

Nursing Care Quality Assurance Commission (NCQAC)
Discipline Subcommittee Agenda
July 28, 2014
4:00 pm to 6:00 pm
111 Israel Rd SE
Tumwater, WA

Commission Members: Gene Pingle, BSN-BC, CEN, RN, Chair (excused)
Margaret Kelly, LPN
Cass Tang, PMP, Public Member
Lois Hoell, MS, MBA, RN
Tracy Rude, LPN

DOH Staff Mary Dale, Discipline Manager
Catherine Woodard, Chief Investigator
Margaret Holm, Nurse Consultant (excused)
Karl Hoehn, Staff Attorney

Guests: Suzanne Becker, AAG

1. 4:00 pm Opening — Margaret Kelly, Acting Chair

- Call to order
- Roll call

2. June L&D Minutes – Margaret

Consensus was to add the June minutes to the September NCQAC agenda for approval.

3. Subcommittee Changes – Margaret

Licensing and Discipline were separated into two subcommittees at the July NCQAC meeting. Gene Pingle is the new chair of the Discipline Subcommittee. Times and dates for the meetings were discussed.

DECISION: Mary will send out a “Doodle” meeting scheduler to members to determine what date/time will work best.

4. Best Practices for Substance Use Disorder (SUD) – Margaret/Mary

The subcommittee reviewed the final report from WHPS based on National Council’s audit tool. John Furman has agreed to the best practices, with the exceptions and clarifications added in the document.

National Council SUD Best Practices were discussed with exceptions noted by Gail Yu, AAG, and clarification by John. Several concerns were noted.

DECISION: Mary will take the concerns to Gail Yu, and bring the information to a meeting of the Substance Use Disorder (SUD) workgroup. The workgroup will make final changes to the audit tool

and submit it for the September NCQAC meeting packet. Mary will set up a meeting for the SUD workgroup.

There has been confusion over the definition of “relapse”. There were three definitions in the National Council SUD manual. The subcommittee reviewed the definitions.

DECISION: The subcommittee decided the best definition is from Appendix A, Guidelines for Alternative Programs and Discipline Monitoring Programs, page 216: “Relapse is defined as any unauthorized use or abuse of alcohol, medications, or mind-altering substances”. This will be included in Procedure A20 Substance Abuse Orders.

Procedure A20 was reviewed for possible changes. The subcommittee considered a request from John to allow participants to inactivate their license due to a medical condition or financial hardship. Medical conditions can be documented, but financial hardship is subjective and difficult to document. Documentation of medical condition must be “by health care provider of record”.

DECISION: Tampering was added as an example of serious misconduct. A paragraph was added allowing a participant of WHPS to inactivate their license rather than facing disciplinary action when they have a documented medical condition that prevents them from participating. Financial hardship was not included. The definition of relapse will be added to the policy. Mary will check with Teresa Corrado that licenses placed on “inactive status” will be reviewed prior to reactivation. A motion to revise Procedure A20 will go to the September NCQAC meeting. The documents will be in the August Discipline Subcommittee packet.

5. Nurse Licensure Compact – Cass/Mary

Cass discussed the presentation and workgroups from the July NCQAC meeting. Mary explained that the workgroup named at the meeting will continue the stakeholder process. Both Cass and Tracy are on the workgroup, and can give updates at future subcommittee meetings.

6. Work Plan – Margaret

The work plan was updated

7. Closing

The meeting was adjourned at 5:41