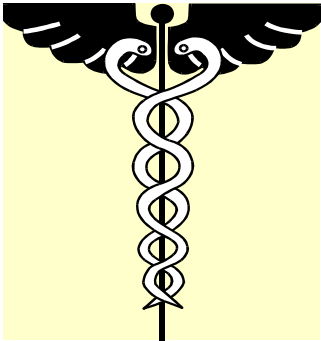


West Virginia Board of Medicine Quarterly Newsletter



BOARD MEMBER PROFILE Kishore K. Challa, M.D., F.A.C.C.

Originally from Hyderabad, India, Dr. Kishore K. Challa has lived in Charleston, West Virginia, for over 23 years. He began his medical education at Osmania Medical College in India, where he graduated with honors in 1983. Dr. Challa then moved to the United States and completed his medical residency and cardiology fellowship at Coney Island Hospital in New York. As a resident, Dr. Challa was awarded the Ghani Mohamad Award for being the best outgoing intern and the Virginia Nash Award for being the best outgoing resident and served as the chief resident in his final year.

As a cardiology fellow, he continued to excel as a student and professional in medicine and was recognized as The Best Outgoing Fellow. After completing his interventional cardiology at New York Medical College, Dr. Challa and his family moved to Charleston, West Virginia, in 1989. During his career in Charleston, Dr. Challa has served as the Chief of Staff at Thomas Memorial Hospital.

Currently, Dr. Challa is board certified in internal medicine and cardiology and serves as a member of the Credential Committee and cardiology subsection chairman at Thomas Memorial Hospital in South Charleston, West Virginia. Dr. Challa is the President of South Charleston Cardiology Associates, a group of three cardiologists in the greater area of Charleston. On February 22, 2013, he was presented with the Distinguished West Virginian award by Governor Tomblin.

Dr. Challa is married to his wife, Jalasree, and is blessed with one son, Dr. Karthik Challa, and a daughter, Supriya, who is working for a prominent bank on Wall Street. In his free time, Dr. Challa likes to golf and has served on the Board at Berry Hills Country Club. He is an ardent fan of WVU and Marshall sports, and enjoys time with friends and family.

Dr. Challa is a member of the American College of Cardiology, American College of Chest Physicians and the Kanawha Medical Association.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Board Actions	2-3
2013 Renewal; Staff News	4
What's a PA To Do!; Board Members	5
WV Quitline	6
PA Information; Board Staff	7
Change of Address Information; E-mail Addresses; Board Meetings	8



BOARD ACTIONS January 2013 - March 2013



BURKE, PAUL WEBBER, JR., M.D. – Parkersburg, WV (2/6/2013) WV License No. 13039

Board Conclusion: Probable cause exists to substantiate charges for disqualification of Dr. Burke from the practice of medicine due to violations relating to unprofessional or unethical conduct and relating to failing to perform any statutory or legal obligation placed upon a physician.

Board Action: Dr. Burke's medical license is hereby revoked, but such revocation is immediately stayed and Dr. Burke's license is placed on PROBATION for a period of five (5) years, subject to specific conditions.

CAVENDER, SUSAN LYNN, M.D. – Charleston, WV (3/8/2013) WV License No. 14497

Board Conclusion: Probable cause may exist to substantiate charges relating to dishonorable, unethical or unprofessional conduct likely to harm the public or any member thereof and departing from the standards of acceptable medical practice by prescribing excessive amounts of controlled substances and conduct which has the effect of bringing the medical profession into disrepute.

Board Action: Dr. Cavender's West Virginia medical license is hereby revoked, which revocation is immediately stayed and placed on PROBATION for a period of two (2) years, subject to certain conditions. Dr. Cavender is hereby PUBLICLY REPRIMANDED for her unprofessional conduct.

GUTIERREZ, ALVARO RAFAEL, M.D. – Morgantown, WV (2/27/2013) WV License No. 14079

Board Conclusion: Probable cause exists to substantiate charges against Dr. Gutierrez relating to dishonorable, unethical or unprofessional conduct.

