

**NYSDA Council on Dental Education & Licensure**  
**15 March 2013**  
**Meeting Minutes - *Final***

The NYSDA Council on Dental Education & Licensure met in Albany on Friday, 15 March 2013. Present were: Dr. Rekha Gehani, Chair; Dr. Gary Goldstein (sub-3); Dr. John Ida (4); Dr. Terrence Thines (5); Dr. Patricia Carlson (7); Dr. Donald Tucker (8), Dr. Christopher Tota (9); Dr. James Fitzgerald (N); Dr. Paul Leary (S), and Dr. Keith Margulis (B). Also in attendance were Dr. Craig Ratner, NYSDA Board of Trustees Liaison to CDEL; Dr. Mark J. Feldman, NYSDA Executive Director; Ms. Laura Leon, NYSDA Assistant Executive Director, and Ms. Lou Carol Lecce, Development Manager. Dr. Brian Kennedy attended a portion of the meeting via conference call.

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. The Council adopted the minutes from the September 2012 meeting and today's meeting agenda.

**ADA CERP Related**

NYSDA was asked to comment on a proposal being considered by the ADA CERP Committee to separate itself formally from the ADA. Currently CERP is a standing committee of the ADA CDEL and as such it reports to the CDEL, which is responsible for approving the CERP report. There are those who feel this relationship presents a potential conflict with a professional organization certifying itself as an accepted CE provider. As the approving authority for CERP decisions and policies, CDEL could face pressures from outside the continuing education arena with regards to the CERP process. After hearing from past Dr. Brian Kennedy, a past chair of both ADA CERP and ADA CDEL, the NYSDA CDEL agreed that the ADA should continue to explore the possibility of separating CERP from the ADA depending on how the new entity would be able to support itself. This issue will come back to the ADA House for final action.

**Licensure Related**

Due to the electoral considerations at the ADA last year, not much movement has occurred with respect to the development of a portfolio-style examination for licensure purposes designed to assess a candidate's clinical competence with a third-party assessment that is valid and reliable psychometrically. Dr. Leary, chair of the NYSDA PGY-1 Workgroup, summarized what that group has discussed regarding possible changes to the current law should there ever come a time when alternate avenues to licensure become necessary. Current PGY1 law requires the completion of a CODA approved program because such programs have an outcome assessment which is required for licensure. Dr. Leary discussed examples of portfolio approaches to licensure, which might include a hybrid model blending past experience in dental school (portfolio exam) with a year of residency. The Council had extensive discussion on the many complexities a hybrid approach presents but concluded that the possibility of developing a non-live patient exam along with one year of internship that might allow acceptance across the country was worth exploring. The Council members encouraged the continuation of this

study with input from both the Council and the PGY1 Workgroup. Dr. Gehani noted that this study should in no way be construed as an alteration of current non-live based patient examinations within the State of New York.

The Council voted unanimously in favor of the following:

**RESOLVED:** That Council on Dental Education & Licensure support the continued study of concepts such as but not exclusive to a portfolio approach to licensure as an enhancement to the existing PGY1 model, and that the results of such study be reported to the CDEL for further review.

### **Anesthesia**

The State Education Department has not yet promulgated proposed changes to anesthesia regulations. NYSDA continues to have serious concerns about the implications of such changes. As noted at CDEL's last meeting, the proposed regulations could result in exacerbating the current insufficient pool of dental anesthesiologists who can provide care to developmentally disabled, phobic, medically compromised and pediatric patients.

### **ISTOP**

The ISTOP bill has been signed into law, and with it will come significant changes to how opioid drugs are prescribed. As regulations are implemented, NYSDA will continue to educate its members by all methods available. Dr. Ratner updated CDEL members about the NYSDA Task Force on Electronic Applications, which has finished production of its first on-line continuing education seminar, accessible through links on the NYSDA and NYS Dental Foundation websites. The Task Force's priorities are determining the feasibility of establishing relationships with vendors for product development and/or endorsement to enable members to implement the forthcoming I-STOP regulations, implementing regular communication with NYSDA members about technology and the work of the task force; and developing related continuing education programs.

### **Additional**

The Council had a brief discussion about scope of practice issues. Currently dentists in New York are prohibited from making certain diagnoses or perform certain procedures even when they are directly related to oral health. For instance, a dentist can fabricate a sleep apnea device but a medical doctor must provide the diagnosis. The Council will review aspects and issues relating to scope of practice in order to determine at its next meeting whether any modifications to the current scope of practice for dentistry should be sought.

Dr. Gehani stated that she had recently spoken to Ms. Sue Camizzi of the NYS Dental Assistants Association. That group continues to advocate for mandated certification for dental assistants and NYSDA will continue to advocate for an easier pathway to certification but will not endorse mandatory certification for all.

The Commission on Dental Accreditation has announced they will consider developing criteria for dental therapists but the ADA House of Delegates will be reviewing this decision with them.

### **Good and Welfare**

The Council members nominated Dr. Gehani for another term as CDEL Chair. Dr. Gehani thanked Dr. Ida for his meritorious service to the Council. Dr. Ratner commended the Council for its thoughtful discussion on issues relating to education and licensure. The next CDEL meeting will be a videoconference on a date in the fall to be announced.

There being no further issues to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 2:00 p.m.