



Tennessee Board of Radiologic Imaging and Radiation Therapy

Tuesday, November 27, 2018

MINUTES

The meeting of the **Tennessee Board of Radiologic Imaging and Radiation Therapy** was called to order at 9:03 a.m. in the Poplar Room, Ground Floor, Metro Center Complex, 665 Mainstream Drive, Nashville, Tennessee 37243.

Board members present: Gary Podgorski, MD
Matthew Fakes, RT(R)
Kae Fleming, RT(R)
Karen Munyon, BSRT(T) (CT)
Chester Ramsey, PhD, DABR
Pamela Ward, RT(R) (M) (CT) (BD)
Spencer Madell, MD

Board member(s) absent: None

Staff present: Angela Lawrence, Executive Director
Stacy Tarr, Administrative Director
Candyce Waszmer, Administrative Director
Peyton Smith, Office of General Counsel
Rene Saunders, M.D., Medical Consultant
Tammy Hulseley, Administrator

The meeting was called to order at 9:03 am.

Approval of Minutes

Minutes from October 2, 2018 were presented for approval.

Dr. Chester Ramsey made a motion to approve the October 2, 2018 minutes. Ms. Kae Fleming seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Roll Call

Each member of both the Board and Administrative Staff introduced themselves as listed above.

Discussion of the Rules:

Mr. Peyton Smith presented a condensed version of the rules. This revision contains 13 sections. The previous version contained 16 sections. Bone Densitometry was added as a totally separate section. Mr. Smith explained that the substantive content remains basically the same with the exception of the corrections/additions that were discussed at the last meeting (October 2, 2018). He stated that if the Board doesn't agree with this version, we can go back to the previous version. Mr. Smith reviewed the changes that were made to the rules:

0880-X-.03 SCOPE OF PRACTICE

Mr. Smith stated that this is the only substantive change made to the rules. This change was made because in a previous meeting, the Board stated that they wanted to provide an exemption for those who are cross training and getting the clinical hours needed to upgrade their current license.

- (1) Licensees must practice radiation therapy or radiologic imaging only in the licensed specialty areas contained on the license as issued or upgraded and only for the types of imaging and procedures specified in these rules. Practicing radiologic imaging or radiation therapy beyond the scope of license is grounds for revocation.
 - (a) Licensees engaged in clinical in order to upgrade their license with an additional specialty area may practice in the specialty area of training for a period of no more than two (2) years provided that the Licensee:
 1. Be supervised by either a Licensed Practitioner in conjunction and consultation with a Licensee with at least one (1) year of experience.
 2. Notify the Board's Administrative Office in writing that such training will take place. The two year training period will begin upon receipt of written notification, and the written notification must be signed by the Licensee's training supervisor(s).

Ms. Karen Munyon stated that she is fine with the way this section reads. There were no other comments from the remainder of the Board and Mr. Smith moved on to Rule 5 on page 5.

0880-X-.05 OBTAINING AND UPGRADING FULL LICENSE

Mr. Smith stated that this is where the Board can see the revised formatting. He again stated that the substance is the same, it's just a reorganization. The only new addition is in subsection 3(b)(iii): proof of US citizenship or evidence of being legally entitled to live or work in the US. This is required by the application, but was not in the rules.

Dr. Rene Saunders stated that the Board has previously decided on 70% as the pass rate for the limited examination. Bone Densitometry is a limited examination.

Ms. Munyon went back to Section .03 (4) regarding display of board issued licenses. She posed the question of whether or not radiation therapy licenses are required to be posted. The way it reads currently, radiation therapy licenses are not currently required to be posted. Mr. Smith stated that it should be changed to reflect all licenses regulated by this Board. It will be changed to read ...radiographic examinations, radiologic examinations, or radiation therapy.

0880-X-.06 OBTAINING AND UPGRADING LIMITED LICENSE

There was discussion regarding what is required for a limited licensee to receive a state license in bone densitometry. Currently, the requirement is that an applicant complete a core course and pass the core examination. They are not currently required to take a course or examination in bone densitometry.

Dr. Saunders asked Anne Watson, Radiology Education Services, whether the bone densitometry basic "core" course is significantly different from the "core" course completed by other modality students. Ms. Watson responded that these courses differ significantly. She also explained that bone densitometry "stands alone" meaning that there is no other radiographic imaging required to take the bone densitometry course and subsequent exam.