Board Action: Dr. Gutierrez is PUBLICLY REPRIMANDED. Within six (6) months of the date of the Consent Order, Dr. Gutierrez shall complete a continuing medical education course in boundaries in the physician-patient relationship which has been pre-approved by the Board, and he shall provide proof of completion of the course to the Board.

LLADO-MARTINEZ, JUAN, M.D. – Bluefield, WV (2/22/2013) WV License No. 18742

Board Conclusion: Probable cause exists in this matter relating to impairment.

Board Action: Dr. Llado-Martinez maintains an active license to practice medicine and surgery in the State of West Virginia, with the following limitations and restrictions: for as long as Dr. Llado-Martinez's health is impaired, he shall continue to refrain from practicing in a clinical setting, and he shall not write prescriptions. Should Dr. Llado-Martinez's health condition improve, he may petition the Board's Licensure Committee for reinstatement of his license without conditions or restrictions.

MERIWETHER, DAVID FARBOD, M.D. – Ronceverte, WV (3/11/2013) WV License No. 14677

Board Conclusion: Probable cause exists to substantiate charges relating to unprofessional and unethical conduct.

Board Action: Dr. Meriwether's West Virginia medical license is hereby suspended, which suspension is immediately stayed and is placed on PROBATION for a period of three (3) years, during which time he must comply with certain conditions. Dr. Meriwether is PUBLICLY REPRIMANDED for his unprofessional conduct related to this matter.

continued on page 3



BOARD ACTIONS January 2013 - March 2013



continued from page 2

RAMAKRISHNAN, KARTHIK, M.D. – Kingsport, TN

WV License No. 23744

1/14/2013 Board Conclusion: Probable cause exists to substantiate charges relating to unprofessional conduct and relating to the renewal of a license to practice medicine and surgery by making a false statement in connection with a licensure application.

1/14/2013 Board Action: Dr. Ramakrishnan shall complete and provide certification to the Board, before March 1, 2013, of nine and one half (9.5) hours of continuing medical education coursework, including two (2) hours on the subject of "end-of-life care including pain management." Within six (6) months, Dr. Ramakrishnan shall attend in person and provide certification of his completion and attendance to the Board, a course regarding time management. Dr. Ramakrishnan shall pay a civil fine in the amount of nine hundred and fifty dollars (\$950) for his prior deficiency of CME credits and an administrative fee in the amount of one hundred dollars (\$100) by March 1, 2013.

3/15/2013 Board Conclusion: Dr. Ramakrishnan has failed to successfully complete and provide certification of his completion to the Board, before March 1, 2013, nine and one half (9.5) hours of continuing medical education coursework, including two (2) hours on the subject of "end-of-life care including pain management," as required by the Consent Order entered on January 14, 2013.

3/15/2013 Board Action: Dr. Ramakrishnan's license to practice medicine and surgery in the State of West Virginia is hereby **SUSPENDED** effective March 15, 2013, and continuing until he submits documentation establishing his successful completion of and provide certification of his completion of nine and one half (9.5) hours of continuing medical education coursework, including two (2) hours on the subject of "end-of-life care including pain management."

TELERON, J. VICTORINO R., JR., M.D. – Charleston, WV (1/14/2013) WV License No. 12967

Board Conclusion: Probable cause exists to substantiate charges relating to failing to keep written records justifying the course of treatment.

Board Action: Dr. Teleron shall, within six (6) months, successfully complete a continuing medical education course in the subject of appropriate record keeping, and said course shall be submitted for pre-approval by the Board. Dr. Teleron shall provide proof of completion of this course to the Board.

VYAS, SUBHASH, M.D. – Williamson, WV (3/18/2013)

WV License No. 12356

Board Conclusion: Dr. Vyas is in violation of the May 12, 2008, Consent Order.

Board Action: The license to practice medicine and surgery of Dr. Vyas is **REVOKED** effective April 1, 2013. Revocation is **STAYED** pending appeal in Circuit Court.

