

NYSDA Council on Dental Education & Licensure Meeting Minutes – 23 March 2018 – *Final*

The NYSDA Council on Dental Education & Licensure met in Albany on Friday, 23 March 2018. Present were: Dr. Terrence Thines, Chair; Dr. Gail E. Schupak (NYC); Dr. Deborah Pasquale (2); Dr. John Milza (4); Dr. Patricia L. Carlson (7); Dr. Joseph Gambacorta (8); Dr. Tamara Kroboth (substituting for Dr. Christopher Tota (9); Dr. James Fitzgerald (N); Dr. Rekha C. Gehani (Q); Dr. Dimitrios Kilimitzoglou (S), and Dr. Keith Margulis. Also in attendance were Dr. Robert Margolin, NYSDA Board of Trustees Liaison to CDEL; Dr. Mark J. Feldman, NYSDA Executive Director; Ms. Laura Clark Leon, NYSDA Assistant Executive Director, and Ms. Carley Libertucci, NYSDF Program Services Manager. The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m.

Dental Assisting

NYSDA and the NYS Education Department (SED) have been working collaboratively to review the education and registration process for dental assistants in New York State, primarily by changing the term “certified dental assistant” to “registered dental assistant,” in order to alleviate confusion between those who are DANB-certified and those who are NYS certified. During a recent conference call between SED and dental assisting educators, discussion centered on whether it would make sense for the infection control exam [ICE] to serve as the only exam for licensure of dental assistants in this state. SED takes issue with the fact that ICE by itself does not measure applicants knowledge of curricular areas attained in a program; the portion of the DANB that NYS applicants have consistently had the most trouble with is general chair side skills. DANB does give state specific examinations that evaluate basis dental assisting skills and incorporates ICE, RHS and chair side all in one exam. This option will continue to be explored.

Anesthesia

SED is encouraging residency programs with an enteral or parenteral component, such as pediatric dental residencies, to have the anesthesia portion of the program approved by SED. Residents completing approved programs can apply for their anesthesia certificates without submitting all the curriculums, CVs, 20 individual cases and other things the Department requests be sent in order to obtain an anesthesia certificate. Providers have been very compliant about sending in program approvals for the 12 hours required for anesthesia license renewals.

Recognition of Dentists from Canadian Provinces

The public comment period for the proposed Amendment of Section 61.4 of the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education relating to the endorsement requirements for licensure of a dentist from another jurisdiction of the United States or Canada is over at the end of April. SED anticipates that this language will be approved at the May Regents meeting.

Specialty Recognition

Recently, the Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA) took action to eliminate the word “specialty” from all CODA documentation, and instead refer to all advanced dental education disciplines as “advanced education programs.” The basis for this is that CODA’s role is to

approve education programs and not approve specialty status. In New York, the Board of Regents approves and recognizes dental specialties. Thus, dental specialties have not gone away in New York because of this CODA change and they are not likely to go away.

CERP Related

NYSDA staff provided a review of the ADA CERP process, noting especially the areas in which organizations tend to fail in compliance, notably: evaluation; consistent recording of commercial conflict of interest; administration; publicity, and record keeping. Currently, 11 component dental societies are umbrella'd under the NYSDA CERP Extended Approval Program (EAP).

DIY Orthodontics

The Council discussed the following resolution, which was submitted by the New York County Dental Society for consideration by the 2018 Annual House of Delegates:

7B-2018:

RESOLVED: That NYSDA move decisively to ensure that basic standards of patient care (comprehensive oral examinations, radiographic evaluation, study models or scans of the mouth, treatment planning and prescribing, periodic and final progress assessments) be applied to DIY orthodontic clinics just as they are to licensed dental practitioners; and be it further

RESOLVED: That NYSDA move to educate state lawmakers about the risks of dental treatment without adequate oversight; and be it further

RESOLVED: That NYSDA communicate its concerns regarding DIY orthodontic services to the New York State Department of Education.

The Council agrees that this resolution is already NYSDA policy and, in fact, NYSDA complained to SED about DIY centers three years ago. SED is still investigating the clinics. The Council also agreed it did not hurt to have this resolution in front of the membership to highlight NYSDA's involvement.

New Business

At the recent meeting of the Downstate Dental Directors, the issue was raised about how time consuming it has been to receive necessary paperwork for foreign trained dentists. NYSDA will attempt to notify students to get their pre-DDS credentials in order before they begin their residencies.

Dr. Gambacorta informed the council that programs had submitted an application to the ADA Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA) seeking recognition and accreditation for post-graduate education programs in special needs dentistry. CODA rejected the initial application. Accreditation would expand the availability of these programs because they would be eligible for federal GME (graduate medical education) funding. These programs also would provide much needed source training for dentists in the management of patients with special medical needs and expand access for this patient population.

The Council discussed recently passed policy relating to the expansion of scope of procedures for which dental hygienists can administer nitrous oxide analgesia and/or local infiltration anesthesia. Dr. Feldman reported that recent meetings with the New York State Dental Hygienists Association (formerly the Dental Hygienist Association of the State of New York) have been productive and he is hopeful that NYSDA and NYSDHA can work collaboratively going forward. That said, NYSDHA would like to add block anesthesia to this measure, which is something that NYSDA has long opposed.

Dr. Feldman updated the Council on the continued challenge facing NYSDA's legislation, A.4543, which deletes language in the definition of dental practice that refers to restoring and maintaining dental health. Such language hinders the ability of dentists to perform some treatments (e.g., treatment in the maxillofacial area) which they are trained and qualified to do. This legislation is opposed by the Medical Society of the State of New York, which fears it will impact the scope of practice of its members.

In other legislative/regulatory news, NYSDA has put a temporary pause on pushing for statewide adoption of the curriculum integrated format exam, as this format continues to be opposed by the American Student Dental Association and the Academic Dental Centers. Dr. Gambacorta cited the need to integrate more faculty into the CIF process.

Dr. Fitzgerald was elected as incoming CDEL Chair, succeeding Dr. Thines, whose terms of office concludes in June.

The Council will be surveyed to determine the date of the fall videoconference. There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 1:15 p.m.