



Janet Napolitano
Governor

Joey Ridenour
Executive Director

Arizona State Board of Nursing

MEDICATION TECHNICIAN PILOT STUDY STEERING COMMITTEE

MINUTES

JANUARY 24, 2006

MEMBERS PRESENT

Pamela Randolph, RN, MS, CPNP Co-Chair
Joey Ridenour, RN, MN Co-Chair
Jane Black, RN, MS (telephonically)
Sylvia Balistreri, DHS (for D. Piluri)
Kathleen Collins-Pagels
Sarah Ellis, RN
Betty Earp, RN
Julie Gordon
Helen Houser, RN
Sue Macdonald, RN, MSN
Anamarie McNeese, RN
Patt Rehn, AzNA
Christine Walker, RN, NHA
Dean Wright, Pharm Board

MEMBERS ABSENT

Joyceen Boyle, RN, PhD
Kathy Boyle, RN
John Durbin
Mary Fermazin, MD, MPA
Deborah Piluri, DHS

GUESTS

Harold Ackerman, Shadow Mountain (telephonically)
Kathy Dallmann, Good Shepherd Care Center
Armida Dixon, Heritage Health Care Center
D&S Diversified Technologies: Ben Schmitt, Tim Pietrick, Bobby Sutherland (telephonically)
Phyllis Jordan, Silver Ridge Village
Jane Kovak, Mi Casa (telephonically)
Greg LeCheminant, Heritage Health Care Center
Paula Mitchell, Copper Mountain Inn
Maria Montion, Mountain View Care Center

I. CALL TO ORDER/INTRODUCTIONS/APPROVAL MINUTES

The Certified Medication Technician Pilot Study Steering Committee was called to order by Pamela Randolph at 9:41 a.m.

Ridenour moved and Houser seconded to approve the November 30, 2005 Minutes without correction. Motion carried unanimously.

II. OLD BUSINESS

A. Applications

1. Facility Applications

Applicants were invited to attend the meeting to address the Committee and answer questions regarding the applications submitted and accompanying documents.

The following representatives were present: Paula Mitchell, Administrator, Copper Mountain Inn; Eun Hwa Ellis, Director of Nursing, Good Shepherd Care Center; Armida Dixon, Director of Nursing and Greg LeCheminant, Executive Director, Heritage Health Care Center; Joan Kovach, Director of Nursing, Mi Casa Nursing Center (telephonically); Maria Montion, Executive Director, Mountain View Care Center; Harald Ackermann, Administrator, Shadow Mountain Healthcare (telephonically); and Phyllis Jordan, Administrator, Silver Ridge Village. Per Richard Park, Villa Maria withdrew its application to be a pilot facility.

Committee members addressed each facility individually, requesting information not previously provided. Facility representatives provided clarity and offered their positions in support of the medication technician pilot study project.

To avoid the appearance of impropriety Kathleen Collins Pagels recused herself from deliberations. After careful consideration, the Committee voted to award pilot facility status to Copper Mountain Inn, Good Shepherd Care Center, Heritage Healthcare, Mountain View Care Center, Shadow Mountain Healthcare, and Silver Ridge Village, and designate Mi Casa Nursing Center as an alternate.

2. Research Applications

D&S Diversified Technologies Representatives present: Ben Schmitt, Partner; Bobbi Sutherland proposed Lead Researcher; and Tim Pietrich, Director of Operations.

Ridenour addressed the Committee by introducing D&S Diversified Technologies as a responding research facility to the Request For Proposal. Ridenour opened the agenda item to start with any questions/discussion relative to potential conflicts of interest. D&S representatives offered that their policy states that any conflict of interest is determined by the contracting agency. D&S will provide for an independent evaluator to corroborate the findings at the end of the project in response to this concern.

D&S representatives provided information with regard to the number of medication passes to be observed, the selection of med pass observers, and the establishment of criteria for medication pass and medication technician test observers. Pilot facility representatives were concerned that facility staff trained as CNA test observers may be used as med pass observers. Randolph offered that the naïve observation method requires the observer to not be familiar with either the patient or the medications, concluding that the method therefore precludes anyone from the same facility from being an observer. D&S maintained that observers will not be connected with the pilot facilities participating in the study.

Motion: Committee accepts the proposal of D&S Diversified Technologies to implement the certified medication technician pilot study program under the leadership of the Arizona State Board of Nursing with the provision that they secure the services of a Ph.D. level researcher to corroborate findings.

Moved: Ms. Collins Pagels

Second: Ms. Walker

Discussion: None.

Vote: Motion carried unanimously.

Randolph will conference with D&S representatives to discuss changes to the timeline and how it may impact pre-data collection and instructor and participant training.

B. Testing Update

1. Written

Randolph thanked the education subcommittee for their work, and informed the Committee that each sub-committee member has written at least 50 test items for the pool. An item review session is scheduled for February 21, 2006 at which time the subcommittee will review items to ensure legal defensibility, that there is only one keyable answer, and that there are enough items in each category of the test plan.

2. Manual Skills

Randolph informed the Committee that Ohio is also considering the manual skills test. A copy of Arizona's original skills list was sent to D&S to obtain feedback from Ohio. The skills list, incorporating Ohio's feedback and corrections from the subcommittee, should be available for review and then approval by the next meeting.

C. Timelines

This item was tabled until the next meeting which would allow for further discussion with D&S and pilot facilities regarding data collection and training.

III. NEW BUSINESS

A. Presentations (CNA Retreat/AzNA)

Randolph informed the Committee that an overview of the medication technician pilot study project and its progress to date was presented at the Third Annual CNA Educators Retreat. A similar presentation will be given at the Arizona Nurse's Association Nurse's Legislative Day.

B. Call to Public

None.

IV. FUTURE TOPICS/DEBRIEFING

Committee members offered their thanks and appreciation for Randolph's work on the project. Members expressed their satisfaction in the process and shared that decisions made were well-informed and thoughtful.

Next meeting: Thursday, March 9, 2006, 9:30 a.m.

V. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 12:10 p.m.

Minutes Approved by:



Pamela Randolph, RN, Nurse Practice Consultant/Education

02/16/06

Date