reference to craft proposed language. She suggested referencing the supervision definitions in the speech-language pathology assistant regulations as the paraprofessional supervision standards should be relevant.

Chairperson Grimes expressed her interest in drafting regulations that would specify tasks that are not appropriate to assign to an audiology aide, as such tasks are complex in nature and require the expertise of a trained audiologist.

Ms. Del Mugnaio stated that she would craft supervision definitions for the Committee to review and the next Board meeting.

Chairperson Grimes agreed to provide language related to the scope of responsibility of the audiology aide and exclusionary language.

Chairperson Grimes adjourned the meeting at 4:00 p.m.