

**Minutes of the Meeting of the
New York State Committee on Pathologists' Assistants Friday,
February 16, 2024
1411 Broadway NY, NY**

Draft

Meeting is called to order at 10:05 am.

Committee Members Present: Charles Fernandez-Perez, Medicine Board liaison Dr. Maria Plummer, and public member Nancy Halleck.

Committee Members Absent: Mohammad Zuber Nakadar, Adam Tegnander, and Physician member Dr. Bernard Ng.

Staff Members Present: Stephen Boese, Executive Secretary to the Board; Carla Wells, Education Program Assistant 2; Lee Fitzgerald, Education Program Assistant 2, Michelle Pawlowski, Education Credential Specialist 2, and Kellie Murphy of NSYED Professions Connections.

Review of Minutes:

Minutes are reviewed and there are no objections, but there is no quorum so they will vote to approve at the next meeting.

Update from the Office of Professions:

There were 16 Path A's licensed in 2022 and 2023 numbers haven't been tabulated yet but are estimated in the low 20's. Licensing has proceeded smoothly.

Review of Policy: Overview of the practice of a licensed Pathologists' Assistant in NYS:

The committee reviewed our current regulations and statutes, as well as the listed description of professional practice on our website. The only suggested change is under Autopsy Pathology, the second bullet point could be changed from "understand different evisceration..." to "understand and perform if needed different evisceration..." The Committee would like the absent members to add their input before making the change on our website, so Mr. Boese will send the question via email to get a consensus.

Presentation: Paths to the Professions:

Kelly Murphy from the NYSED Professions Connections Unit gave a presentation on the Paths to the Professions website. The Professions Connections Unit serves as a liaison between NYSED and licensed professionals, working together with students, educators, and other agencies. Paths to the Professions is intended to raise awareness on the career paths within licensed professions. They are looking for feedback from the committee members to ensure that the information on their website is accurate, as well as help creating or sharing a video with details of the profession.

The "Explore Careers" page lists all the professions with links to individual pages. Each page has a general description of the profession, an informational video, salary information, job locations, interests/abilities the profession would appeal to, and professional skills needed to succeed in said profession. Each

profession also has a "Print Profile" which is an informational flyer that can be displayed on a wall in a school. Each Print Profile has a QR code that leads directly to the Office of Professions website.

Other Issues:

AI in the field is developing but more on the physician pathologist side to help read slides. Committee members will ask colleagues to see if anyone is knowledgeable to give a presentation at the next meeting.

Next Meeting Date:

We'll send an email to establish another meeting date.

Meeting adjourned at 11:00 am.

Draft respectfully submitted,

Carla Wells

Education Program Assistant 2

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