



**Continuing Education Committee Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, July 22, 2009
San Francisco, CA**

Members Present:

John Bettinger, DDS
Judith Forsythe, RDA
Huong Le, DDS
Bruce Witcher, DDS

Members Absent:

Thomas Olinger, DDS, Chair

Staff Present:

Cathleen Poncabare, Executive Officer
Richard DeCuir, Assistant Executive Officer
Dawn Dill, Licensing & Exam Unit Manager
Sarah Wallace, Administrative Analyst
Donna Kantner, Legislative & Regulatory Analyst
Jocelyn Campos, Enforcement Coordinator
Jessica Olney, Examination & Licensing Analyst
LaVonne Powell, DCA Senior Staff Counsel
Kristy Schieldge, DCA Senior Staff Counsel
Gregory Salute, Deputy Attorney General

In Dr. Olinger's absence, Dr. John Bettinger, called the meeting to order at 11:10 a.m. and established a quorum.

CE 1: Discussion of Process to Obtain Approval of a Mandatory CE Course on Substance Abuse

Dr. Bettinger reported that the subject of mandatory continuing education for substance abuse was brought up at the Professionals Achieving Consumer Trust (PACT) Summit in November 2008. Dr. Bettinger stressed the importance of educating license holders about drug addiction, how drugs are used, and how drugs affect the dental practice and public safety. It is important for licensees to know how to identify someone who uses drugs, know the ethical decisions to be made, and know the program elements of rehabilitation.

Dr. Bettinger reported that Business and Professions Code Section 166 authorizes the Director of the Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA) to develop guidelines, through regulations, to impose components for mandatory continuing education programs to be administered by any Board within DCA. LaVonne Powell, DCA Legal Counsel, advised the Board that DCA developed regulatory guidelines, but they were never finalized. Ms. Powell pointed out that there could be no more than 7 units of mandatory continuing education required.

LaDonna Drury-Klein, California Association of Dental Assisting Teachers, suggested that rather than develop an entirely new mandatory continuing education requirement, the Board may want to consider expanding the content of existing requirements to include continuing education for substance abuse. She suggested expanding the content of the California Dental Practice Act course to include substance abuse and cut back on less critical information provided in the course.

Dr. Earl Johnson, California Association of Orthodontists, recommended that the Board consider an option to have certain continuing education requirements have a longer timeframe between being required for renewal.

The Committee agreed to expand the content requirements of the California Dental Practice Act course to include education for substance abuse.

CE 2: Consideration of Acceptance or Rejection of Further Comments to Title 16 CCR Sections 1016 and 1017

Donna Kantner, Legislative and Regulatory Analyst, reported that she received comments from the American Safety and Health Institute. The Institute commented that its course would not be able to be approved under the regulations because they are not certified by the American Heart Association or the American Red Cross. Ms. Kantner stated that she received the comments after the 15-day comment period and they were not relevant to the changes made in the proposed language regarding the class evaluations of each course.

M/S/C (Whitcher/Le) to reject the comments made by the American Safety and Health Institute, to move forward with the final rulemaking file, and to delegate authority to the Executive Officer to move forward with the regulation if there are no additional negative comments. The motion passed unanimously.

LaDonna Drury-Klein, California Association of Dental Assisting Teachers, clarified that this package would move forward, and the committee would need to draft new regulations to modify the continuing education requirement to include mandatory courses on substance abuse.

CE 3: Continuing Education Random Audit Report

Dawn Dill, Licensing and Exam Unit Manager, reported that four months of continuing education audits had been completed. She reported that the response from the license holders has been positive with minimal problems. There are only four licensees that have been referred to the Enforcement Unit.

Paul Reggiardo, California Society of Pediatric Dentistry, informed the Board that the members of his society had been notified of the Board's continuing education random audits through its' newsletter. He asked if it was necessary for the licensee to fill out the form required by the Board or if they could attach it to the certificates. LaVonne Powell, DCA Legal Counsel, recommended the licensee fill out the form completely because they are signing the form under penalty of perjury.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 11:36 a.m.