



Board of Medicine and Osteopathic Medicine's Physician Certification Pattern Review Panel

GalleryOne Fort Lauderdale
2670 East Sunrise Boulevard
Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33304
(954) 565-3800

August 2, 2018

MEETING MINUTES

Roll call 3:41 pm

Members Present:

Steven Rosenberg, M.D., Chair
Nicholas Romanello, Consumer Member
Sarvam TerKonda, M.D.
Joel Rose, D.O.

Members Absent:

Merle P. Stringer, M.D.
Sandra Schwemmer, M.D.
Michelle Mendez, M.D.

Staff Present:

Claudia Kemp, J.D., Executive Director
Edward Tellechea, Board Counsel
Donna McNulty, Board Counsel
Nancy Murphy, Paralegal
Crystal Sanford, Program Operations Administrator

Others Present:

Veritext/Downtown Reporting
(954) 448-3183

Status of Statutorily Required Documentation Under s. 381.986(4)(b), Florida Statute

Michelle Chandrasekhar introduced herself to the panel. She explained the statutorily required document is submitted in support of "medical conditions of the same kind or class as or comparable" to those listed in the law which provides specific conditions for which medical marijuana may be used. Ms. Chandrasekhar gave an example of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder which is listed in the law and a comparable condition might be anxiety if the patient is showing similar symptoms. The form was approved by the panel in October 2017.

Ms. Chandrasekhar said between October 2017 and June 2018, 15,208 forms were received from 250 physicians. She said currently the Board receives around 1,200 forms per month. Her staff has reviewed the documentation and found errors which are being corrected. She said she sees this as an educational period and they are seeing a decrease in the number of errors.

Dr Rosenberg said he would like to see a chart that shows trends by month or quarter.

Daniel Sparks from BioTrackTHC addressed the Committee and said his organization works with many medical marijuana treatment centers and was there to offer his assistance with data collection.

Discussion Related to 2018 Medical Marijuana Use Registry

Ms. Chandrasekhar addressed the Committee regarding the Registry and explained the Office of Medical Marijuana Use (OMMU) maintains the registry. She went on to talk about the information in the registry and who has access.

Dr. Rose asked how long it takes to get a card now.

Ms. Chandrasekhar said it takes five days according to OMMU's web site.

2018 Annual Report Schedule – Tentative

- a. October 11: Review of January – September 2018 Data and Draft of Panel Recommendations.
- b. November 16: Panel Approves its Final Draft of Annual Report
- c. November 19: Department Reviews the Panel's Annual Report
- d. January 1: Submission of 2018 Annual Report the Panel's findings and recommendations to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives

Ms. Chandrasekhar provided her proposed dates and timeline to meet the January 1, 2019 deadline to provide the panel's report to the Governor's Office. She explained she will not have all the data until the end of September, then she will analyze the data and draft the report.

Dr. Rosenberg said the panel needs to meet in October and the meeting could be by conference call. At that meeting, the panel can decide on additional dates to allow the members to review the report and make recommendations.

Public Comment

Nicole Betty, M.D. addressed the panel regarding data that should be included such as board certification of the qualifying physicians and unrestricted practice.

Ms. Chandrasekhar explained the requirements to become a qualified physician do not include board certification. She said the physicians are listed on OMMU's web site and a patient could select a physician in their area and then research the physician's qualifications on the Department of Health's web site.

Ms. Kemp explained there is no requirement in the law to gather specific specialties or certification.

Dr. Rosenberg said he would be interested in that information but it is not what the law allows.

Ms. Chandrasekhar and the members responded to Dr. Betty's questions regarding the registry.

Old Business

None

The meeting adjourned at 4:16 pm.