

# West Virginia Board of Medicine

June 2015

## Upcoming Board Meetings

July 13, 2015  
September 14, 2015  
November 9, 2015

## Letter From the President

by Ahmed D. Faheem, MD



Dr. Faheem

It has been nearly a year since I took over as the president of the West Virginia Board of Medicine.

It is a great honor and pleasure to be entrusted with this responsibility, and I can't believe how quickly the year has gone. However, I am very glad to report that it has been a very productive and excellent year. Obviously, I cannot take the credit. It has been a total team effort. I am blessed with highly competent team members, both on the administrative side and my fellow board members.

To start with, I have to give a lot of credit to our executive director, Bob Knittle, board attorney Jamie Alley, and all of our board members and employees. The team has worked very well and the board seems to be functioning without any major hitches. We were able to

achieve successes in several aspects of our work, but in particular legislatively by becoming the fifth state in the nation to get the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact bill through our Legislature and subsequently signed by Gov. Earl Ray Tomblin. This will help expand access to care, facilitate multistate practice and support telemedicine while preserving each state's medical regulatory authority in the protection of the public.

The various committees of the board, under the great leadership of various board chairs, are functioning well. Our workload is significant; however, with the hard work, diligence and team process that has been set up, it seems to flow pretty smoothly. We have been able to get excellent results while always being respectful of due process.

We are well aware of the major issues facing our state, particularly related to opioid prescription abuse and overdose deaths. We have been actively involved with the Federation of State Medical Boards

in the development of appropriate rules and safeguards with regard to opioid prescriptions. In addition, the board has also established mandatory educational CME requirements in our state at each licensure cycle, while working closely with various other regulating entities.

In this regard, I had the opportunity to attend the annual FSMB meeting in Fort Worth,

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## Letter From the President

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Texas recently along with our delegation, which included staff members Bob Knittle, Jamie Alley and Rev. O. Richard Bowyer, our past president. We were able to learn a lot with regard to what is happening, and also had the opportunity to hear some ideas and learn more about the work that is being done by regulating agencies like the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration. There was excellent opportunity to network, learn from other boards, which were well-represented, and attend different discussions

which were very informative.

Going forward, we are re-examining our efforts to enhance more open communication with regard to our activities and look for new ways to get information to our licensees and the public alike. Through ongoing updates and scrutiny of existing standards and regulation, we strive to remain responsible and effective as a board, on behalf of the citizens of this state as well as the physicians, podiatrists and physician assistants who practice here. It is important to all that clear, relevant standards and regulations be

maintained and upheld.

I am proud to say that we do have a great number of physicians who take their responsibilities very seriously, have no problems, and are a credit to the medical community in West Virginia. However, as an effective board, those few who fall short of practicing in a responsible manner will be held accountable.

These are the challenges that confront medical boards across the country and our board is ready to accept and deal with the same.

## 2015 Legislative Update

The 2015 legislative session was an active one for the West Virginia Board of Medicine. According to Thom Stevens in **Health Care Highlights**, 1,607 bills were introduced during the session, of which 282 were health care related.

Fifty-five of the 261 bills enacted by the Legislature and sent to the Governor for approval were health care related.

The Board of Medicine supported the introduction of three bills for consideration this year. Unfortunately, **SB 334**, related to telemedicine and specific licensure exemptions, did not make it past its last stop in the House Judiciary Committee. The bill died along with 83 other bills in Judiciary as time simply ran out on the session.

The two other bills fared much better. **Senate Bill 197** contained the legislative rule **11CSR1B** pertaining to physicians assistants. The bill largely mirrored the emergency rule the board developed in the spring of 2014 pursuant to the West Virginia Physician Assistants Practice Act passed earlier that year. As a rule bill, **SB 197** moved smoothly through the legislative process and was eventually bundled into **SB 199**, which passed and was signed by the Governor. The final rule was submitted to the Secretary of State's office and went into effect May 15.

Of noteworthy interest was the passage of **HB 2496** – The Interstate Medical Licensure Compact Act. A separate

article about the legislation is included in this newsletter. (See page 5) Work on the Compact legislation began more than a year prior to its introduction, with involvement of both the allopathic and osteopathic medical boards as part of a multi-state task force.

West Virginia participates in more than 30 such interstate compacts in a wide variety of areas. Compacts allow states to work collaboratively to their mutual benefit while retaining state rights and autonomy. By facilitating multistate cooperation, compacts also allow states to retain regulatory authority over certain subject matters rather than ceding such authority to the federal govern-

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## Legislative Update

*Continued from page 2*

ment. One common example is recognition of state drivers' licenses throughout the country.

## Other Legislation of Interest

**House Bill 2098** was also passed this year. The bill makes provisions for a limited medical license to be made available to physicians of the Veterans Administration who also wish to practice in a state-owned veterans' nursing home in the same county at no charge to the applicant/physician. The bill went into effect on June 11.

On June 12, the board submitted a proposed emergency rule, 11CSR11, to implement the provisions of this new section of the Medical Practice Act. The board also simultaneously submitted a Notice of a Comment Period on a Proposed Rule for the proposed legislative rule. Written comments on the proposed legislative rule may be submitted to the board until 4:30 p.m. Monday, July 13. Comments should be provided to Robert C. Knittle, Executive Director, 101 Dee Drive, Suite 103, Charleston, WV 25311 or via e-mail at [Robert.C.Knittle@wv.gov](mailto:Robert.C.Knittle@wv.gov). The emergency rule and the proposed legislative rule are available for review on the West Virginia Secretary of State's website.

The Opioid Antagonists Act (**SB 335**) met with success this year as well. This bill authoriz-

es certain first responders and other individuals to carry and administer the drug Naloxone to individuals experiencing a drug overdose. Naloxone has been effective in countering opioid overdoses, and thereby averting overdose deaths. Similar legislative enactments have shown to produce significant results in other states.

Of note in this bill is the mandated CME required for physicians, podiatrists, physician assistants and other health care professionals in the use and administration of Naloxone. The board has to date been successful in working with presenters to incorporate this additional CME requirement into the current mandated CME for Best Prescribing of Controlled Substances and Drug Diversion Training. However, other venues of specific training for Naloxone will be equally acceptable to the board.

The law went into effect on May 27. The board must now require its licensees to attest to having successfully completed this mandated CME, beginning with the licensure renewal process in 2016 for physicians, and in 2017 for physician assistants and podiatrists.

