

**NEW YORK STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT
STATE BOARD FOR CLINICAL LABORATORY TECHNOLOGY**

**Meeting Minutes
Friday, January 31, 2025
11:00am- 1:00 pm**

**80 Wolf Road,
3rd Floor, Rooms A and B,
Albany, NY
And
Via Web-Ex**

Members present: Nader Okby, Chair; Kathleen M. Crowley, Vice Chair; Mary Ellen Clerkin; Alyson L. Rutigliano; Maria Friedlander; Jeninne Wright; Sumanta Goswami; Adrienne Boyd; Melissa Stemmer; Heidi Escobar

Members excused: Adam Tegnander

Extended members present: Angela Tomei-Robinson

Board Office Staff present: Suzanne Sullivan, Executive Secretary; Renée Gecsedí, Associate in Nursing Education; Heidi Weinman, Secretary

Guest Observers: Eloise Aita, Past-President of the NYS Clinical Laboratory Association; Jane Pine Wood, President of the NYS Clinical Laboratory Association; Amy Kellogg, Harter, Secrest, and Emery Law for NYS Clinical Laboratory Association

Call to Order and Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 11:01 AM. Approval of the June 14, 2024, Clinical Laboratory Technology Board Meeting minutes was deferred.

Discussion of New York's Open Meeting Law and Quorum Requirements

Ms. Sullivan described New York's Open Meetings Law, which allows the public to observe, but not necessarily participate in, meetings of New York government bodies, including the Clinical Laboratory Technology (CLT) Board. She explained that to conduct business, a quorum of members must be present. To achieve a quorum at a CLT Board meeting, at least seven voting members of the CLT Board must be physically present at the meeting or participate in the meeting by video teleconference at a location open to the public. Public location(s) for the meeting must be publicly disclosed at least a week in advance of the meeting. Ms. Sullivan stated that participation in a CLT Board meeting by Web-Ex from a non-public location does not count towards quorum. Ms. Sullivan suggested that a quorum would be needed at some CLT Board meetings each year. A discussion of the Open Meetings Law and quorum requirements ensued.

News

Ms. Sullivan thanked CLT Board Members (and Angela Tomei Robinson in particular) for their ongoing efforts to address the clinical laboratory workforce shortage in New York State. She stated that the CLT Board's efforts have contributed to an increase in the number of persons licensed as New York State clinical laboratory technology professionals in recent years. She shared data demonstrating this.

Ms. Sullivan stated that the New York State's Budget Bills (for the 2026 fiscal year) did not include any proposals that directly impact clinical laboratory technology practitioners. One CLT Board Member sought information regarding a new law that permits emergency services providers to store blood and administer blood transfusions during an emergency. A brief discussion ensued.

Ms. Sullivan described an amendment to the New York Public Health Law that aligns personnel requirements for New York State clinical laboratories with Clinical Laboratory Improvement Act (CLIA) regulations. For example, this new law allows persons to qualify for a Clinical Laboratory Director Certificate of Qualification (CQ) in New York State if they meet the minimum requirements for the CQ under federal CLIA regulations. Ms. Sullivan noted that the new law also eliminates outdated workload restrictions for cytotechnologists and allows the New York State Department of Health to establish cytotechnologist workload standards that are at least as stringent as CLIA regulations. Ms. Sullivan stated that DOH will probably adopt implementing regulations that specifically define requirements for clinical laboratory directors and for cytotechnologist practice. A brief discussion ensued.

Discussion of Proposed CLT Board Guidance for Stem Cell Processes Training Programs

Ms. Sullivan and CLT Board Members reviewed a draft document that sets forth criteria for stem cell processing training programs. She briefly summarized training program criteria that are described in New York Law, such as that the training program should be a minimum of one year of full-time or part-time equivalent.

Ms. Sullivan sought input from CLT Board Members on didactic course content that must be provided by Stem Cell Processes Training Programs. CLT Board Members suggested that Stem Cell Processes Training Programs include didactic content in Immunology, Biotherapies, Bioethics, and Donor Testing and Eligibility. Three CLT Board Members offered to identify additional educational topics for inclusion in draft document after reviewing other documentation. One CLT Board Member recommended that Training Programs cover quality assurance procedures that verify the integrity of cell products, such as the tracking of cell therapy products and cell samples. Some CLT Board Members suggested that Training Programs include hands-on training in appropriate handling of liquified gasses used in cryopreservation of cell samples.

CLT Board Members discussed the importance of ensuring that persons participating in Stem Cell Processes Training Programs had completed undergraduate or graduate level coursework in chemistry and biology. Ms. Sullivan stated that she would share an updated version of the guidance document at the next CLT Board Meeting.

New Business

There was no new business brought forth.

Meeting adjourned at 1:02 PM.