After much discussion, it was decided that the rules will be edited and bone densitometry will be in a section alone. The discussion continued in an attempt to make the requirements as clear as possible. Mr. Smith will edit the current rules to reflect the changes.

Dr. Saunders brought up whether or not the Board wants to have a procedure in place for programs that fail to meet the Board's requirements but has active students at the time of discipline. Mr. Smith stated that Section .07 (4) is broad and allows the Board to address each situation on a case-by-case basis.

0880-X-.8 APPLICATION REVIEW, APPROVAL, DENIAL, INTERVIEWS AND CONDITIONED OR RESTRICTED LICENSURE

Mr. Smith stated that this section has not been updated since the last rule revision. Typographical errors were noted and brought to Mr. Smith's attention. They will be corrected in future revisions of the rules.

0880-X-9 MAINTAINING LICENSE, RENEWAL, RETIREMENT AND REINSTATEMENT

Mr. Smith said that this section remains essentially the same with the addition of a clause under (b) Expired Licenses. The ability to prorate the amount of continuing education depending on how many years the license was expired. Dr. Saunders added that the amount of continuing education requirement should be capped at 2 years.

Ms. Fleming stated that since we are requiring a full licensee whose license has been retired to submit proof of certification by a National Certification Organization, there is no need to submit the continuing education to us as the NCO requires continuing education be up to date in order to retain certification. If a licensee retires their national certification or allows it to expire, they cannot obtain national certification without going back to school and retaking the national certification exam.

0880-5-.10 CONTINUING EDUCATION

Mr. Smith stated that this section has not been revised. The Board expressed that they are comfortable with the way that it reads.

Ms. Davis asked the Board whether or not they are comfortable with online radiologic education courses. The Board proceeded to discuss this issue. All courses must be approved by the Board. Currently there are no online courses that are Board approved. It was ultimately decided that online courses will be considered for approval on a case-by-case basis.

A discussion ensued regarding bone densitometry online courses. The Board's current clock hour requirement for a course in bone densitometry is 24 hours. After much discussion, it was decided that the number of clock hours required for each bone densitometry course will remain at 24.

Ms. Tarr began a discussion regarding limited licensees who want to upgrade to a full scope license. Recently, there have been several instances of this scenario. Administratively, one licensee cannot hold two licenses. These requests have been handled in one of two ways: (1) if the current license is expired, then they have been required to reinstate the expired limited license and then completed a new application for a full license, or (2) they have been allowed to complete a new application for a full license and administrative staff issues a full scope license under the existing license number. After discussion, it was decided that in order to obtain a full scope license, a licensee will need to complete a new application and, upon approval, the new license will be issued with the same license number. Issuance of a full scope license will deactivate the limited license.

0880-X-11 SUPERVISION

Mr. Smith asked whether, in addition to (2) which requires a copy of the license to be placed in the licensee's personnel file, a copy of the license should be publicly displayed. Ms. Munyon reminded Mr. Smith that this was addressed in a previous section.

A discussion ensued regarding "public display" of licenses. Various members of the Board voiced concern with the logistics of such display. Ms. Tarr reminded the Board that the requirement is statutory and cannot be changed by the Board.

Ms. Munyon pointed out that (3) states that, except when contrast imaging or sedation is involved, the physical presence of the supervising physician is not required. She voiced concern that radiation therapy can be done without the physical presence of a supervising physician. After much discussion, Dr. Spencer Madell made a motion to strike nos. 1 & 3 from this section. Dr. Podgorski seconded the motion. During discussion, Dr. Madell modified the motion to add the statutory requirement that they be under the supervision of a licensed practitioner. The motion passed.

Ms. Pamela Ward began a discussion regarding how those who are already licensed will get their credentials listed on their licenses. Dr. Saunders stated that it will be done upon renewal. The discussion continued regarding whether or not there will be a grandfather clause in these rules. Mr. Smith will research and discuss this with the legal team and bring recommendations to the next meeting.

After additional discussion, the Board decided that nothing should change except that the rule cited in Section.03 1(a) and (1) (Scope of Practice) should be removed. This rule refers to limited licenses.

Additional Comments:

Ms. Anne Watson drew attention to machine specific bone densitometry training by the manufacturer as part of the requirements for bone densitometry licensure. She stated that manufacturer training is cost prohibitive and often difficult to arrange. After discussion, the Board agreed to remove “manufacturer” and only require training by someone who has previously trained on the specific machine.

There being no further discussion, the meeting adjourned at 2:48p.m.