WILSON, JAY D., P.A.-C. – Parkersburg, WV (1/31/2013)

WV License No. 01328

Board Conclusion: Probable cause exists to deny licensure to Mr. Wilson relating to the commission of an offense against any provision of state law related to the practice of physician assistants, or any rule promulgated under the law; relating to prescribing a prescription drug, including a controlled substance under state or federal law, other than in good faith and in a therapeutic manner in accordance with accepted medical standards; relating to prescribing a controlled substance to or for himself, or to or for any member of his immediate family; and relating to failure to keep written records justifying the course of treatment of a patient.

Board Action: Mr. Wilson is granted License No. 01328 subject to the following conditions: Mr. Wilson's license shall be immediately suspended, and the suspension stayed, with Mr. Wilson's license being placed on **PROBATION** for a period of three (3) years, subject to certain conditions.

2013 RENEWAL PROCESS

Drug Dispensing

On April 10, 2013, those medical doctors and podiatrists who are currently registered with the Board as dispensing physicians will be mailed information relative to the renewal of their drug dispensing certificate. Beginning April 16, 2013, these drug dispensing physicians may renew their drug dispensing certification online. These dispensing physicians may go to the Board's website at www.wvbom.wv.gov and follow the online renewal directions. If a drug dispensing physician is unable to use the online renewal service, the physician may use the renewal form mailed on April 10, 2013. Call Kim Jett at the Board offices (304.558.2921 x70004) or via email (kimberly.r.jett@wv.gov) for any questions. The online application or paper application must be completed and submitted **BEFORE** Sunday, June 30, 2013, at 4:30 p.m., in order to maintain a continuous certificate to dispense.

Medical Doctors and Podiatrists

Only those medical doctors whose last names begin with the letters M through Z and all podiatrists are required to renew for the years 2013—2015. The Board of Medicine will not be mailing a paper renewal application to all the medical doctors and podiatrists who are renewing their licenses. Beginning May 9, 2013, licensees who meet the criteria for online renewal may go to the Board's website at www.wvbom.wv.gov and follow the online renewal directions. The criteria are as follows:

1. currently hold an ACTIVE medical/podiatric license; or
2. currently hold an INACTIVE medical/podiatric license and will renew in an INACTIVE status; and,
3. have obtained the required continuing medical/podiatric education;
4. answer "no" to all questions (see "Renewal FAQ's" currently on the Board's website); and
5. desire to pay via credit/debit card.

If a licensee is unable to use the online renewal service, he or she will need to request a paper renewal application to complete and return to the Board offices. A request form for a paper application is available on our website under the "FORMS" section. Paper renewal applications will be mailed on May 9, 2013. The online application or paper application must be completed and submitted **BEFORE** Friday, June 28, 2013, at 4:30 p.m.

STAFF NEWS

The Board is pleased to announce that **Ms. Jamie Alley** has accepted an offer to assume the position of Board Attorney at the Board of Medicine. Ms. Alley began her duties at the Board on April 1, 2013. Ms. Alley comes to the Board well experienced as a government attorney having worked for the Civil Rights Division of the Office of the Attorney General for over 11 years, where she functioned as Senior Assistant Attorney General for the most recent 6 ½ years.

On January 31st, **Rebecca Stepto** left the position as Disciplinary Counsel for the Board for opportunities elsewhere. During her brief stay as Disciplinary Counsel, Ms. Stepto did much to bring a fresh perspective to the processes and functions not only in the area of discipline but throughout the office. We wish Ms. Stepto success in her future endeavors and look forward to the skills and abilities Ms. Alley brings to the Board.

The Board is pleased to announce the addition of **Gil Thomas** as the new Information Systems Coordinator for the Board of Medicine office. Mr. Thomas assumed his position with the Board on March 4, 2013. He comes to us with a solid background in hardware, software, and connectivity problem resolution for information systems and equipment. He will be overseen by the Board's Information Systems Manager, Austin Miller.

WHAT'S A PA TO DO!

When a physician assistant makes application for a license to practice in West Virginia, he or she, along with their supervising physician, signs and dates a standard job description which reflects those medical duties that, at a minimum, a physician assistant, by way of education and training, should be able to perform under appropriate supervision. These duties reflect the job description specified in Legislative Rule 11-1B-13.2. This job description is not intended to be specific or all-inclusive.

