Views and News

Read the latest news and find out about the most recent state regulatory changes for your occupation in the Board of Medical Examiners eNewsletter News and Views. Here are the Board’s picks for important news.

Farewell to Arthur Fink, D.O.
The Board extends a thank you to Dr. Arthur Fink for his dedicated service to the Montana Board of Medical Examiners and the citizens of Montana. Since Dr. Fink’s initial appointment to the Board in 2002, he has served on many committees and held leadership positions, including Board President.

EMT Protocols Revised
The revised Montana EMT statewide protocols have been adopted by the Board and are available for download on the EMT website, under the “Instructor” tab. While much of the changes were minor and consisted of dosage changes and/or typographic corrections, there were a number of substantive changes. A few of those changes you should note include:

- First Responders can now utilize an AED
- Clotting agents can be used (under specific conditions)
- Morphine added to the “EMT-B medications endorse”
- A c-spine “inclusion” protocol was added to the “Head-Neck-Spine” protocol
- Pediatric medication doses have been adjusted for EMT-I and P
- Medical Direction “Performance Measures” identified for each protocol
- 12 lead “obtain and transmit” for “EMT-B with monitoring endorse”
- TIMI Risk Scoring form and Fibrinolytic screening and scoring form for “EMT-P with thrombolytic endorse”
- CPAP limits increased for all levels
- New Influenza Pandemic and Pain Management protocols

Regulatory Changes
The Board of Medical Examiners has proposed an addition to the administrative rules as listed in MAR Notice 24-156-74. The proposed changes define qualification criteria for those evaluation and treatment providers who would like to receive referrals by the professional assistance program. The Board will review and consider comments at the September Board meeting and make a decision on the adoption of the proposed rules.

Interim Committee Looks to Change Medical Marijuana Act
The Children, Families, Health, and Human Services Interim Committee has drafted a bill that will amend the Medical Marijuana Act. Some of the changes proposed by the committee will impact physicians who are writing certifications. The bill includes changes recommended by the Board, including the replacement of “bona fide physician patient relationship” with terminology that instructs physicians to follow medical standard of care, and to allow for certifications of less than one year. Read the proposed bill online by accessing the CFHHS Interim Committee information on the Interim Committee website. Read the Board’s position paper “Medical Marijuana: Physician’s Written Certification for Medical Marijuana and the Bona Fide Physician-Patient Relationship.”

Renewals
The online renewal process for acupuncturists, nutritionists, physician assistants and podiatrists with license end dates of October 31, 2010 is now open. Renewal notices for licensees that will expire in 2010 have been mailed. To access online renewal please go to https://app.mt.gov/renewal/. Wonder if you should be renewing your license? You can easily search for your licensure information on www.LicenseLookup.mt.gov.

Join us at a Board meeting!

2010 Board meetings
September 17
November 19

2011 Board meetings
January 21
March 18

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