

**AAP Physician Credentialing, Licensure, and Maintenance of Certification Workgroup
Conference Call Summary
August 30, 2007**

Conference Call Participants:

Workgroup Members

Carol Clothier, Co-Chair
Frank Dornfest, MD
Sheldon Horowitz, MD
Lawrence Nazarian, MD
Paul Schyve, MD

Richard E. Hawkins, MD- Co-Chair
Douglas G. Peter, MD

Reentry Project Consultant

Kelly Towey, M.Ed.

Work Group Members Absent

Elizabeth Bower, MD, MPH

Guests/Observers

Saralyn Mark, MD, Content Expert
Holly Mulvey, MA, Reentry Project Co-Director

Welcome to newest member: Melissa K. Thomas, MD, PhD was welcomed to the workgroup. Dr. Thomas is the immediate past-chairperson of the AMA Council of Medical Education.

Summary of last conference call and update on activities:

Workgroup members reviewed the key discussion points from the June conference call. It was noted that this call focused on the credentialing, licensure, and maintenance of certification workgroup guidelines. During the June conference call workgroup members also agreed to develop scenarios to be used as a framework for gaining an understanding from various regulatory agencies about reentry policy procedures.

Scenario discussion and action items:

- Workgroup members agreed that the questions for each scenario should be the same. Sheldon Horowitz, MD, FAAP will provide a draft of the questions, including one question that addresses how procedures for reentry would be different if the scenario involved a physician in a surgery/procedural specialty.
- Carol Clothier will write a scenario regarding a physician who has been disciplined and seeks to reenter clinical practice.
- Melissa Thomas, MD, PHD will write a scenario focusing on a physician who wishing to reenter and change his or her specialty or focus.
- Workgroup members agreed that they would generate ideas for a selected sample of scenario and questions recipients.. These contacts may include medical specialty boards, medical licensing boards, and larger health plans.
- All of the above will be posted on the Workgroup Listserv within the next 2 weeks: reentrycred@listserv.aap.org
- Holly Mulvey noted that the information/guidelines/recommendations promulgated by this Workgroup will enable individual agencies, boards, medical societies, etc. to develop tool kits and other materials for their memberships and selected audiences.

Other key discussion points:

- It was agreed that the focus of this workgroup should be on what it takes for a physician to keep his/her credentialing rather than on competency issues. This involves two approaches: 1) prevention – what to do to help physicians keep their license and certification and 2) re-establishment -- how to help physicians who have lost/relinquished their credentials and desire to gain them back.
- Sheldon Horowitz, MD, FAAP shared that the American Board of Medical Specialties Maintenance of Certification Taskforce is developing general guidelines for reentry physicians.
- Holly Mulvey noted that the reentry project is working with the AMA Council on Medical Education in its development of guiding principles for physician reentry. All workgroup members will be provided an opportunity to submit feedback on the development of these principles in September.

Other follow up:

- Within the next 2 weeks, workgroup members will identify sample groups for the workgroup members to contact using the scenarios and submit their scenarios as indicated above.
- A conference call will be scheduled within 6 weeks of the August call.
- A revised workgroup roster will be sent out to the workgroup participants.