The board has received a number of inquiries regarding **HB 2776**, which would have allowed mid-level practitioners such as physician assistants and advanced practice registered nurses to prescribe hydrocodone combination products, despite the reclassification of such drugs as Schedule II controlled substances. This bill subsequently was vetoed by Gov. Earl Ray Tomblin because of technical errors and **did not become law**.

## Board Members

**President** – Ahmed Faheem, M.D. – Beckley

**Vice President** – R. Curtis Arnold, D.P.M. – South Charleston

**Secretary** – Rahul Gupta, M.D., M.P.H. – Charleston

Reverend O. Richard Bowyer – Fairmont

Rusty Cain, D.P.M. – Fairmont

Kishore K. Challa, M.D. – South Charleston

Michael Ferrebee, M.D. – Fairmont

Cathy M. Funk, M.D. – Martinsburg

Beth Hays, M.A. – Bluefield

Cheryl Henderson, J.D. – Huntington

Carlos C. Jimenez, M.D. – Glen Dale

Kenneth C. Nanners, M.D. – Wheeling

Mustafa Rahim, M.D. – Beckley

Matthew Upton, M.D. – Dunbar

K. Dean Wright, P.A.-C. – Huntington

## Leadership Update....

We are quickly coming up on completing the first year under Dr. Ahmed Faheem's leadership as president and Dr. Curtis Arnold's leadership as vice president. As was the case under the past president, Reverend Richard Bowyer, it has been a very active year full of legislative accomplishments, systemic improvements and internal updates. Under such able leadership, board members continue to embrace the challenges before them and prepare for the future.

Within the past year, two changes have occurred in the Board of Medicine membership. We are pleased to announce the appointment of Mustafa Rahim, M.D., to the board in October 2014. Dr. Rahim has been a licensed, actively practicing physician in West Virginia since 1995 and maintains a successful Internal Medicine practice in the Beckley area including hospital privileges at Raleigh General Hospital and Beckley ARH. Dr. Rahim serves on the Physician Assistant Committee and the Licensure Committee.



*Dr. Faheem*

Dr. Rahim filled the seat of M. Khalid Hasan, M.D., who, in September 2014, completed his second and final appointment to the board. Dr. Hasan served as a reliable and valuable contributor to the board for more than 13 years, most notably on the Licensure and the Legislative Committee, which he had recently chaired.

Within the same time period, we were very pleased to receive notice from Gov. Earl Ray Tomblin of the reappointments of Drs. Faheem and Cathy Funk for second five-year terms. Congratulations are in order to both of these active contributing board members.

In December 2014, we learned that Letitia Tierney, M.D., was stepping down from her post as commissioner of the Bureau for Public Health

and, thusly, from her seat on the board. During the prior year, Dr. Tierney quickly became an active and involved member of the board and ably performed her duties as secretary of the board.

Following prompt action by Cabinet Secretary Karen Bowling of the state Department of Health and Human Resources, Rahul Gupta, M.D., M.P.H. was appointed as the new commissioner of the Bureau of Public Health, effective Jan. 1, and by statute assumed the office of secretary for the Board of Medicine.

Immediately prior to his appointment as commissioner, Dr. Gupta served as the health officer and executive director of the Kanawha-Charleston Health Department and concurrently as the executive director and health officer of the Putnam County Health Department for a shorter period of time. Additionally, he has served in the National



*Dr. Gupta*

Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) governance board, including the executive committee, for several years. Dr. Gupta is well-published and holds assistant and adjunct associate professorships at West Virginia University and the University of Charleston's School of Pharmacy, as well as serving as medical consultant and teaching staff member at Charleston Area Medical Center.

We are grateful for the contributions Drs. Tierney and Hasan have made, and looking forward are very pleased to have the additional expertise and professionalism offered by Drs. Rahim and Gupta.



*Dr. Arnold*



# WV Enacts Interstate Medical Licensure Compact

## Commission to meet later this year

On March 31, West Virginia joined four other states in enacting the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact, which supports medical license portability between states and expands access to health care, particularly to those in rural, underserved areas.

Since then, four more states have passed similar legislation and several other states are moving closer to adoption.

This important legislation streamlines the process to allow physicians to be licensed in multiple states. It does not change West Virginia's medical practice standards. It simply establishes a voluntary, expedited pathway for physicians to seek medical licenses in multiple states, while ensuring state regulatory oversight necessary to protect patients.

The legislation clarifies that the physician must be licensed in the state where the patient is located. It further affirms that the practice of medicine occurs where the patient is located at the time they are treated by a physician.

Gov. Earl Ray Tomblin signed the legislation (passed by the Legislature as HB 2496) with an effective date of June 10. The bill had overwhelming, bipartisan support in both the state Senate and House of Delegates, and received strong endorsements from both the West Virginia Board of Medicine and

the West Virginia Board of Osteopathic Medicine, as well as the Federation of State Medical Boards.

The Interstate Medical Licensure Compact recognizes the realities of modern medicine and the ongoing development of telemedicine and other medical technologies. It's a common-sense solution that is gaining momentum across the country. We are grateful to the Legislature for its timely and decisive action on this matter, and to the governor for his recognition of the value and potential of the Compact in years to come.

At the time of Gov. Tomblin's signature, West Virginia joined Idaho, South Dakota, Utah and Wyoming among states that had approved Interstate Compact legislation. Since then, Alabama, Minnesota, Montana and Nevada have enacted legislation. A bill remains pending in Illinois, while Pennsylvania and Wisconsin also are considering Interstate Compact bills.

To formalize the Compact agreement, it had to be enacted in at least seven states or U.S. jurisdictions. Fulfilling that requirement now triggers formation of the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact Commission, which will establish the managerial and administrative structure of the Compact.

The Interstate Compact Commission will meet later this

year. Members of the Commission will include two voting representatives appointed by each member state. Commissioners will be selected from:

- Allopathic or osteopathic physicians appointed to a member board;
- Executive directors, executive secretaries, or similar executives of a member board; or,
- Members of the public appointed to a member board.

