

Nursing Care Quality Assurance Commission (NCQAC)
Licensing & Discipline Subcommittee Minutes
March 31, 2014
4:00 pm to 6:00 pm
111 Israel Rd SE
Room 237
Tumwater, WA

Commission Members: Margaret Kelly, LPN, Chair
Cass Tang, PMP, Public Member
Lois Hoell, MS, MBA, RN
Tracy Rude, LPN

DOH Staff Mary Dale, Discipline Manager
Catherine Woodard, Chief Investigator
Teresa Corrado, Licensing Manager
Anne Schuchmann, RN, Deputy Director (Ad Hoc)
Karl Hoehn, Staff Attorney
Margaret Holm, Nurse Consultant

Guests: None

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

- Call to order – digital recording announcement
- Roll call

2. February Minutes – Margaret

The February minutes were reviewed and will be included in the May NCQAC meeting packet for approval.

3. Just Culture / Communication Resolution Program – Margaret

- Discussion of CRP presentation

The subcommittee discussed the presentation by Tom Gallagher and Teresa Landreau at the February meeting. There were several concerns voiced. The program is for physicians and has little relevancy to nursing. Physicians have malpractice insurance, and are retained with hospitals. Nurses are often fired when an incident occurs. There are legal concerns with delegating to outside personnel. There are concerns of how the program would be funded when the grant was complete. There is proposed legislation to the UDA that would allow us to expand our Early Remediation Program, which is based on “just culture”.

- Comparison with Early Remediation Program – Margaret Holm

This comparison is deferred until the April meeting.

4. Nurse Practice Act Examination – Margaret/Teresa

Margaret and Teresa discussed creating a class on the state practice act (jurisprudence exam) for initial licensure. This is on the strategic plan to begin this month and write the exam by November 2014. Adena has been talking with National Council to create an exam for continuing education.

DECISION: The team for this item is Teresa, Lois, Karl, and Adena, with National Council as a stakeholder. Lois will meet with Suellyn to discuss information she has from National Council.

There will be a report back at the May Licensing & Discipline meeting.

5. Discipline Statistics – Mary

- Revised Complaint Chart – Mary presented the revised chart with five categories moved from “other” into separate categories
- Case Management Team alleged issues in ILRS – Mary shared the list of case natures and case issues available in our database. Discipline staff will narrow the long list of case issues so intake staff can be more consistent when they enter this into the database.
- Alleged issues used for Standard of Care cases – Margaret Holm stated there are 24 violations that fall under “standard of care”. The nurse consultants review this information for TERCAP.

6. Licensing Report – Teresa

Teresa reviewed the licensing reports, noting trends in the last few years. RN and ARNP licensure has increased, as has total licensures. Licensing staff continue to provide assistance for the online renewals. The calls were expected to decrease, but the system is cumbersome, and difficult for licensees to use.

7. Work Plan – Margaret

- Add “Best Practices and Audit Tool” for alternative programs into the work plan. An additional meeting was set for April 7 to discuss this, but was later changed to April 21.
- Newsletter articles – completed for the March deadline.
- Sexual misconduct rules – the time period between the end of a nurse/client relationship and a romantic relationship was set for two years. It was decided to set the time period for mental health nurses as “indefinite”. The draft rule will be sent for an official copy.
- Add “Jurisprudence exam” into the work plan. Assigned are: Lois, Teresa, Karl, Adena Nolet, and later Jen Anderson. This will be on the May agenda.
- Add “Licensure Models” into the work plan. Cass asked if there have been any discussions with National Council about the compact, telenursing. Paula has been working on this; it is on the strategic plan. This will be on the April agenda to determine how to start.

8. Closing 6:00 pm