



**Important Information / Topics Covered in this Issue:**

- ◆ Recruitment—Two Board Vacancies for ND Board Members
- ◆ COVID—19—Oregon Health Authority Administrative Rule —Vaccine Mandate for ALL Health Care Workers
- ◆ Board of Naturopathic Medicine Administrative Rules—Adopted and Effective Immediately
- ◆ Continuing Education
- ◆ IV & Injection Therapy Education and Reporting Requirements
- ◆ CE submissions required / upload today.
- ◆ 2021-2023—Legislative Round Up
- ◆ Updated Board Remote Work / Contact Information
- ◆ 2021-22 Public Board Meeting Schedule

*The mission of the Oregon Board of Naturopathic Medicine is to protect the public through licensing and regulation of naturopathic physicians.*

*The Board will promote physician excellence and foster communication within the profession and with the public.*

**(Outgoing) Chair Dr. Jennifer Gibbons, ND:**

In my last message as Board Chair, I would like to say thank you to my fellow members for their time, dedication, and service to the naturopathic profession, particularly Keivan Jinnah, N.D., who is completing his six-year term. Thank you Keivan!



I am so proud of what we have accomplished over the past 6 years, including revising and updating our investigation and disciplinary processes, rewriting updated rules, revising continuing education requirements, and improving outreach to our schools and professional organizations.

We leave the Board in good hands with our current leadership and I look forward to seeing their future improvements and accomplishments. Serving on a board has been an invaluable experience and I encourage others to participate.

**(Incoming) Chair Joana Freedman, PT**



*I am pleased to be the incoming Chair of the OBNM. I served as a public member of the board since October 2017. I have previous licensing board experience, serving eight years on the Oregon Physical Therapist Licensing Board, four years as Chair (2002-2011). Professionally, I've been a practicing Physical Therapist for 38 years in a wide variety of treatment settings including acute care, outpatient orthopedics and geriatrics.*

*I would like to acknowledge the efforts of outgoing Chair Jennifer Gibbons, N.D. Dr. Gibbons gracefully led the Board during a tremendous time of change, including training of a new Executive Director, hiring a new Board Investigator, OAR Rule revisions regarding Continuing Education requirements, License Renewal, Injection Therapy training, Website Update and of course, COVID-19. Thank you Dr. Gibbons for your compassionate and thoughtful leadership to the OBNM.*

**Vice Chair—Dr. Tracy Erling, ND**

It has been my distinct pleasure to serve on the OBNM the last 5 years. With one more year to go I will sit again as Vice Chair (the easiest job with the best title). We have, like the rest of the world, learned the true meaning of adaptation and flexibility the last year plus. We have remained steadfast in our commitment to serve our community as we faced many new challenges together from virtual meetings to the power of the first amendment. I remain very proud of the work this board continues to tackle with thoughtful discussion, eloquence and laughter. I want to express my appreciation to the hardworking OBNM staff as well as honor our departing leader Dr. Jennifer Gibbons. Dr Gibbons has not only shined in her collaboration with our executive director to negotiate legislation and partnerships; she has also built and mended many bridges among the naturopathic community during her time. I look forward to meeting more of our community as we welcome new members to the Board!



**Call to Action—Opportunity to Serve on the Oregon Board of Naturopathic Medicine**

The Oregon Board of Naturopathic Medicine (**Board-ORS**) is currently **recruiting two Naturopathic Physicians** licensed in the State of Oregon to serve a three-year term as a member of the Board.

**Applications will be accepted from September 5—20 (Due to updates in the Governor's Ex. Appointment system—link to the membership application will be sent in a separate email after Sept 1.)**

There are seven members on the Board; five licensed Naturopathic Physicians and two public members. The Board meets bi-monthly, the second Monday of all even months.

Member responsibilities include (**Board OAR**), but are not limited to:

- Review administrative investigations to determine if a licensee committed a violation of an Oregon Administrative Rule (OAR) or Oregon Revised Statute (ORS).
- Advise Board staff on best practices, and communicate with the public and licensees on issues related to the practice of Naturopathic Medicine.
- Engage in administrative rule making and propose legislative concepts to carry out the mission of the Board.