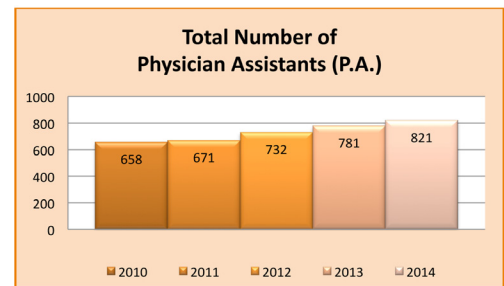
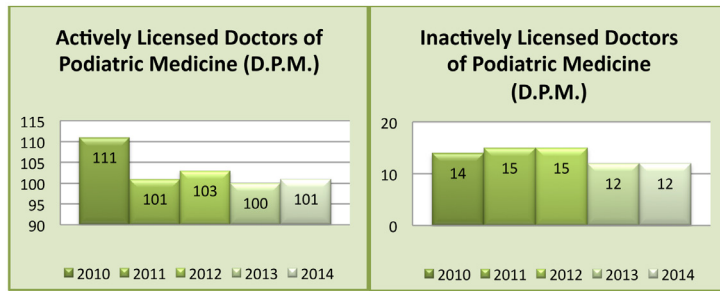
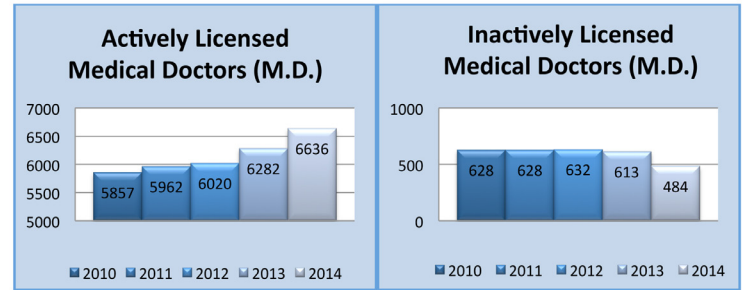
The model Interstate Medical Licensure Compact legislation was developed by a workgroup of medical boards from across the country and released in September 2014. Since then, nearly 20 states have formally introduced the legislation, and nearly 30 state medical and osteopathic boards have publicly expressed support for the concept.

Under the legislation, the Commission will facilitate multi-state physician licensure for highly qualified physician applicants who meet eligibility criteria. Member states will also be allowed to collaborate on disciplinary matters.

For more information about the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact, [click here](#).

# Annual Report

The West Virginia Board of Medicine (in accordance with WV Code §30-1-12(b)) submitted its annual report to Gov. Earl Ray Tomblin and the Legislature in January 2015. The report contains information regarding medical doctors, doctors of podiatric medicine and physician assistants, as well as complaint information. The following graphs and tables represent information contained within the report. To view the annual report in its entirety, please [click here](#).



## Number of Licensees by County as of June 30, 2014

County	MDs	DPMs	PAs	County	MDs	DPMs	PAs
Barbour	10	0	6	Mineral	19	1	1
Berkeley	173	5	32	Mingo	22	0	3
Boone	14	0	6	Monongalia	775	5	93
Braxton	8	0	5	Monroe	0	1	1
Brooke	30	0	1	Morgan	12	0	1
Cabell	596	8	54	Nicholas	27	0	10
Calhoun	4	0	2	Ohio	222	3	53
Clay	5	0	2	Pendleton	5	0	3
Doddridge	2	0	0	Pleasants	4	0	2
Fayette	24	4	9	Pocahontas	6	0	1
Gilmer	2	0	1	Preston	26	0	5
Grant	17	0	1	Putnam	57	1	8
Greenbrier	57	1	15	Raleigh	211	4	57
Hampshire	13	1	2	Randolph	56	2	25
Hancock	49	3	11	Ritchie	3	0	0
Hardy	5	0	10	Roane	11	0	3
Harrison	184	6	30	Summers	7	0	3
Jackson	18	1	2	Taylor	9	0	7
Jefferson	100	1	23	Tucker	4	0	5
Kanawha	706	8	145	Tyler	10	1	1
Lewis	29	0	7	Upshur	31	0	10
Lincoln	10	0	5	Wayne	29	0	2
Logan	50	2	9	Webster	3	0	4
Marion	84	1	11	Wetzel	15	1	1
Marshall	26	1	4	Wirt	2	0	3
Mason	29	0	0	Wood	188	4	35
McDowell	25	0	2	Wyoming	3	0	1
Mercer	124	1	24	Unspecified	166	1	0

## Nature and Number of Complaints Received July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2014

Nature of Complaint	Number of Complaints*
Licensing application, renewal: false statements	16
Exercising influence for sexual activity with patient	4
Deceptive representations in practice	4
Failure to keep written records justifying treatment	5
Prescribing other than in good faith in accord with medical standards	20
Practice beyond permitted scope of practice	7
Knowing delegation of responsibilities to one unqualified	10
Violation of laws, rules and orders	24
Gross negligence regarding prescription forms	1
Professional incompetence	4
Inability to practice safely due to/deterioration, through aging, impairment, drug or alcohol abuse	7
Failure to perform statutory or legal obligation	13
Malpractice or failure to practice acceptably	154
Disciplinary action in another state/license denial	11
Willful violation of confidential communication	1
Knowing association with person violating Medical Practice Act/Rule	2
Pre-signing blank prescription forms	2
Unprofessional, unethical conduct	143
Unprofessional, unethical conduct -- Prescribing controlled substances other than medicinally/in a manner to evade legal requirements/for personal or family use/excessively	2
Unprofessional, unethical conduct -- Failure to conform to AMA or APMA ethical standards	9
Unprofessional, unethical conduct -- Failing to comply with supervisory or collaborative agreement	5
Unprofessional, unethical conduct -- Violating dispensing rule	2
Unprofessional, unethical conduct -- Charging excessive, unconscionable fees	1
Unprofessional, unethical conduct -- Prescribing without an ongoing physician-patient relationship	1

*\*Please Note that the open cases may have more than one nature of complaint*

*Total number of complaints received by the board between July 1, 2012 and June 30, 2014: 275*

## New Database, New System, New Look

On January 29 – after 10 months of focused, hard work – the Board of Medicine switched to a new, modern database system. Through the competitive bid process, the board secured a contract with Albertson Consulting for the purchase, set up, training and implementation of the Big Picture licensure management software program.

The contract includes a content management system, administrative interface and cloud-based documentation program for the board's operations in the areas of licensing, renewals, discipline and regulation. The importation of data from the previous system is all but complete and will allow for greater flexibility in data management at a variety of levels. The transition has gone smoothly, with no major issues or loss of information.

The final component of our contract with Albertson Consulting was for the redesign of the

board website. The unveiling of the redesigned website coincided with the switch to the new database. Feedback on the new website has been very positive regarding its look and functionality.