A supervising physician may wish to delegate to the physician assistant those medical procedures and other tasks that are usually performed within the normal scope of the supervising physician's practice subject to the limitations set forth in 11-1B-13, the West Virginia Medical Practice Act, and the training and expertise of the physician assistant. Such additional duties are to be submitted by way of the Physician Assistant Coordinator, Amy Callihan, to the Physician Assistant Committee of the Board for review and approval. The PA Committee generally requires a signed request to be made by the physician assistant that is accompanied by a signed letter by his or her supervising physician attesting to their confidence in the physician assistant to safely and expertly perform these duties, a log indicating that 10 or more of these duties were performed under the personal supervision of the supervising physician and when applicable, documentation of additional training or certification. Once satisfied, the PA Committee will recommend to the Board approval for the physician assistant to undertake these duties.

Recent examples of additional duties approved by the Board include joint injections, cardiovascular stress tests, non-tunneled hemodialysis catheter placement, sclerotherapy, cryosurgery and laser treatment, and punch biopsy/punch excision. There are numerous other additional duties that the Board has approved over the years. Please note that all duties and procedures beyond what falls within the standard job description must be approved by the Board.

Physician assistants and their supervising physicians are ultimately responsible for assuring that the duties performed by a physician assistant comply with the law regardless of the facility, corporation or company with which they are employed. Unfortunately, the Board has encountered instances where physician assistants have been permitted to do procedures beyond what has been approved. Such instances have resulted in the disciplinary action of the physician assistant and the supervising physician. It is strongly urged that all parties, physician assistants, physicians, and those responsible for overseeing credentials and competencies of professional staff in hospitals and corporations, know what the standard job duties are and to appropriately request any additional physician assistant job duties.

West Virginia Board of Medicine Board Members

Rev. O. Richard Bowyer, President
Fairmont

Michael L. Ferrebee, M.D., Vice President
Morgantown

Marian Swinker, M.D., M.P.H., Secretary
Charleston

R. Curtis Arnold, D.P.M.
South Charleston

Rusty L. Cain, D.P.M.
Fairmont

Kishore K. Challa, M.D., F.A.C.C.
South Charleston

Ahmed Faheem, M.D.
Beckley

Cathy M. Funk, M.D.
Martinsburg

M. Khalid Hasan, M.D.
Beckley

Beth Hays, M.A.
Bluefield

Cheryl Henderson, J.D.
Huntington

Carlos C. Jimenez, M.D.
Glen Dale

Kenneth C. Nanners, M.D.
Wheeling

Badshah J. Wazir, M.D.
South Charleston

Kenneth Dean Wright, P.A.-C.
Huntington

SMOKING CESSATION VIA WV QUITLINE COUNSELING: A COST EFFECTIVE OPTION WHICH INCLUDES NICOTINE REPLACEMENT

The leading cause of preventable death and disease in West Virginia continues to be tobacco use with high prevalence for both smoking and spit tobacco. One in five deaths (almost 4,000 annually) in WV adults (age 35 and older) is caused by cigarette smoking.

The smoking-related economic impact in West Virginians totals \$1.8 billion annually. These costs include: 1) direct healthcare costs related to cigarette smoking, and 2) productivity losses due to smoking-related deaths. The estimated annual direct health care costs are \$709 million, and the estimated annual lost productivity (lost wages and other economic contributions) amounts to \$1.07 billion. If viewed as a health cost per pack of cigarettes, this equals about \$9 per pack of cigarettes sold in West Virginia. When expressed per smoker, the cost is about \$4,600 per adult smoker (18 and older) in WV. (Data quoted above from *Tobacco Use is Costing and Killing Us in WV, 2012*)

The WV Tobacco Quitline has been in operation since July 2000, and since that time has enrolled over 75,000 West Virginians for services. West Virginia's Tobacco Cessation Quitline provides near universal coverage and partners with other state agencies and insurers to make marketing and referrals for all West Virginians much easier.

The Quitline provides highly trained, WV-based, certified phone coaches to help participants quit tobacco. Services are currently provided free for all West Virginians. In addition to individual phone coaching, the program offers free nicotine replacement therapy and information and materials on quitting tobacco. Specialized programs for pregnant smokers and spit tobacco users are also available. The Quitline is available to your patients by calling **1-800-QUIT-NOW** or **1-877-966-8784**. No referral is needed.