[Click here](#) to learn more about the Board.

## **Oregon Health Authority Administrative Rule—COVID-19 Vaccine Mandate**

Governor Brown directed **Oregon Health Authority** to issue temporary rule **OAR 333-019-1010**—COVID-19 Vaccination Requirement for Healthcare Providers and Healthcare Staff in Healthcare Settings. This rule mandates **ALL health care workers, in ALL health care settings to be fully vaccinated**. This rule is **administered and enforced by the Oregon Health Authority**.

The Board of Naturopathic Medicine is not able to provide any legal advice regarding compliance with, or aid in interpreting a rule written, and/or implemented by another agency. **Please direct ALL inquiries regarding this rule, including enforcement and exemptions, to the Oregon Health Authority**.

### **Key Provisions of the Rule:**

- Section (1) (d) (A) & (B) defines / applies to ALL health care settings
- Section (1) (e) (A)-(C) defines / applies to ALL naturopathic physicians and ALL licensed and/or unlicensed staff.
- Section (1) (f) and (1) (g) define vaccine exemptions:
  - (f) "Medical exception" means that an individual has a physical or mental impairment that prevents the individual from receiving a COVID-19 vaccination.
  - (g) "Religious exception" means that an individual has a sincerely held religious belief that prevents the individual from receiving a COVID-19 vaccination.
- Section 2 (b) Documentation of a **medical or religious exemption**:
  - (A) A medical exception must be corroborated by a document signed by a medical provider, who is not the individual seeking the exception, on a form prescribed by the Oregon Health Authority, certifying that the individual has a physical or mental impairment that limits the individual's ability to receive a COVID-19 vaccination based on a specified medical diagnosis, and that specifies whether the impairment is temporary in nature or permanent.
  - (B) A religious exception must be corroborated by a document, on a form prescribed by the Oregon Health Authority, signed by the individual stating that the individual is requesting an exception from the COVID-19 vaccination requirement on the basis of a sincerely held religious belief and including a statement describing the way in which the vaccination requirement conflicts with the religious observance, practice, or belief of the individual.
- **Weekly Covid testing is no longer an alternative option in lieu of vaccination.** All (non-exempt) naturopathic physicians and staff are required to be vaccinated by October 18 or six weeks after full FDA approval, whichever is later.

## **Board of Naturopathic Medicine—Oregon Revised Statutes, Administrative Rules**

**ORS Chapter 685** contains laws (statutes) passed by the legislature to govern the occupation and profession of Naturopathic Medicine in the State of Oregon. The Board makes and enforces laws called administrative rules. Administrative rules are developed and enacted through a rule-making process, which includes public input. **OAR Chapter 850** regulate the profession of Naturopathic Medicine. Licensees must follow the Board's regulations set forth in the Oregon Revised Statutes (ORS) and Oregon Administrative Rules (OAR). A licensee may be disciplined for violation of both statutes and administrative rules.

The Board has made numerous changes to Administrative Rules in the last 12 months. **Please ensure that you read in full all of the newly adopted Board Administrative rules to ensure compliance:**

### **Administrative Rules Adopted October 2020– August 2021—Effective Immediately**

**850-001-0010** – **Requiring an Answer to Charges as Part of Notices to Parties in Contested Cases:** Sets forth conditions and requirements for a hearing request and answer by the licensee or the licensee's attorney in contested cases.

**850-010-0301** – **Mask, Face Covering, Face Shield Requirements** For the duration of the state of emergency, all licensed Naturopathic Physicians in the State of Oregon must wear and require all individuals to wear masks, face coverings or face shields upon entry and at all times while in an indoor health care setting. *\*This rule was implemented as a Permanent Rule in March 2021.*

**850-010-0100** – **Mode of Remittance (Repealed—text moved to 850-030-0035)**

**850-010-0310** – **Duty to Create, Maintain and Retain Medical and Billing Records:** Establish criteria and standards for creating, maintaining, retaining patient medical records and enables the Board to impose discipline for failure to follow standards and requirements.