This updated electronic capability has allowed the board to move from paper to electronic filing. It has also allowed the board to offer online renewal applications to be submitted electronically to the board, in addition to the Medical License Uniform Application for physicians who are initially filing for a license to practice medicine and surgery in our state.

These are substantial strides in the efficiency of the board office and the security of the information in our possession. The flexibility of this system allows for future improvements and upgrades without major disruption in function. Let us know how it works for you.

# Medical Professionals Health Program Makes a Difference in WV

by P. Bradley Hall, MD

The West Virginia Medical Professionals Health Program (WVMPHP) is in its eighth year of protecting the public by providing a mechanism for the successful rehabilitation of impaired physicians and their return to the safe, monitored practice of medicine.

The WVMPHP is the only physician health program recognized by both the West Virginia Board of Medicine and the West Virginia Board of Osteopathic Medicine. Now in the second year of five-year agreements with the boards, our vision is, “improving the health of West Virginians through promoting the well-being of West Virginia physicians, podiatrists, physician assistants and other licensed health care professionals.”

The program has helped nearly 170 signed participants to date, of whom 80 continue under an agreement impacting 32 hospitals/medical schools and many other areas of medicine. The WVMPHP also has served more than 100 others who have sought assistance and guidance, but were not formally engaged with the program. Less than one-third of signed participants were referred by their licensure board formally through consent order or informally through direct contact. The vast majority have voluntarily sought assistance and guidance.

Of those who have completed the initial phase of treatment and are under contract, 90 percent have remained abstinent, licensed and are practicing safely. These participants represent 24 specialties; the most frequently represented include family practice, emergency medicine, internal medicine and Ob/Gyn. Sixty percent of current participants had previous issues and recurrence of their chronic medical condition, further supporting the need of our physician health program and long-term guidance, assistance and monitoring. Twenty-two percent of current participants are medical students and/or residents, reflecting on the effectiveness of



Dr. Hall

early intervention in salvaging careers.

During initial evaluation, some were found to have some type of impairment (physical or on initial neuro-cognitive testing), most of which resolved with treatment. A few remain impaired and are disabled because of physical disorders

detected or persistence of cognitive impairment. Many detected impairments were unrelated to the original issues leading to participation. A few individuals have residual impairment because of the “qualifying condition of participation” (mental illness or substance use disorder) or other unrelated physical disorders. These initial and permanent impairments may not have been detected had they not sought the assistance and guidance of, or had they not been referred to, the WVMPHP.

The WVMPHP has served WV well beyond services to physicians, podiatrists and physician assistants. We have a direct involvement in the Governor’s Advisory Council on Substance Abuse (GACSA), providing input to legislation (Senate Bill 437, March 29, 2012) that enhances regulation, monitoring and enforcement to prevent doctor shopping and increases accountability for those prescribing and dispensing prescription drugs. The WVMPHP continues to be actively involved in the implementation process.

The WVMPHP also collaborates with other state organizations to provide assistance and guidance in a multitude of ways.

The WVMPHP, in collaboration with WVU Healthcare and the state Department of Health and Human Resources (supported by Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration grant funds administered through the Bureau for

*(continued on page 9)*



## WVMPHP Difference

*Continued from page 8*

Behavioral Health and Health Facilities), produced the “Clinician’s Pocket Guide for Drugs, Alcohol and Tobacco Screening, Brief Intervention, Referral & Treatment.” This six-fold guide for treatment professionals contains a wealth of information regarding alcoholism and drug addiction. The guide was distributed to all licensed physicians, physician assistants and podiatrists throughout West Virginia.

Specifically, the guide focuses on tobacco, alcohol, prescription medication and illicit drugs among various populations, from adolescence to the elderly, and even programs for pregnant mothers. Components of screening, intervention, patient tools (including assessment, urine toxicology and opioid conversions), and a section on commonly abused substances other than alcohol, nicotine and caffeine are included. There is a wealth of other useful information, including treatment resources. The guide can be accessed from our [website](#).

The WVMPHP’s other current grant projects include:

- The Addiction Treatment Institute;
- Updating of the West Virginia State Medical Association’s three-hour licensure board required CME, to be available on the WVSMA website;
- Production of the WVMPHP’s “Recognition of Potential Impairment” DVD and online webinar to assist health professionals of all disciplines in recognizing potential impairment among their colleagues because of behavioral or addictive illness;
- Coordination of a medical education advisory committee on physician education related to GACSA goals;
- A BBHFF educational event targeting providers to integrate behavioral health and addiction treatment in the improved delivery of services; and,
- A statewide mailer to all licensees to provide basic educational sources including the most

recent Naloxone legislation and associated links for additional education.

Nationally, the WVMPHP has had direct involvement in the creation of:

- The American Society of Addiction Medicine’s public policies on physician health ([go to document](#));
- The Federation of State Medical Board’s updated Impaired Physician Policy ([go to document](#)); and,
- The American Board of Medical Specialties credentialing process as it relates to potentially impairing illness.

Since inception, the WVMPHP has provided more than 90 educational lectures to 7,000 physicians, hospitals, medical staffs, medical societies, students and residents in state and national venues. These include engagements with the U.S. Food & Drug Administration; lawyer’s assistance programs; other state physician health programs and coalitions on physician education; the American Dental Association; and a multitude of others. The WVMPHP and its board members continue active involvement with medical and legislative committees, hospitals, credentialing bodies, malpractice carriers, insurance payers and others.

Through the WV Medical Professionals Health Program, West Virginia has created a safe system with the underlying principles of communication, collaboration, transparency and accountability to the benefit of all.

The WVMPHP also is making a difference in the lives of West Virginians through activities which extend well beyond the scope of providing assistance and guidance to ill health care professionals, to the benefit of West Virginia and the public we serve.

*P. Bradley Hall, MD,  
is executive medical director  
of the WVMPHP. He can be contacted at  
[bhallmd@wvmpHP.org](mailto:bhallmd@wvmpHP.org); 304-933-1030.*

# Prescription Drug Abuse Targeted

Among many ongoing efforts to combat prescription drug abuse, board secretary Dr. Rahul Gupta this month was joined by 11 other panelists for the West Virginia Addiction Summit organized by Delegate Chris Stansbury at the West Virginia Culture Center in Charleston.

Gupta, who also is the West Virginia state health officer and commissioner for the Bureau for Public Health, said 3,000 overdose deaths over the past five years can be attributed to prescription drug abuse and heroin. West Virginia's overdose death rate not only is the highest in the U.S., but it is 20 percent higher than the second leading state.