In 2011, almost 9,500 West Virginia residents enrolled for Quitline services. Thirty-four percent of those who enroll in Quitline services and complete the 4 session program remain successfully quit for 12 months after receiving services. The 4 session series costs \$250 per participant, which includes the cost of OTC Nicotine Replacement Therapy when needed. Ninety-four percent of those who used the Quitline are satisfied with services received.

For the Quitline services covered by the WV Bureau for Public Health's Division of Tobacco Prevention, there is a significant return on investment. A 2009-2010 analysis demonstrated an average ROI of 896%, including both direct and indirect smoking costs totaling \$10.59 million. For every \$1 invested in the program, there was an average cost savings of \$8.96.

For more information on the West Virginia Tobacco Cessation Quitline, see: http://www.bebetter.net/wvquitline_home.html



CLARIFICATION OF THE ORDERING OF CT AND NUCLEAR STUDIES BY A PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT

At its meeting in January 2013, the Physician Assistant Committee reviewed whether a physician assistant may order a CT or a nuclear study on a patient that involves contrast or radiopharmaceutical materials. This query was brought to the attention of the Physician Assistant Committee by a hospital seeking clarification on this matter as the formulary for a physician assistant clearly excludes the prescribing of radiopharmaceuticals and radiographic contrast materials.

The Committee determined that the ordering of such diagnostic and investigative studies is permissible by a physician assistant and differs from the prescribing of such materials for treatment purposes.

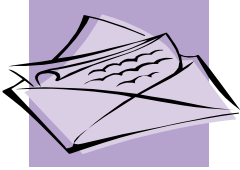
This position was recommended by the Physician Assistant Committee to, and approved by, the full Board at its meeting on January 14, 2013.

PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT RENEWAL

Congratulations to those physician assistants who were required to renew their licenses this year and who did so. Approximately sixty (60) physician assistant licenses expired this year.

The Board reminds physician assistants to keep the Board notified of their current address of record and e-mail address. If you are changing your address, please use the Board's change of address form located on the Board's website at www.wvbom.wv.gov.

Staff of the West Virginia Board of Medicine 304.558.2921		
Ext #		
70005	Robert C. Knittle, M.S.	Executive Director
70009	Jamie S. Alley, Esq.	Board Attorney
70001	M. Ellen Briggs	Executive Assistant
70002	Amy C. Callihan	Physician Assistant Coordinator
70000	Tina R. Gay	Paralegal
70003	Leslie A. Inghram, CMBI	Supervisor of Investigation and Complaints
70004	Kimberly R. Jett	Receptionist/Certification and Verification Coordinator
70006	Austin R. Miller	Information Systems Manager
70008	Charlotte Ann Pulliam	Complaint Coordinator
70010	Deborah D. Scott	Fiscal Officer
70021	Gil Thomas	Information Systems Coordinator
70011	Sheree J. Thompson	Licensure Analyst
70012	Teresa L. Westfall	Records Management Assistant



CHANGE OF ADDRESS INFORMATION

The Board's website (www.wvbom.wv.gov) contains a change of address form. By law, all licensees of the Board of Medicine must keep the Board apprised of any and all address changes. The preferred mailing address of a licensee is the licensee's address of record and is public information. Telephone numbers and e-mail addresses are not public information.

E-MAIL ADDRESSES



Since the Board is no longer mailing paper copies of its newsletter, it is important that you keep it apprised of your current e-mail address. As licensees of this Board, you are charged with knowledge of the contents of each newsletter.

To provide a current e-mail address, please send an e-mail containing your name and license number to the Board at wvbomnewsletter@wv.gov.

All newsletters may be accessed at our website at www.wvbom.wv.gov/newsletter.asp. Publication dates are: January, April, July, and October.

WEST VIRGINIA BOARD OF MEDICINE 2013 MEETINGS

May 20
July 8
September 9
November 18

ALL BOARD MEETINGS BEGIN AT 9:00 A.M.
