

MINUTES
TENNESSEE BOARD OF DENTISTRY
ANESTHESIA COMMITTEE MEETING

Date: February 28, 2022

Location: Iris Room
665 Mainstream Drive
Nashville, TN 37243

Members Present: John Werther, D.M.D (electronically)
Brian D. West, D.M.D
George A. Adams, D.D.S
Stephen Maroda, D.D.S (electronically)
Richard Gaw, D.D.S
Robert Caldwell, D.M.D
Katie Bradford, D.D.S

Staff Present: Ailene Macias, Board Director
Michael Brown, Board Administrative Manager
Paetria Morgan, Senior Associate General Counsel

The meeting was called to order at 4:10 p.m.

Dr. Caldwell, Dr. Bradford, Dr. Gaw, Dr. Adams, and Dr. West were all present in the board meeting room. Dr. Werther and Dr. Maroda joined the meeting via phone. Ms. Morgan began the meeting with the requirements for an electronic meeting. All committee members confirmed that they were able to hear each other. Dr. Werther and Dr. Maroda confirmed they were alone in the locations where they were participating in the meeting from. A motion was made by Dr. West that the meeting should continue with two members participating electronically. Dr. Adams seconded the motion, and the motion carried following a roll call vote. Dr. Bradford made a motion that the meeting met the requirements for an electronic meeting. Dr. Adams seconded the motion, and the motion carried following a roll call vote. Ms. Morgan confirmed that all committee members had received and reviewed the materials for the sedation course to be discussed at the meeting. The meeting was then turned over to Dr. Werther.

The course being discussed was from “Stay in the Box Sedation” for their request for approval for a limited conscious sedation course. Dr. Adams began the discussion of the course concerning the question of the age groups of the patients being worked on during the sedation program. He stated it was not specified about the number of patients that would be live patients to work with, and how many would be video cases to study. Dr. Adams was concerned about whether the course would be having the participants work on children, and what the ages of those children would be. Dr. West agreed with the concerns of Dr. Adams that the course itself appeared to be extensive, although it was missing information regarding the number of cases involving adults and/or children that would be handled by the

participants. He agreed that the course provider would need to give more details on how many of the cases were to be live patients and how many were video study cases during the course.

Dr. Caldwell agreed with both the opinions of Dr. West and Dr. Adams about the additional information needed for the patient cases. He stated beyond those items, he was concerned about the limited information provided for the course on the topic of protocols for rescuing of patients. Dr. Caldwell questioned whether the provided information was sufficient for the dentists to know how to handle medical emergencies during a sedation case. He felt that more information should be included on medical emergencies during the course, due to the importance of the subject.

Dr. Bradford agreed with what the other committee members had stated previously. She was concerned with the lack of information provided on the number of video cases there would be, and the number of live patient cases there would be involved in the course. Dr. Bradford stated that if most of the patients were video cases instead of live patient cases, it would not be appropriate for the committee to approve the course because the level of training would not be sufficient. The course provider would need to submit more information and give more detail on the clinical experience required during the course. Dr. Maroda gave his opinion that the course was a very nice didactic CE course. He noted that another item that stuck out to him in the course materials was the claim that with over 12,000 patients involved in the program, no patient rescues had been required. Although the course seemed very nice, he did echo the requests of the other committee members on the additional information on the clinical experience during the course.

Dr. Werther wanted more information on the background and sedation experience of the dentists involved in teaching the course. He mentioned the CVs of the dentists involved in teaching the course, did not seem extensive enough to show their experience and background properly. He requested that all CVs submitted for the instructors be put into a professional format, with more details and specifics to their sedation training and background. Dr. Werther expressed concern with the lack of slides in the course that would cover the topic of medical evaluations and consults for patients. He felt topics such as rescue procedures for patients having seizures, would need to have additional information added. Dr. Werther had an issue with there being only one slide provided on medical consultations, when there was extensive information and multiple slides on the topic of marijuana usage. The medical work-up and consultation on a patient before sedation is administered is a vital part of practicing safely and needs to be covered adequately in a course. Dr. Werther was unsure of the statement in the course materials concerning continuing to work on a patient if a seizure only lasts 3-5 minutes. He requested that additional information and sources be provided to back up the statement, as he had not heard of this practice previously. Dr. Werther wanted to ensure that the course would provide enough information on medical consultations and patient rescue. He stated that the ability to provide sedation to patients is a sacred right, is a huge responsibility, and must be taken seriously.

Dr. Maroda requested the course provide information to the participants on the requirement for dentists with sedation permits to maintain their ACLS certification, as required by board rules. He also stated that he wanted to see more information regarding the emergency medical training that would be provided in the course, to ensure there would be adequate training. Dr. Adams reiterated the information he wanted to see added for review from the course providers would need to include the specifics on the live patient exposures, and the age groupings of those patients. Dr. Maroda made a motion to request the additional information as discussed during the meeting. Dr. West seconded the motion.

Dr. Gaw interjected, voicing a concern about the appearance of a lack of advanced training in sedation of the instructors for the course. He felt that a medical doctor or someone with advanced sedation training should be on their board of advisors or instructing in the course. Dr. Werther amended the motion to include the request for additional information from the course providers concerning: medical emergency training, the age distribution of the patients, information on the number of live patients seen during the course, additional information on advanced training in sedation of the instructors/advisors for the course, and more in depth CVs for those instructors/advisors for the course to show the extend of their sedation training and experience. The amended motion carried following a roll call vote.

Dr. Werther asked if there were any other items to be discussed at the meeting. When there were no other issues to discuss, the floor was opened for public comments. Dr. Johnny Williams spoke to the committee regarding the Sedation Education Course that had previously been submitted for review, and was discussed at a separate meeting. The committee members wished to discuss the course at the next meeting, so they would have an opportunity to review updated information on the course before discussing it further. Dr. Ruth Bol, chair at Meharry Pediatrics, addressed the committee about the Sedation Education Course. She said the residency program will be undergoing their inspection from CODA soon, and she would be happy to submit that information on the outcome to the board. She has been with Meharry for 3 years, and is getting ready to start heading up the new residency program at Vanderbilt University. Dr. Bol has been working on getting the residency program started for over 5 years and is excited for the program to begin. The primary focus for the program she wishes to teach during the residency is in the topic of pediatric sedation, which she feels is a much-needed area of training for dentists in the state. The committee members stated that they wished to review the additional information and speak to her at the next meeting if they had any questions about the course.

The meeting was adjourned after there were no further questions or comments.