

**Minutes of the Meeting of the
New York State Committee on Pathologists' Assistants
Thursday, January 26, 2023
1411 Broadway NY, NY**

Draft

Meeting is called to order at 2:00 pm.

Committee Members Present: Charles Fernandez-Perez, Mohammad Zuber Nakadar, Adam Tegnander, Physician member Dr. Bernard Ng, Medicine Board liaison Dr. Maria Plummer, and public member Nancy Halleck.

Committee Members Absent: None.

Staff Members Present: Stephen Boese, Executive Secretary to the Board in New York City; Carla Wells, Education Program Assistant 2, Lee Fitzgerald, Education Program Assistant 1.

Guest Present: Beverly Rauch-Director, NYSDOH Clinical Laboratory Evaluation Program.

Review of Roster: State Committee for Pathologists' Assistants roster was shared for review and updated as needed.

Introductions: Everyone introduces themselves and their credentials.

Today we have a new member, Adam Tegnander. He is a licensed Pathologist Assistant as well as a certified Histological Technician. He is the program director of the Histotechnician program at SUNY Cobleskill. He is also a member of the Clinical Laboratory Board and has been serving on that board since 2018.

Review of Minutes: As there was no quorum at the last meeting, the minutes from the last meeting and this meeting will be reviewed today. The minutes have been reviewed and approved.

Update from the Office of Professions: The new OP website was released in December. Overall, the implementation of the new website has been a success though there may be some technical issues—users are encouraged to report potential bugs using the ticket submission form at the top of the website. There are plans over the next two years to increase functionality including a portal where licensees and license applicants can access their account information.

The ability to meet via WebEx has expired, so all members need to join meetings at SED sites at Albany, NYC, Syracuse, or Rochester. There is a provision that allows for the agency to set

policy for extraordinary circumstances where a member would not be able to meet in-person. This policy is still under development with the Board of Regents.

Presentation: Beverly Rauch-Director, NYSDOH Clinical Laboratory Evaluation Program:

Beverly Rauch visits from the NYSDOH Clinical Laboratory Evaluation Program to present to the committee on supervising requirements and specimen tracking for Histology. Licensed Pathologist Assistants with 4-6 years of experience can supervise a Histopathologist depending on their degree. The DOH is looking to reduce the years of experience needed to supervise by revising the regulation. The regulation also requires in-person supervision and Executive Order #4 temporarily allows for remote supervision. The DOH is also seeking to make this permanent with the regulation revisions.

A new title for Histotechnologists will be effective under Education law in early 2024. The DOH will be discussing supervising requirements with the SED's Clinical Laboratory Board.

There are two main standards that specify the requirements for specimen labeling. Specimen Processing Standard of Practice 1 requires the specimen to be labeled with two unique identifiers. Specimen Processing Standard of Practice 5 requires a unique laboratory identifier such as an accession number and a patient identifier.

CLEP standards were revised in 2019/2020, but there were no significant changes to histopathology standards.

Other Issues:

At the previous meeting the committee discussed whether Pathologists Assistants could be licensed in NYS with foreign education, and whether they could use that education to apply for the licensing examination through the ASCP. Mr. Nadakar has initiated discussions with the ASCP and is going to follow-up to see if they have made a decision. If the ASCP does not let these individuals sit, they could not be licensed unless New York changes the regulation to allow for other examinations.

Next Meeting will be scheduled for some time in the Fall, during this Summer.

Meeting adjourned at 2:38 pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Lee Fitzgerald

Education Program Assistant 1