**850-010-0350** – **Public Requests for Board Records**

**850-030-0035** – **Fees for Licensure, Examination, and Certification**

**850-060-0212** – **Education Requirements for Injection / IV and Chelation Therapy :** Sets forth education, training, and reporting requirements for injection / IV and Chelation Therapy. *\* This rule was revised and amended further—changes implemented in August 2021 to clarify reporting and education requirements.*

## **850-060-0212—Education and Reporting Requirements for Injection and IV Therapy.**

This rule requires specific education and training prior to, and to continue to engaging in Injection and IV Therapy.

Licensees must provide the proof of education and training required on / before December 31, 2021 to practice IV and injection therapy after January 1, 2022.

**Application of the Rule:** This rule applies to ALL licensees that engage in injection and IV therapy. Completion of education and training is required per section of the rule, prior to engaging in the therapy described in the corresponding section of the rule. Completion of each section of the rule is required prior to moving on to the therapy described in the next section of the rule.

**Reporting Requirements:** Licensees may report / submit an application for approval for education and training completed prior to the adoption of this rule.

The rule allows licensees that have practiced IV and Injection therapy for more than 10 years to submit to the Board a CV and a letter of explanation of equivalent training and education per rule. [Section 6 (b)]

Licensees engaging injection and / or IV therapy for up to 10 calendar years must submit to the Board a record of training and education per rule. [Section 6(c)]

**The Board will post continuing education reporting guideline and a reporting form on the Board Website on October 1, 2021.**

### **Director's Message:**

I begin with a wholehearted thank you to Dr. Jennifer Gibbons and Dr. Keivan Jinnah for their service on the Board and devotion to the profession. You will be sincerely missed.



Additionally, the Board and I recognize the continued perseverance of all Naturopathic Physicians working tirelessly through this time of crisis, and at times, chaos. Please know we hear and see the challenges you are facing in your practice and in the profession.

Thank you for all you do for each other and for the health and safety of all Oregonians.

## **Board wants you to have a HAPPY NEW YEAR's EVE!!**

Reminder—To renew your license you MUST submit proof of completion of the required 32 hours of continuing education ([850-040-0210](tel:850-040-0210))

**DON'T WAIT UNTIL  
DECEMBER 31st!! START  
ENTERING THOSE HOURS  
TODAY!!**

Please see: "[How to Guide to CE submission](#)" for assistance.

### **Legislative Update—2021-2023 Session**

#### **HB 3369—Relating to Medical Marijuana:**

Adds Naturopathic to the list of attending providers that may diagnose a patient with a debilitating medical condition and have the authority to issue a registry identification card for the purposes of dispensing medical marijuana.

#### **SB 5521— Budget Approval Board of Naturopathic Medicine.**

The Legislature approved the Board of Naturopathic Medicine's operating budget, retaining its status as an autonomous agency reporting directly to the Governor.

### **Upcoming Board Meetings—2021-22**

Oct. 11 Dec. 13 Feb. 14 April 11

All Board meetings are open to the public. Please check the Board website prior to the scheduled meeting dates for instructions on how to join the public session. We encourage you to attend and "meet" the Board.

### **CURRENT BOARD MEMBERS**

DR. JENNIFER GIBBONS, ND—CHAIR—DECEMBER 2015

DR. TRACY ERLING, ND —VICE CHAIR—  
SEPTEMBER 2016

DR. KEIVAN JINNAH, ND—DECEMBER 2015

DR. ROBERT SKARPERUD, ND – JUNE 2016

JOANA FREEDMAN, PT—OCTOBER 2017

JENNIFER ANDERSON, RN, BSN—JUNE 2019

DR. TIMOTHY WALTER, ND—JUNE 2019

Per Governor Kate Brown's [Executive Order 20-12](#), the Oregon Board of Naturopathic Medicine is closed to the public. Board staff will primarily work remotely for the duration of the order, therefore, email is the most efficient mode of communication at this time. We appreciate your patience.

**PLEASE NOTE EMAIL ADDRESS CHANGE:**  
[naturopathic.medicine@obnm.oregon.gov](mailto:naturopathic.medicine@obnm.oregon.gov)