



# ND News

## Oregon Board of Naturopathic Medicine

### In this issue:

- ◆ Important Changes to the Oregon Administrative Rules—What You Need to Know
- ◆ Adoption of Ethical Standards
- ◆ Mark Your Calendars: Upcoming Meetings
- ◆ Welcome Our New Public Board Member
- ◆ Request for ND Participation in Chart Reviews

### Code of Ethics Adopted & Discipline Rules Revised

In 2016, the Board adopted the American Association of Naturopathic Physicians Code of Ethics. In February this year the Code of Ethics was incorporated into the Oregon Administrative Rules governing Naturopathic physicians. (OAR 850-050-0010, 0190) Please review the rules posted

### CURRENT BOARD MEMBERS

CHAIR, DR. JENNIFER GIBBONS—DECEMBER 2015

CHARLES WIGGINS—APRIL 2013

DR. LISSA MCNIEL—JULY 2013

DR. KEIVAN JINNAH—DECEMBER 2015

DR. ROBERT SKARPERUD—JUNE 2016

DR. TRACY ERFLING—SEPTEMBER 2016

JOANA FREEDMAN, PT—OCTOBER 2017

### Chair’s Message:

The Board of Naturopathic Medicine has spent the last year reviewing the rules that govern licensees to ensure that we are in compliance with our governing statutes, and that the rules in place are promoting both the best practices in our profession and protect public health.



We appreciate the feedback we received from all of you and we worked diligently to revise, develop and amend the rules reflecting your input.

In March 2018, our efforts culminated with finalizing changes to Oregon Administrative Rules, which clarify licensure renewal requirements and reduce the overall number of hours of continuing education required for license renewal.

We trust that you will find the changes to these rules beneficial to you as an individual as well as beneficial to the whole of our profession.

### Upcoming Board Meetings—2018

All Board meetings are open to the public and agendas are posted on the website one week prior to each meeting. We encourage you to attend to hear what the Board is working on, provide input or just come to meet the members of the Board.

April 9    Board Retreat: June 1–3, Astoria Or.

August 13    October 8    December 10

### Meet Our New Public Board Member—Joana Freedman, PT

Joana has been a practicing Physical Therapist for 35 years in a wide variety of treatment settings including acute care, outpatient orthopedics and geriatrics. Currently, she is working for Accelerated Care Plus as a Clinical Program Consultant. She has previously served eight years on the Oregon Physical Therapist Licensing Board, four years as Chair (2002-2011). Joana lives in Portland, OR with her wife and Italian Greyhound, Prada.

### CHART REVIEW PROCESS—REQUEST FOR ND PARTICIPATION

As part of the discipline process, a ND may be placed on probation with certain conditions. In keeping with the Board’s emphasis on education, a common condition of probation is employing a Naturopathic Physician to provide oversight and review of a probationary physicians’ chart notes to determine whether the probationer is engaging in best practices in charting and may also make recommendations for improvement.

The Board is looking for qualified ND’s to apply to review patient charts. Next month the Board will be sending out information regarding specific qualifications, compensation and time commitment. We encourage you to review the information and apply.

*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.*

## OREGON ADMINISTRATIVE RULES (OAR)

The Board finalized changes to OAR 850-030-0035, 0090, 0195 and 850-040-0210. Some of the more significant changes are highlighted below. Please read the full text of the rules attached to this email to familiarize yourself with all the changes and what is required of Licensees under the new version of the rules. Both a clean and a tracked changes copy of the rules are posted on the Board's website.

### Continuing Education

OAR 850-040-0210—Continuing Education

- ◆ A total of **32 hours** of continuing education is annually required to maintain an active license. Of that total, 10 must be in pharmacology and 2 hours are required in any of the following: medical ethics, cultural competency, or suicide intervention or prevention.
- ◆ Graduate education and participation in a graduate education program, and/or enrollment in a Board approved full-time residency or Board recognized fellowship program may be approved as continuing education. Licensees in their initial year of licensure, and/or enrolled in a residency or fellowship must report 32 hours of qualifying education and/or enrollment annually with renewal.
- ◆ Per Oregon Revised Statute 685.102 the Board may only accept continuing education credit completed in the calendar year prior to renewal. By statute, the Board is prohibited from accepting CE credits obtained in December, but not used in the year the hours were obtained, in the following year for CE credit.

