

Minutes of the Meeting of the
NYS Medicine Board
September 11, 2026
1411 Broadway NY, NY

Board Members Present: Dr. Roosevelt Boursiquot; Dr. Rebecca Butterfield; public member Dr. Alice Fornari EdD; Dr. Elisabeth Guthrie; John Hallowell PA-C; Dr. Gregory Harvey; Brenton LaRicca PA-C; Dr. Audrey Murray; public member Dr. Mohammad-Zuber Nakadar MBBS; Dr. Maria Plummer; Dr. Elliott Salamon; Dr. Ira Salom; Dr. Nancy Sapio; Dr. Neeta Shah; Dr. Rahul Sharma; Dr. Amit Shelat; Dr. Steven Sherman; Dr. Kristen Walker and Dr. David Wlody.

Board Members Absent: Dr. Amit Garg; Dr. Martha Grayson; Dr. Krishan Kumar; Dr. Louis Papa; Dr. Ramanathan Raju; and Dr. Najeeb Rehman

Guests Present: David Besser, MD, Executive Secretary of the Office of Professional Medical Conduct; Cassandra Pineda, Assistant Vice President of Graduate Medical Education and Health Workforce of GNYHA; Olorunfemi Ajikan, MBBS; Ronaire Morris, MD.

Staff Members Present: Stephen Boese, Executive Secretary to the Board; Michelle Pawlowski, Education Credentials Specialist 2; Carla Gibbons, Education Program Assistant 2; and Lee Fitzgerald, Education Program Assistant 2.

Meeting is called to order by Dr. Shelat at 9:30 am.

Welcome and Introductions: Today is the first meeting for our new D.O. board member, Dr. Elliott Salamon. As a member of the Board for Medicine, Dr. Salamon would help fill the statutory requirement that at least two members be Doctors of Osteopathy.

Dr. Elliott Salamon is Chief Operating Officer and Managing Partner for NY Neurologic Associates and Attending Physician at the LI Jewish Hospital System. He is also Clinical Assistant professor in Neurology at Hofstra Northwell School of Medicine and Clinical Instructor at Weil Cornell Medical College. He earned a Doctorate in Osteopathic Medicine from the NY College of Osteopathic Medicine and had his post graduate training entirely in NYS, including NY Presbyterian, Long Island Jewish, Albert Einstein and Maimonides. He is Board Certified by the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology with a subcertification in Vascular Neurology.

Motion to Accept Minutes: Motion was made, seconded, and passed to accept the minutes from the June 2026 meeting.

Chair's Report: Today is the last meeting for the board chair, Dr. Amit Shelat, as well as the vice-chair, Dr. Louis Papa and the Pathologists' Assistants committee liaison, Dr. Maria Plummer. All three members are ending their second term in September. Board members are limited to two 5-year terms. Mr. Boese presented Dr. Shelat with a certificate of appreciation for his service as chair.

Report from the Advisory Committee on Clinical Clerkships: By virtue of being the Medicine Board's Chair, Dr. Shelat also serves as co-chair on the Advisory Committee on Clinical Clerkships. Dr. Shelat reports that the University of Debrecen in Hungary was approved by the committee for a 7-year period to send their students on clerkships for more than 12 weeks in New York State.

International Medical Graduate Workgroup Report: The IMG workgroup reviews license application materials for applicants who completed their postgraduate training in another country. The committee reviewed 36 applications since the previous meeting. 33 of those were postgraduate training evaluations and 3 applications were for licensure by Endorsement of a foreign license. The Endorsement pathway provides an opportunity for highly qualified applicants to bypass the requirement for the USMLE examinations. Several board members volunteered at the meeting to fill vacancies for the workgroup.

Election for Board Leadership: The board members voted on their selections for a new chair, new vice-chairs, and a new FSMB liaison for 2027. Anonymous paper ballots were collected at the meeting and counted by the Executive Secretary, Stephen Boese.

Dr. Rahul Sharma has been elected by the board members as the new chair. Dr. Martha Grayson and Dr. Elisabeth Guthrie have been elected as vice-chairs. Dr. Neeta Shah has been elected as the new FSMB liaison.

Executive Secretary's Report: Mr. Boese reports that the Medical Aid in Dying law (MAID) went into effect on August 5th, 2026. The New York State Department of Health has created comprehensive practice guidance and a [webpage](#) with resources through their main website. Because MAID has not created any changes to the education law, NYSED has declined to post separate guidance. Any questions on MAID concerning physician participation and responsibilities should be directed to the NYS Department of Health.

Mr. Boese will attend a meeting held by the FSMB on AI in medicine. AI has the potential to completely change the practice of medicine, and it is important for regulators to understand this so they can implement appropriate guardrails. Several board members expressed interest in learning more about the subject in upcoming meetings and inviting experts to give presentations on the issue to the board. Dr. Humayun "Hank" Chaudhry, President and CEO of the Federation of State Medical Boards will attend the December medicine board meeting and will address FSMB activities in relation to AI.

