

RN Newsletter

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NEW "PURPLE BOOK"

The West Virginia Board of Examiners for Registered Professional Nurses and the West Virginia State Board of Examiners for Licensed Practical Nurses have revised the "Purple Book" (formal title "Criteria for Determining Scope of Practice for Licensed Nurses and Guidelines for Determining Acts That May Be Delegated or Assigned By Licensed Nurses"). The main points of change relate to the law which passed related to medication administration by unlicensed assistive personnel. The Delegation Model includes this new language as well as language pertaining to the collection of some specimens.

The Board encourages everyone to read through this document in its entirety in order to be familiar with it and to be able to apply it in the work setting. This information will assist you in continuing to provide safe care to the citizens of West Virginia.

LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITY

The Board has been following it's own bill for the changes made to the Discipline Rule. The Legislative Session ends at midnight, April 14, 2001.

A bill was introduced to require the Board to appoint a commission to study the nursing shortage. House Bill 2504 is pending in the House Government Organization Committee at the time of this printing.

BOARD LOOKS AT NURSING SHORTAGE

During the March 2000 Board Meeting, the Board discussed the current nursing shortage. The Board appointed an ad hoc committee to gather information and study the circumstances in West Virginia related to this issue. Dr. Catherine V. Nolan provided an overview of the information already obtained through the nine county study entitled "North Central West Virginia Nursing Workforce Network". Healthy discussion ensued regarding other data to obtain and ways to obtain it.

Board members on the Committee include Dr. Patsy Haslam, Board President; Dr. Cynthia Persily and Pamela Alderman.

The West Virginia Organization of Nurse Executives, West Virginia Nurses Association, Deans and Directors of Nursing Education Programs and representatives from the Board met April 8, 2001 to discuss this issue as well. As more information is obtained it will be shared. If you have any information to share regarding the nursing shortage, please forward it to the Board.

ADVANCED PRACTICE NURSES

Evidence of current advanced practice certification must be maintained in the Board office to continue to hold Announcement of Advanced Practice.

Take time to check your certification and send a copy of the card to the Board so our files remain current.

CONTINUING EDUCATION

Continuing Education Audits are in progress. It is important to comply with this request in the time frame provided. Failing to send the information to the Board within the required time frame will result in the assessment of a fine and administrative costs related to the audit.

ANCC INACTIVE STATUS

The American Nurses Credentialing Center notified the Board that they are going to implement an "inactive" status for certifications. A certification placed on an "inactive" status is considered by this Board as NOT CURRENT. Therefore, a registered professional nurse with an "inactive" certification status could not obtain or maintain Announcement of Advanced Practice with this Board.

PRESCRIPTIVE AUTHORITY RENEWAL REMINDER

All renewals for Prescriptive Authority have been mailed by certified mail. All Prescriptive Authority Privileges expire June 30, 2001. To insure that your prescriptive authority is not interrupted return the renewal immediately.

REGISTERED NURSE MIDWIFE RENEWALS

Nurse Midwife renewals have been mailed. Please return these as soon as possible to assure processing prior to July 1, 2001.

CHECKS WITH INSUFFICIENT FUNDS

During the renewal season the Board receives several checks which are returned for insufficient funds. Notices are sent to the individual upon the agency's receipt of the returned check. If you have received a notice, there is a timeline for redeeming the check. After this time period, the license issued in good faith becomes void. When we are unable to obtain redemption through the regular mailing process we will contact the agency listed as the employer.

If we are unable to locate you through your employer your name will be published in the next R.N. Newsletter.

HAVE YOU SEEN????

Michele Himmelrick Moore License 55590

Weirton, WV

John Cox License 52481

Long Beach, CA

The Board has been unable to locate these individuals. Should you know their whereabouts please contact the Board or ask the licensee to contact the Board. Thank you.

ADDRESS CHANGE

Remember to provide the Board with an address change within thirty (30) days of your change of address. This is a requirement in the law. The request needs to be submitted in writing to the Board office.

The West Virginia Board of Examiners for Registered Professional Nurses and the West Virginia State Board of Examiners for Licensed Practical Nurses have revised the "Purple Book" (formal title "Criteria for Determining Scope of Practice for Licensed Nurses and Guidelines for Determining Acts That May Be Delegated or Assigned By Licensed Nurses"). The main points of change relate to the law which passed related to medication administration by unlicensed assistive personnel. The Delegation Model includes this new language as well as language pertaining to the collection of some specimens.

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