Gov. Earl Ray Tomblin, through the Governor's Advisory Council on Substance Abuse, U.S. Sen. Joe Manchin, and U.S. Attorneys Booth Goodwin and William Ihlenfeld are among others leading efforts to address the epidemic through education and reform. Manchin and Sen. Tim Scott have launched a Prescription Drug Abuse Caucus at the national level. Manchin also have introduced the FDA Accountability for Public Safety Act and

the Prescription Drug Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act.

Stansbury has created a West Virginia Addiction Action Group which will continue collaborative efforts through focus groups, town hall meetings and an interactive website.

In addition, the annual Appalachian Addiction & Prescription Drug Abuse Conference, scheduled Sept. 24-26 at the Embassy Suites in Charleston, offers physician education on this topic while satisfying the state licensure boards' three-hour CME Best Practices Prescribing of Controlling Substances required education.

Topics cover a broad range of issues related to prescription drug abuse and addiction. They include the disease model of addiction, addiction and co-morbid pain, neonatal abstinence syndrome, proper prescribing, diversion, and updated epidemiologic statistics. A number of case studies will be presented.

Support for the conference is provided by the Board of Medicine, along with the WV State Medical Association, the

WV Society of Addiction Medicine, the WVMPPH, the WV Board of Osteopathic Medicine, the WV Osteopathic Medical Association, and the state Department of Health and Human Resources' Bureau for Behavioral Health & Health Facilities. For more information, email [karie@wvsmo.org](mailto:karie@wvsmo.org) or call (304) 925-0342, ext. 12.

We must continue to forge partnerships at the federal, state and local levels to identify and solve the complex public health and behavioral health issues associated with this epidemic.



## E-Mail Addresses

The board's primary means of communicating news and general information to licensees is via e-mail. Announcements, renewal information, timely notices and this newsletter are examples of such communication. It is very important that you keep the board apprised of your current contact information, including your e-mail address.

To provide a current e-mail address, send an e-mail containing your name and license number to: [bomnewsletter@wv.gov](mailto:bomnewsletter@wv.gov).

# Physician Assistant News: PA Renewal Period

Prior to this year, physician assistant renewal was a 100 percent paper process. It was a cumbersome, staff-intensive activity which drew a number of board staff into the process and away from their ongoing responsibilities.

This year marks the first PA renewal period which was completed online through our website. The PA renewal process is the first of several online application processes the board is putting into place as we make a distinct move away from paper processes and files. Between Feb. 4 and March 31, a total of 765 physician assistants renewed their license. Licensees indicated they were very pleased with the process and encountered very little difficulty in renewing their license online.

## Practice Agreements

The new Physician Assistant Practice Act which went into effect June 6, 2014 calls for the establishment of a Practice Agreement between the physician assistant and their supervising physician(s). This takes the place of the previous job description and separates the license to practice from the professional working arrangements made between a physician assistant and their supervisor(s). No longer will a physician assistant automatically lose their license to practice in our state if they are not employed.

The practice agreement also covers prescriptive privileges, doing away with the separate prescription-writing privilege certification process and related fee. Changes in work addresses may also be made at no cost, doing away with another separate process and fee; however, changes/additions of a primary supervisor will require a new practice agreement. A Practice Agreement may remain in place as long as the specific supervisory arrangement is unchanged. Unlike the PA license, it does not need to be renewed.

Under the new law, all practicing physician

assistants are required to have a practice agreement and were provided with a transition period through March 31 to replace their job descriptions with the new practice agreement. Unfortunately, many PAs waited until the renewal period to submit practice agreements which has created a backlog of practice agreements awaiting approval. The board has approved provisional authorization of those practice agreements which were submitted prior to April 1 but have yet to be approved until the backlog is remedied.

## PA Legislative Rule

The new Physician Assistant Practice Act also called for the establishment of emergency rules in order to carry out the mandate of the act. In response, the board put into place an emergency rule effective June 6, 2014. In the interim, a permanent legislative rule was promulgated and subsequently passed during the recent legislative session. Submission of the final rule was made to the Secretary of State's office and went into effect May 15, 2015.

Both the Physician Assistant Practice Act (§30-3E) and legislative rule (11CSR1B) may be found on our website, [www.wvbom.wv.gov](http://www.wvbom.wv.gov), in the Laws, Rules and Policies section.

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### **WV Board of Medicine**

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Monday - Friday  
8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

[www.wvbom.wv.gov](http://www.wvbom.wv.gov)  
email: [bomnewsletter@wv.gov](mailto:bomnewsletter@wv.gov)

# Board Actions - July 2014 through May 2015

**Terry, Richard Franklin, Sr., MD**  
8/5/2014 – Administrative Fine/  
Monetary Penalty  
Consent Order: [1347483](#)

**McElroy, John Jeffrey, MD**  
8/5/2014 – Administrative Fine/  
Monetary Penalty  
Consent Order: [1340942](#)

**Otellin, Alexander  
Vladimirovich, MD**  
8/5/2014 – Reprimand or  
Censure  
Consent Order: [1342748](#)

**Olson, Arthur Wesley, MD**  
8/5/2014 – Administrative Fine/  
Monetary Penalty  
Consent Order: [1342643](#)

**Wilson, Jay D., PA-C**  
8/5/2014 – Probation of License  
Amended Order: [1328994](#)

**McGuffin, Aaron Michael, MD**  
8/15/2014 – Administrative Fine/  
Monetary Penalty  
Consent Order: [1340974](#)

**Derakhshan, Iraj, MD**  
9/16/2014 – Reprimand or  
Censure  
Consent Order: [1333578](#)

**Ozon, Robert Kent, MD**  
10/3/2014 – Other License Action  
Consent Order: [1342791](#)

**Dave, Prafull K., MD**  
10/28/2014 – Probation of  
License  
Amended Order: [1333305](#)

**Velasquez, Alfredo Corrales,  
MD**  
11/3/2014 – Voluntary Surrender  
of License  
Consent Order: [1348217](#)

**Shields, Douglas Allen, MD**  
12/3/2014 – License Restored or  
Reinstated (Conditional)  
Consent Order: [1346034](#)

**Milan, Edita P., MD**  
12/12/2014 – Voluntary Surrender  
of License  
Consent Order: [1341337](#)

**Smith, Kate Ashley, PA-C**  
12/12/2014 – Reprimand or  
Censure  
Consent Order: [1328763](#)

**Lingamaneni, Shanmukesh, MD**  
12/12/2014 – Administrative Fine/  
Monetary Penalty  
Consent Order: [1339816](#)

**Lenkey, Attila Alan, MD**  
12/12/2014 – Reprimand or  
Censure  
Consent Order: [1339578](#)

**Arceo, Liza Antonette, MD**  
12/12/2014 – License Restored or  
Reinstated (Conditional)  
Amended Order: [1329886](#)

