



# **Georgia Board for Physician Workforce**

State of Georgia

## **MEDICAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE DRAFT MEETING MINUTES**

**August 5, 2005  
1:00 p.m.**

**Mercer Univ. Atlanta Campus  
Atlanta, Georgia**

### **REPRESENTATIVES**

#### **PRESENT**

Frank Don Diego, M.D., Atlanta Medical Center, Committee Chair  
Ed Abrams, D.Ed., Memorial Health University Medical Center  
Sean Bryan, M.D., Phoebe Putney Memorial Hospital  
John Bucholtz, D.O., The Medical Center, Inc.  
Marcia Hutchinson, M.D., Medical Center of Central Georgia  
Ann Jobe, M.D., M.S.N., Mercer University School of Medicine  
Marjorie Smith, M.D., Morehouse School of Medicine  
Elaine Nachman, Representing Grady Health System  
Jim Zaidan, M.D., M.B.A., Emory University School of Medicine

### **REPRESENTATIVES**

#### **ABSENT**

Steve Schwab, M.D., MCG  
Randy Robinson, M.D., Floyd Medical Center  
George Wheeler, M.D., Satilla Regional Medical Center

### **GUESTS**

Betsy Bates, Bates Associates; Detra Brown, Statewide AHEC Network; Martha Elks, M.D., Morehouse School of Medicine; Dee Hanson, Mercer University School of Medicine; Gregory Strayhorn, M.D., Morehouse School of Medicine; Linda Womack, Emory University.

### **STAFF**

Ben Robinson, Kelly McNamara, Cherri Tucker.

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### **AGENDA ITEM**

### **DISCUSSION / ACTIONS / NEXT STEPS**

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#### **CALL TO ORDER**

Dr. Don Diego called the Committee meeting to order at 1:05 p.m.

**APPROVAL OF  
MINUTES**

**ACTION**

**On MOTION (Bucholtz/Zaidan)**, the minutes from the April 22, 2005 meeting of the Medical Education Advisory Committee were approved as written.

**OLD BUSINESS**

*Cultural Competency  
Study and Fact Sheet*

**DISCUSSION**

Dr. Don Diego explained the GBPW previously identified areas for research, one of which was a study on diversity and cultural competency elements in the medical education system and the physician workforce. As part of the research effort, questionnaires were developed and administered to the medical schools and GME programs to gather information about the nature of cultural competency training. Dr. Don Diego emphasized the intent is not to use the information as a deliverable related to GBPW funding. Additionally, responses to the questionnaires will be reported in aggregate form.

During the discussion, members of the Committee reviewed a draft outline of elements guiding the study. Issues discussed included:

- the definition of cultural competency;
- why culturally competency is important;
- methods used to prepare future physicians to treat a growingly diverse patient population; and,
- potential ways to evaluate the effectiveness of training in this area.

**ACTION**

No official action was required. This is an ongoing research initiative. The end result will be Fact Sheet for distribution to the General Assembly and interested parties in early 2006.

**NEXT STEPS**

Staff will make suggested revisions to the draft outline. Members of the Committee were asked to send staff any additional feedback regarding the outline.

***Quality Indicators***

**DISCUSSION**

In April, the Georgia Board for Physician Workforce asked the Medical Education Advisory Committee to begin developing a list of quality indicators. Dr. Don Diego framed the discussion by saying the question before the Committee is: How can Georgia's medical education programs demonstrate future doctors are receiving a quality education? Existing accreditation standards and requirements were referenced. After a lengthy dialogue, members of the Committee expressed concerns with utilizing other indicators such as: medical school graduation rates; first-time pass rates on USMLE Step Tests; percentage of graduates completing M.D. degree in four years; first-time passage rates for residency graduates taking board exams; etc. Representatives on the Committee expressed their belief that existing quality standards, defined for the purpose of accreditation, are a sufficient and appropriate indicator.

**ACTION / NEXT STEPS**

No official action was required. Dr. Don Diego will recommend to the GBPW that accreditation standards and requirements be considered as primary indicators of quality.

**NEXT MEETING**

Committee members agreed monthly conference calls would be an effective way to continue working on preparing recommendations for the GBPW related to quality indicators. Staff will poll members to identify a date for a conference call meeting.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the Committee adjourned at 2:50 p.m.