### Expiration and Renewal of Licenses

OAR 850-030-0090—Expiration and Renewal of Licenses and Certificates of Natural Childbirth

- ◆ All licenses expire annually on December 31. **License renewals are due annually on December 31.** If a license is not renewed by December 31, the license shall immediately lapse.

OAR 850-030-0195—License Renewal Requirements

- ◆ Fourteen (14) hours of continuing education is required for renewal of a certificate in Natural Childbirth.
- ◆ Ten (10) hours of continuing education is annually required for renewal of an inactive license.
- ◆ Individuals holding an active license in another state may restore a lapsed license by applying for reciprocity under OAR 850-030-0070—Reciprocity.
- ◆ To restore a license that has lapsed for less than one calendar year, an applicant must submit a report to the Board completion of continued education as annually required for an active license.
- ◆ To restore a license that has lapsed for 1-5 calendar years, an applicant must submit a report to the Board confirming the completion of continuing education as required for an active license for each calendar year the license has been lapsed.
- ◆ To restore a license that has been lapsed for 5 or more calendar years, an applicant must take and pass the examinations administered by the North American Board of Naturopathic Examiners, take and pass the state jurisprudence examination required by the Board for licensure, and submit to the Board a report confirming completion of continuing education as required for an active license for each calendar year the license has been lapsed.



## Director's Message:

**The first year as the Director of the Board of Naturopathic Medicine has been a very rewarding experience and, I hope you agree, a very productive year.**

**This year, the Board and I took on the challenging task of reviewing the Oregon Revised Statutes (statutes) and Oregon Administrative Rules (rules) that govern the Board, not only to determine what revisions could be made to promote best practices and parity with other health boards, but to also ensure Board Rules were in compliance with the Board's governing Statutes.**

**As a result, we learned a few things. First, renewals are due annually on December 31, rather than the previously required earlier due date of December 15. [685.102(2)] Second, we learned that statute required all continuing education credit (CE) to be earned in the calendar year preceeding the renewal. [685.102(2)].**

**Unfortunately, upon learning the latter, the Board had no choice but to eliminate the rule that allowed Licensees to carry over continuing education earned in the December preceeding the renewal year. [OAR 850-040-0210(8)]**

**Please know that prior to learning that it was prohibited by statute, the Board had every intention to revise the rules so that Licensees would be able to continue to earn credit for CE hours earned in the December prior to the renewal year. In fact, early drafts of the proposed amended rules show that the Board intended to expand both the time frame and the number of carry over CE hours Licensees would be able to submit for credit in the following renewal year.**

**The Board and I were disheartened when we learned in January of this year that the Board would not be able to move forward with expanding the carry over provision, and worse, we would have to remove the Rule that allowed for the December credit carry over. Making these and other revisions resulted in the Board not being able to finalize the rules in February as originally planned. We understand that the delay was not ideal for planning out your CE credits this year, but we wanted to ensure we had it right.**

**Once the statutory requirements were clear, Chair Dr. Gibbons and I contacted the Oregon Association of Naturopathic Physicians (Association) to explain the situation and express our regrets. We continue to engage in open and transparent communication with the Association about this and other changes in the rules.**

**The Board and I understand that not being able to carry over these credits is not a welcome change, but we hope that lowering the total number of continuing education credits annually required will help to alleviate your understandable frustration.**

**We sincerely appreciate all of your feedback and your input was instrumental in revising these rules. We also understand that with changes, come questions, and we encourage you to communicate with us directly, please continue with your calls and emails, and please think about joining us at the next Board meeting.**