The Medicine Board has four professional committees that report back to them on issues in their professions. The committees include Athletic Training, Medical Physics, Pathologists' Assistants, and Perfusionists. The medicine board has a liaison member who attends each of these committee meetings. Dr. Ramanathan Raju serves as the liaison for the Athletic Training committee, and Dr. Maria Plummer has served as the liaison for the Pathologists' Assistants committee. After she ends her current term, there will be a vacancy for a new liaison. There are also immediate vacancies for liaisons for the Medical Physics Committee and the Perfusion Committee. Dr. Mohammad-Zuber Nakadar has volunteered to take over as the Pathologists' Assistants liaison after Dr. Plummer's departure.

Naming Physician Practices: Carla Gibbons gives a presentation to the Board on the Department's process for approving names for professional corporations and professional limited liability companies owned by physicians. Carla is the staff member of the Medicine Board office who initially reviews these applications. When a physician would like to form a PC or a PLLC, they must first apply to the State Education Department for consent to form that PC, then NYSED sends this approval to the NYS Department of State to incorporate the business.

It is the longstanding policy of the department that a physician who would like to use a specialty in their practice name must hold an ABMS or AOA board certification in that particular specialty. There have been rare cases that if a specialty certification does not exist for that particular category, then the applicant can present similar credentials for review. The Medicine Board's leadership may be consulted for their opinions on particular cases. It is important that these are considered carefully because approval of any particular name sets precedent for future naming of other businesses

If there are multiple owners of a practice, both co-owners must be board-certified in the specialty where the name is used. If an owner leaves the practice or if a new one is added on, they must notify the State Education Department to determine if the name can still be used. People with different professional licenses cannot co-own a PC or PLLC. For example, a physician and a physician assistant could not co-own such a practice, nor could a physician and a nurse practitioner.

The practice name should appropriately describe the profession practiced and the services provided. This should be conveyed in a way that is understandable to the average consumer. The name cannot be misleading or promise results or "cures". You cannot have superlatives or claims of superiority like "best", "elite", etc. The same rules apply for assumed names and DBAs. The use of terms like "center", "clinic" and hospital cannot be used for private practices and would instead fall under the purview of the hospital law, Article 28.

Officials at the Department have requested policy guidance from the Medicine Board on what credentials should be required for practices who present themselves as "experts" on medically aided dying. The Department has received an application proposing a practice name that uses this term. The question is would this be considered a specialty and if so, what expertise should be expected? Hospice care and palliative care is a sub-specialty of several ABMS and AOA recognized specialty boards. The board supports a policy requiring this specific certification. The application in question will be reviewed like any other application, and the Medicine Board will notify the Department of their decision for legal review.

IMG Workgroup: Stephen Boese gives a presentation to the board on the Medicine Board's process for reviewing license applicants with international postgraduate training. The licensure regulations essentially require that international medical graduates present 3 years of accredited training (ACGME or AOA), or the substantial equivalent. For non-accredited training, the Board for Medicine and the NYS Education Department generally expect to see at least two years of training to compensate for every one year of accredited training lacking. For non-accredited post graduate training, the workgroup typically expects documented training experiences to have

provided instructional objectives, educational objectives, periodic formative evaluations, and a summative evaluation/test at the end that demonstrates that the applicant has acquired the intended competencies. Stephen emphasized that this is not a required checklist, but instead is a guide to determine that the training experience is indeed training, and not simply work experience. The Medicine Board also generally expects to see a logical progression in the required training, comparable to at least three years of ACGME or AOA accredited training.

There is also a process of applying by Endorsement of a foreign license. Applicants who hold a valid license in another country may be eligible to be licensed in NYS without having to complete the United States Medical Licensing Examination. These cases are for the most exceptional applicants, and they must present some sort of demonstration of clinical competency and proficiency such as a diplomate certificate earned by examination, clinical post professional medical education PhD, or other acceptable certifications earned by examination. Individuals may not apply for endorsement if they have failed any step or level of the USMLE or COMLEX exams without subsequently passing that part.

Professional Committee Reports: Dr. Plummer provides an update on the Pathologists' Assistants committee. The committee met twice since the last medicine board's last meeting in June. The committee received an inquiry from the American Association of Pathologists' Assistants regarding the scope of practice of a pathologists' assistant vs the scope of practice of a histotechnologist. There is concern in the industry that tasks are inappropriately being delegated to histotechnologists that should be performed by pathologists' assistants. Histotechnologists are trained in cutting a specimen and making it into a slide. They sometimes also gross small specimens. The concern comes from histotechnologists grossing complex specimens. Current regulations do not distinguish the grossing complexity levels between pathologists' assistants and histotechnologists. Pathologists' assistants have a higher level of education and specialized training than histotechnologists do.

The Pathologists' Assistants committee and the Executive Secretary to the Clinical Laboratory board met with the AAPA to discuss these concerns. All parties involved want to ensure patient protection. The licensees handling these specimens should have the appropriate level of education and training to do so. On the other hand, strict requirements can lead to disruptions in service. This may particularly be an issue in hospitals in rural areas. The committee recommended further research on this issue and draft practice guidance which will divide tasks into "zones". Simple tasks that a histotechnologist can perform, intermediate tasks that can be delegated to an appropriately-trained histotechnologist on a case by case basis, and complex tasks that should only be performed by a pathologists' assistant.

Next Meeting Dates: The next meetings are set for 12/4/2026, 3/5/2027, 6/4/2027, 9/10/2027 at 9:30 am. Meeting adjourned at 12:30 pm.

Draft respectfully submitted,

Lee Fitzgerald
Education Program Assistant 2