**Leo, Sherwood Phillip, MD**  
12/12/2014 – Reprimand or  
Censure  
Consent Order: [1339585](#)

**Patel, Anil J., MD**  
12/16/2014 – Administrative Fine/  
Monetary Penalty  
Consent Order: [1343077](#)

**Speight, Jamie Lea, PA-C**  
12/9/2014 – Reprimand or  
Censure  
Consent Order: [1328791](#)

**Watson, Cammi Leann, PA-C**  
12/23/2014 – Suspension of  
License  
Consent Order: [1328954](#)

**Duffy, Cameron Dewayne, MD**  
1/12/2015 - Reprimand or  
Censure  
Consent Order: [1333985](#)

**Khorasani, Sara , MD**  
1/20/2015 - Administrative Fine/  
Monetary Penalty  
Consent Order: [1338540](#)

**Adkins, Jimmy Ray, II, PA-C**  
2/4/2015 – Issuance of License  
Consent Order: [1327398](#)

**O'Mara, Sean Thomas, MD**  
2/11/2015 - Administrative Fine/  
Monetary Penalty  
Consent Order: [1342529](#)

**Iyer, Shivkumar  
Lakshminarayan, MD**  
2/25/2015 - Summary/Emergency  
Suspension of License  
Board Order: [1337520](#)

**Leef, Johnsey Lee, Jr. MD**  
2/27/2015 - Administrative Fine/  
Monetary Penalty  
Consent Order: [1339533](#)

**Lewis, Donald Ryan, Jr., MD**  
2/27/2015 - Administrative Fine/  
Monetary Penalty  
Consent Order: [1339701](#)

**Richardson, Bradley Jess, MD**  
2/27/2015 - Administrative Fine/  
Monetary Penalty  
Consent Order: [1344543](#)

**Akers, Mark Jason, MD**  
2/27/2015 - Administrative Fine/  
Monetary Penalty  
Consent Order: [1329397](#)

**Castle, Jason Allan, MD**  
3/3/2015 - Administrative Fine/  
Monetary Penalty  
Consent Order: [1332045](#)



## Actions

*Continued from page 12*

**Veltman, John Collett, MD**

3/3/2015 - Education and Training

Required

Consent Order: [1348229](#)

**Kim, James Jupyung, MD**

3/19/2015 - Administrative Fine/

Monetary Penalty

Consent Order: [1338608](#)

**Farry, Kimberly Marie, MD**

3/19/2015 - Administrative Fine/

Monetary Penalty

Consent Order: [1334560](#)

**Long, Susan Elizabeth, MD**

3/19/2015 - Administrative Fine/

Monetary Penalty

Consent Order: [1339954](#)

**Brumfield, Steven Scott, MD**

3/19/2015 - Administrative Fine/

Monetary Penalty

Consent Order: [1331519](#)

**Kessel, John Woodruff, MD**

4/1/2015 - Voluntary Surrender of

License

Consent Order: [1338423](#)

**Rhoads, Sean Patrick, PA**

4/1/2015 - Probation of License

Amended Order: [1328622](#)

**Eggleston, Robert Michael, MD**

4/16/2015 - Administrative Fine/

Monetary Penalty

Consent Order: [1334170](#)

**Multani, Jasbir Kaur, MD**

4/16/2015 - Reprimand or

Censure

Consent Order: [1341928](#)

**Kurucz, Jane Ann, MD**

04-17-2015 - Administrative Fine/

Monetary Penalty

Consent Order: [1339146](#)

**Chan, Brandon Willie, MD**

04-27-2015 - Administrative Fine/

Monetary Penalty

Consent Order: [1332159](#)

## Website Security Enhancements

The Board of Medicine will implement new website security enhancements July 1, in an effort to stay up to date with modern technology and security standards, while ensuring reliability. Following implementation of these enhancements, you may have difficulty accessing the website using older versions of your browser. We recommend that you use Internet Explorer 11 or the newer versions of Chrome, Safari, Firefox or Opera. If you must use Internet Explorer versions 8, 9 or 10, these versions will need to be updated. To verify that your internet browser is compatible with our website, open Internet Explorer - click on Tools - Internet Options - advanced tab and scroll down to ensure that TLS 1.0, 1.1 and 1.2 are selected.

## Staff News

This past year brought several changes to our staff.

**Jamie Frame** has assumed the position of executive assistant for Executive Director Robert Knittle, board attorney Jamie Alley and the board. Similarly, **Karen Day** is now the paralegal in the office for the Investigations and Complaints Unit. Joining her in this unit is **Rhonda Dean**, who has assumed Day's previous position as complaints coordinator after briefly holding the receptionist position in the office.

Joining our Licensing Unit is licensure analyst **Angela Scholl**, who has assisted with physician assistant data entry and will be handling licensure applications for those physicians whose last names begin with the letters A-L. Finally, and most recently, **Nick-ole Prowse** has joined our staff as the receptionist and office assistant.

The board is pleased with this complement of very capable staff.

# New Licensees - January to May 2015

## Physician Licenses

The West Virginia Board of Medicine issued 216 physician licenses between January and May 2015. Congratulations to the following:

### A-B

Abbas, Mohammed Ali  
 Abbasi, Omar Farooq  
 Ahmed, Rezwan  
 Ahmedfiqi, Osman  
 Abdulkadir  
 Ajeh, Harrison Inalegwu  
 Alleva, Annette M.  
 Almani, Rayed Abdullah  
 Al-Qudah, Zaid Abed Al-Kariem  
 Arcidi, Jr., Joseph Michael  
 Arnold, John Howard  
 Arnold, Richard Evan  
 Arora, Rebecca Ann

Balest, Arcangela Lattari  
 Bath, Shelley Singh  
 Batra, Sandeep  
 Belenkiy, Slava M.  
 Bello, Elizabeth Ann  
 Berhane, Menna  
 Bhattacharya, Runa  
 Blasko, Barbara Jane  
 Bolger, Paul Matthew  
 Bonasso, II, Patrick  
 Corkrean  
 Borah, Gregory Louis  
 Borgstrom, David Carl  
 Bowe, Adina Elise  
 Brandser, Eric Allan  
 Brown, Stephen Scott  
 Bush, Bryan Stephen

