



**Nursing Care Quality Assurance Commission (NCQAC)  
ARNP Sub-committee Minutes  
February 09, 2011  
310 Israel Rd SE, Tumwater, WA  
Room 131  
7:30-9:00 PM**

**Commission Members:** Darrell Owens, PhD, ARNP - Chair  
Susana Serna, ARNP – FNP

**ProTem Members** Chris Gray, MSN, CRNA  
Donna Poole, ARNP, Psych  
Mariann Williams, ARNP, FNP  
Lori Sonie, PhD, ARNP

**Staff:** Martha Worcester, ARNP, A/GNP, ARNP Consultant

**1. 7:30 PM Opening – Darrell Owens, Chair**

- Call to order at 7:30 PM
- Present: Darrell Owens, Susan Serna, Donna Poole, Mariann Williams, Martha Worcester
- Absent: Susana Serna, Chris Gray
- DOH Staff Present: Martha Worcester, Chuck Cumiskey, Gail Yu, Assistant Attorney General
- Guests: Pamela Davies, ARNP, Deanna O'Donnell, ARNP, Leslie Emmerick, Lobbyist AAPPN, Bonnie Anderson, OPA-C, Teresa Garrison, ARNP, Health Schoonover PHCNS, Carla Brim, CNS, Rebecca Long, Wound care Specialist, CNS

**2. Chronic Non-Cancer Pain – Darrell Owens**

- Comments are being summarized. Final hearing is March 18, 2011. Details are posted on the NCQAC web site.
- Composing Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) for web site. Dr. Owens and Ms. Worcester will work on these so they can be put on the NCQAC web site when WACs are complete

**3. Continuing Competency Rules for RNs and ARNP FAQs**

- Ms. Worcester will compose and circulate the FAQs to ARNP sub-committee members for comment. The questions will be added to the current FAQs under an ARNP section on the NCQAC website.

**4. CNS Request for Title Recognition:** Heather Schooner, Chair and Carla Brim, Co-Chair of the Washington State Affiliate of the National Association of Clinical Nurse Specialist presented the a request to obtain title protection for CNS nurses in WA. Title protection would protect the public, because currently nurses with no CNS education or credentials are using the title. Two documents of rationale and facts about CNS were provided (see attachment). Gail Yu, AAG provided advice regarding procedures to be followed for (a) changing a WAC or (b) introducing legislation - the two avenues for title protection.

- Changing a WAC: CNS would be added as a sub group under the ARNP Title similar tor CRNs and CNMs. There is a rule moratorium that prevents rule changes this year, and ARNPs need to be agreeable to the change. Working toward this for next year may be a possibility.
- Legislation Action: This requires submitting a bill. A key legislator needs to sponsor the bill. It is too late to submit this year. For this to occur next year, a legislator needs to be recruited, a bill drafted, and the CNS group needs to identify

and work with all stakeholders that might support or oppose the bill for a successful outcome.

#### **5. ARNP Consultant Report - Martha Worcester**

- Report on Activities and Inquiries: A tracking system for all inquiries is being developed and organized around types of calls e.g. licensing, education and scope of practice concerns. NCQAC web page additions to support the ARNP sub-committee are being developed.
- Operational Issues
  - Conference call-in to ARNP sub-committee for guests was investigated and is not possible at this time. Only ARNP sub-committee can attend via phone conference call. As in the past, the meeting is open to the public. The public meeting place is at the Department of Health Tumwater office site
  - Exemptions request for Pharmacology credits for ARNP Licensure Renewal. It was moved and seconded to recommend to the NCQAC that Martha Worcester be delegated authority to decide if pharmacology exemption requests will be granted. The rationale is that the panels for decision-making have now developed clear guidelines for granting exemptions that are routine and can be followed by staff. Licensees would receive a decision more quickly in this way and panels would deal with issues that are more complex. Ms. Williams will provide Dr. Worcester with the guidelines for decision making if NCQAC approves the recommendation.
  - Ms. Worcester asked for suggestions for a ProTem member for the CNM group.

#### **6. National Council of Boards of Nursing: APRN Summit. Report – Martha Worcester Consensus Model for APRN Regulation: Licensure, Accreditation, Certification, & Education (LACE) - Summary by Mariann Williams, Susanna Serna, & Martha Worcester.**

- WA Issues to address. (a) Endorsing the Model, (b) Changing Title to APRN, (c) CNS Inclusion (d) Compact among states for licensure reciprocity
  - Important Website: APRN Consensus Model <https://www.ncsbn.org/aprn.htm>
  - Ms. Williams and Ms. Worcester thanked the group for supporting their attendance and advised all members and attendees to visit the web site to stay up to date with issues.

#### **7. CRNAs and Prescriptive Authority Information**

- CRNAs are getting their questions answered by their state and national organizations and obtaining prescriptive authority without difficulty since the January APRN sub-committee meeting. Ms. Worcester will follow up to be see if CRNAs need further assistance.

#### **8. Legislative Update**

- Dr. Owens reported on legislation related to ARNPs. No action is needed.

#### **9. Open Mike for Guests**

- Rebecca Long, a wound care specialist CNS reported on her rural practice and the need to have the CNS title protected and ability to apply for prescriptive authority. At present, she cannot prescribe products that are optimal for wound healing.

#### **10. Meeting Dates in 2011 and Agenda Items**

- Meeting for the next 3 months will be the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays from 7:00-8:30 PM. The dates are:
  - March 16<sup>th</sup>, April 20 and May 18. It will be decided at the May meeting if monthly meetings are needed during the summer months.

- Agenda items: Send all agenda request items to Ms. Worcester. Ms. Worcester will send out proposed agenda items and ask for additions or deletions with the deadlines required.

**11. Adjourn at 8:30**