### C-D

Cameron, Ella Kathryn  
 Campbell, Andrew Alan  
 Cantu Duran, David  
 Eduardo  
 Carlin, Genna Leann  
 Caveney, Joseph Daniel  
 Chan, Daniel Tak Chi  
 Chemchirian, Hrak

Chuang, William Wei-Chieh  
 Chunduri, Kiran Venkat  
 Cichon, Jamie Lee  
 Cillo, Jason Alexander  
 Cloyd, Jeffrey Wade  
 Coleman, Anton Emil  
 Colvin, Otis Christopher  
 Conti, Sr., Christopher Tracy  
 Cook, Stephen Elbridge  
 Correa Colon, Cynthia  
 Milagros  
 Craig, David Austin  
 Crosswell, Howland Earle  
 Cuevas Pareja, Sebastian  
 Ernesto  
 Cui, Shari

D'Alessio, Santa  
 Daniels, Dennis Edward  
 Daucher, James Andrew  
 DerDerian, Trevor John  
 Dhar, Sunil Kumar  
 Drexler, Jeffrey Alan  
 Dumasius, Vidas Grazvydas

### E-G

Ebert, Frank Ross  
 El-Gammal, Ahmed  
 Mahmoud M.  
 El-Hillal, Mohammad Fares  
 Eligator, Nancy Ruth  
 Elsayed, Ahmed Mohamed  
 Gamal Mohamed  
 Epling, John Blake  
 Esco, Miechia Ashawn  
 Eter, Ahmad  
 Ezon, David Steven

Fadia, Ankur Sunildatta  
 Faruqui, Zeeshan  
 Feizi, Parissa Anna  
 Francis Frank, Lyndave  
 Shiomi  
 Franklin, Kahesha Kahellia  
 Franko, III, Alexander Paul  
 Frusztajer, Nina Tamara  
 Fulton, Whitney Nicole

Ganesh, Aarthi  
 Garcia, Christopher Michael  
 Godsey, Veronica Chelsye  
 Gordon, Scott Moore  
 Gorman, Robert Joseph  
 Goyal, Priti  
 Grace, III, Warren Lee  
 Graynovsky, Margaret

Green, Howard Malcolm  
 Griffin, Matthew Patrick

### H-K

Hama Amin, Ali Muhamad  
 Hamanaka, Kenji Mark  
 Haybron, David McClure  
 Hayes, William Brendan  
 He, Ruyi  
 Hemphill, Amani Franklin  
 Hobbie, Christopher Norman  
 Hodder, Sally Lynn  
 Holbein, Monika  
 Maximilliane  
 Hopkins, Jeremiah Christopher  
 Horowitz, Gary Martin  
 Howard, Timothy Mitchell

Ioja, Simona  
 Iroha, Simon Ikechukwu  
 Ito, Hirohiko

Jessop, Morris Lynn  
 Johnson, Katherine  
 Hanback  
 Johnson, Megan Danyel  
 Jones, Elaine Celeste  
 Joyce, Joshua Craig

Kalantarpour, Fatemeh  
 Kanik, Andrew Brett  
 Kannon, Bodhi Kikue  
 Karpitskiy, Vladimir  
 Vitalyevic  
 Kho-Duffm, Jennie Sue  
 Kister, Nathaniel Lloyd  
 Kleinman, Jeffrey David  
 Kliever, David Joe  
 Kline, Ronald Michael  
 Kloostra, Paul William  
 Kneifati, Ahmed Mohamed  
 Adeeb  
 Kobrin, Jonathan Allen  
 Kodali, Dheeraj  
 Kohli, Harpreet Singh  
 Kraft, Clara Heather

### L-O

Lamba, Pankaj  
 LaPlante, Maria Jennifer  
 Larkin, Emily Blair  
 Le, Stephanie Hanh  
 Lese, Andrea Beth  
 Liu, Grace Ya-chi

Liu, Lanting  
 Lozowska, Dominika  
 Lum, Christopher Allan Kwai  
 Lun  
 Lycans, Dana Scott

Ma, Patrick Chi-Chung  
 Madhusudanannair-Kunnuparampil, Vinu  
 Maenza, Richard Louis  
 Makhni, Parveen Bala  
 Malayil, Rudy Mathew  
 Malik, Tamer Ayad Gayed  
 Attia  
 Manzari, Jr., Nicholas John  
 Marsh, Clay Braden  
 Martich, George Daniel  
 Martinex-Vasquez, Diego  
 Fernando  
 Mason, Aaron Corde  
 McLavy, Jason Scott Burns  
 Meyer, Brendan Joseph  
 Michael, Eva Ramzy  
 Modi, Sujal Hemant  
 Morris, Matthew Wesley

Naji, Zaher Adnan  
 Neimkin, Ronald Jay

Oldham, Robert Kenneth  
 Onyekwere, Onyinye  
 Chukwujindu

### P-S

Paeschke, Tracy Ann  
 Pandellapalli, Poornima  
 Upadhyaya  
 Panwar, Sadik Raja  
 Parker, David Matthew  
 Poole, Daniel Justin  
 Potnick, Aaron Gregory

Quam, Tamim

Rapp, Haley Moore  
 Ray, Peter Damian  
 Rihal, Raveena Kaur  
 Rojanavongse, Patara  
 Ross, William Aaron  
 Routsong, Michael Todd

Saah, Elna Njuikwo  
 Sana, Said Hasib  
 Sanchez Ramirez, Juan  
 Pablo

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**Licenseses**

*Continued from page 14*

Sayed, Ali  
 Schaefer, Jochen Thorsten  
 Schwarz, Heidi Beck  
 Sewell, Catherine Louise  
 Shah, Hajra Zehra  
 Shah, Tushar Nandlal  
 Shawkat, Tarek Abdel El Geilil  
 Sherwood, Melody Joy  
 Shook, Janice Renee  
 Shoshi, Shaban Ali  
 Showalter, Samuel Getz  
 Sicenica, Toni  
 Sinelnikov, Alex Olegovich  
 Skylizard, Loki  
 Smith, Catherine Sarina  
 Smith, Jace Redmond  
 Smith, Triston Bart Byjorde Junior  
 Sprouse, Gretchen Dawn Egbert  
 Sprouse, Ryan Anderson  
 Stevens, James Eugene  
 Stirling, Eric Leroy  
 Stoler, Mark Howard  
 Suero Abreu, Gregory Arturo  
 Summers, Allison Luanne  
 Sykes, Joshua Bengtson

**T-Z**

Teichman, Jeb Stewart  
 Tetteh, Shirley Naa Adjeley  
 Thompson, Donovan Aaron  
 Tung, Christie Elaine  
  
 Valenzuela, II, Pio Garcia  
 Vascik, Scott Michael  
 Verma, Vaibhav  
 Vesa, Allin Cornelius  
 Vore, Shana Allie  
  
 Walker, III, Johnny George  
 Wexler, Steven Mark  
 White, Travis Wayne  
 Whitman, Christine Minah  
 Whitten, Joseph Anthony  
 Williams, IV, Thomas Alfred  
 Wills, Marcia Lynn  
 Wilson, David Bradley  
 Woodruff, Alexis Crane  
  
 Yacoub, Michael  
 Yang, Jing-Jing  
 Yanta, Joseph Henry  
 Yella, Jagadeesh  
 Yourek, Adrienne Marie

Yun, Samuel Huisok  
  
 Zhang, Lixin  
 Zhang, Shumin  
 Zucker, Joseph

**Podiatrist Licenses**

The West Virginia Board of Medicine issued 5 podiatrist licenses between January and May 2015. Congratulations to the following:

Brechtelsbauer, Brandi Sue  
 Craft, Seth Thomas  
 Steinberg, Brenna Leigh  
 Weeks, Blake A.  
 Yanes, Yenisey

**Physician Assistant Licenses**

The West Virginia Board of Medicine issued 32 physician assistant licenses between January and May 2015. Congratulations to the following:

**A-L**

Adkins, II, Jimmy Ray  
 Ashton, Lisa Anita  
  
 Bailey, Jr., Gene Arnold  
 Blankenship, Chad Elvis  
 Bragano, Zachary Joseph  
  
 Cain, Shaina Rachael  
 Combs, Amy Marie  
 Cook, Sara Elizabeth  
 Protzman  
  
 Duelm, Daniel Lewis  
  
 Franceschelli, Ryan Andrew  
 Francis, Kelsey A.

Hajostek, Michelle Marie  
 Hall, Kala Michelle  
 Henline, Sandra Elaine  
 Hibl, Victoria Katherine  
 Hoffman, Roger Allen  
 Howard, Taylor McGhee  
 Hunsader, Misty Lea

Ludwig, Nicole Lynn

**M-Z**

McCrossin, Clara Gayle  
 Marino, Salvatore G.  
 Miller-Pitcher, Kalika Kim  
 Owens

Pippi, Eric Joseph  
  
 Ricchio, Kristianna  
 Ruby, Tonya Gail  
  
 Sellers, Julia Marie  
 Stafford, Bryan Scott  
 Stewart, Yvonne

Thomas, Shena Rashel

Walker, Christa Michelle  
 Ware, Jana Elizabeth

Zomcik, Alicia Renee

**Staff Members**

Robert C. Knittle, M.S. – Executive Director  
 Jamie S. Alley, Esq. – Board Attorney  
 Jamie C. Frame – Executive Administrative Assistant  
 Leslie A. Inghram, CMBI – Supervisor of Investigation and Complaints  
 Karen Day – Paralegal  
 Rhonda A. Dean – Complaints Coordinator  
 Sheree Thompson – Supervisor of Licensing, Certifications and Renewals  
 Amy C. Callihan, CMCO – Physician Assistant Coordinator  
 Angela Scholl – Licensure Analyst, Last Names A-L  
 Carmella Walker – Licensure Analyst, Last Names M-Z  
 Kimberly Jett – Office Manager  
 Nickole Prowse – Receptionist / Office Assistant  
 Deborah Scott – Fiscal Officer  
 Scott Wilkinson – Information Systems Coordinator

# Renewal Period Under Way for Medical Licenses, Podiatric Licenses, Drug Dispensing Certificates and PLLC Certificates

We are pleased to announce that after a seven-year transition, renewal applications are now entirely online

If you are a physician whose last name begins with the letter M through Z, or a podiatrist, now is the time to renew your license. The same is true for all licensees who hold drug dispensing certificates, as well as owners of PLLCs.

With the implementation of our new online renewal applications, licenses and certificates are being renewed at a brisk pace. As of early June, more than 1,500 or 44 percent of eligible physicians have already renewed, 27 percent of podiatrists have renewed and more than 373 physicians have renewed their drug dispensing certificates. Likewise, one-third of the PLLCs have also renewed.

Problems have been few and, like the physician assistant license renewals earlier this year, feedback has been very positive.

For physicians and podiatrists who are renewing their license and also hold a drug dispensing certificate, please note that at the end of the li-

cence renewal application you may transfer directly to your drug dispensing renewal application if you so choose.

For physicians whose last name begins with the letter A through L, the drug dispensing renewal application is located under the Quick Links section of the Board of Medicine [website](#). Please note that your drug dispensing certificate will be valid for only one year at the cost of \$15 per dispensing location. When you renew your medical license in 2016, you will renew your drug dispensing certificate for the usual two-year period. Moving forward, your drug dispensing license will always coincide with the renewal of your medical license.

The deadline for renewing your license and/or certificate(s) is 4:30 p.m. Tuesday, June 30, at which time your license to lawfully practice or dispense will expire. There is no grace period.

If you haven't already renewed, visit our website at [www.wvbom.wv.gov](http://www.wvbom.wv.gov) and click on the appropriate renewal application link found on our home page.

## Chronic Pain Management Clinics

The West Virginia Legislature enacted the Governor's Prescription Drug Abuse Act in 2012 which, among other provisions, called for the licensing of chronic pain management clinics. The Office of Health Facility Licensure and Certification (OHFLAC) within the state Department of Health and Human Resources was charged with the promulgation of legislative rules by which to define, license and regulate the clinics.

Over the course of two years, emergency rules were developed and funding was made available to operationalize the licensing of the clinics. In July 2014, the emergency rules were submitted to the Secretary of State's office and efforts to license such facilities began in earnest. You may access the legislative rules by clicking on the following link: [Legislative Rules](#).

Over the past year, OHFLAC has been very active in the licensure and inspection of these clinics and has worked collaboratively with other state agencies, departments and health care boards in fulfilling its mission. If you have questions or would like additional information regarding licensing of chronic pain management clinics, click on the following link to be directed to their website: [www.OHFLAC.wv.gov](http://www.OHFLAC.wv.gov).