



**Nursing Care Quality Assurance Commission (NCQAC)  
Discipline Subcommittee Minutes  
June 21, 2022 3:30 pm to 5:30 pm**

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United States: +1 564-999-2000  
Conference ID: 478 294 276#

**Committee Members:**

Adam Canary, LPN, Chair  
Sharon Ness, RN  
Tiffany Randich, RN, LPN member  
Tracy Rude, LPN pro-tem ad hoc  
Dawn Morrell, RN, BSN, CCRN  
Quiana Childress, GCertHealthSc, BS, LPN *absent*

**Staff:**

Catherine Woodard, Director, Discipline and WHPS  
Karl Hoehn, Assistant Director, Discipline - Legal *came late after HELMS*  
Grant Hulteen, Assistant Director, Discipline – Investigations and WHPS  
John Furman, PhD, MSN, COHN-S, WHPS Liaison *absent*  
Helen Budde, Case Manager  
Teresa Corrado, LPN, Assistant Director, Discipline – Case Management/HELMS *absent*  
Barb Elsner, HSC  
Margaret Holm, JD, RN ad hoc  
Amy Sharer, PIO

**I. 3:30 pm opening – Adam**

- Call to order – digital recording announcement
- Started the meeting at 3:34 pm.
- Roll call
- Recorded on the first page.

**II. February 15, 2022 Minutes– Adam**

- In draft format until the commission approves at the July 2022 business meeting.
- No comments or corrections. Good minutes per Sharon.

**III. Performance measure trends – Catherine**

- Catherine went through the ten charts in the packet to observe the visual improvements in Investigations and Legal since the high caseloads from 2018/2019.
- New complaints are down in this past fiscal year, but we are trending in the percentage of complaints opened at CMT. Contributed to the Florida transcript cases to some degree.
- We are getting closer to the performance measures in Investigations (77% completed withing 170 days and no more than 23% cases opened beyond 170 days).
- Investigations has been completing more cases than CMT opens, which attributes to the total numbers of cases under 500. Kudos to investigators. Case assignments coming down as a result.
- Investigators holding steady except for one position, which we reallocated to Legal as a new paralegal. Another investigator transferred back to OILS and we hired a new person who is coming to us from California. She starts July 16<sup>th</sup>. We will have 11 investigators.
- ER cases holding steady.
- In the legal charts, ARNPs are separately recorded because they can be very complex.
- Legal staff: one attorney left for the AGO and we hired back an attorney from OILS who worked with us once before.
- Staff attorneys are hitting the mark with legal reviews.
- Most cases are finalized with a legal review only.
- Caseloads are fairly steady in Legal.
- Amazing growth in nurse licensure.
- Dawn: example of case closed with legal review? Catherine: no recommended action against the license. Attorneys complete a legal review on every case.

**IV. NOAP conference review – Grant**

- Grant hit the highlights of the conference. Albuquerque, New Mexico in May.
- Main topic was the new norm related to COVID. How SUD programs are handling the changes related to the pandemic.
- Kristien Waite- Labott: nurse (from Milwaukee) who discussed her journey into addiction and then through recovery. Discussed stigma, why nurses don't seek help, why colleagues don't report each other.
- MRO toxicology panel re: different tests, drug interactions, etc. Interesting information; invited Donna Smith to participate in SUDRP training.
- Panel to discuss issues everyone faces because of COVID. Testing is the biggest challenge.
- Good conference to send people to. Great networking.

**V. Discipline Case Management conference review – Catherine**

- Karl and Catherine attended with Investigator Barb Justice.
- Very popular conference with discipline staff. Highly recommend.
- The session on investigating SUD was disappointing only because we are already do everything we can possibly do; no new pearls of wisdom.
- Panel discussion the same as Grant reviewed at NOAP about challenges during COVID times.
- Session on trauma-informed interviewing. Scientifically more relevant and better way to interview than more traditional methods.
- Karl attended the session on discipline in a compact state.
- Safe harbor protections for nurses.
- Dr Karl Erik Fisher was the keynote speaker, talking about his research that led to his book, The Urge.
- Videos of presentation will be available on the NCSBN website.

## **VI. WHPS updates – Catherine, Grant**

- WRAMP transition – provided background and anticipated timeline. WRAMP within HSQA will migrate to WHPS and be supported by WHPS but remain separate in terms of budget and caseload. WRAMP will transfer on July 16<sup>th</sup>. NCQAC and HSQA will use an MOU to define the business model, expectations, and responsibilities.
- Genotox testing program – educated at NOAP about this. Will be used as an alternative when nurses can't get to a facility. Nurses can purchase at-home test kits for \$100 each. The first test is observed by video and sent to Genotox to set a DNA baseline. Over 100 drug comparisons tested in each sample. The cost may be lower than several specialty tests. Genotox promises test results back within 72 hours; currently test results are taking one week to ten days. The drawback is that the test can be stored before mailing and the delay may not be detected within seven days. Genotox can detect that the sample has been stored for longer than seven days because of DNA breakdown. Tracy asked if the DNA sample is destroyed after the nurse graduates; the answer is yes. Grant said they're also considering another remote testing system, Proof. Also based on DNA samples, but there are some complications with using this that staff are working through. Technical issues related to facial recognition.
- Monitoring program Request for Proposal (RFP) – working on the RFP for the database monitoring program. The contract with Recovery Trek is up in October; it has run its five-year limit. It cannot be a sole source contract as there are at least three other competitors.
- NCSBN pilot – the commission approved our participation in this research pilot. The next meeting with NCSBN is in September. We will provide updates as we move forward.

## **VII. Work plan and strategic plan review – Adam, John, Grant**

- SUDRP training, implementation – training complete, commission members invited to SUAT for familiarization. SUDRP will occur weekly on the same day and time. It goes live July 1<sup>st</sup>.
- Comments on the work plan besides the strategic plan. Behind on procedure review. They're coming!
- WHPS outreach (including posters, WHPS toolkit, blog). Description of electronic toolkit that will be available for all the categories of nurses and others who may turn to it as a resource.

- Dawn: brochure is very well done and wants to see it on the side of a bus. Or light rail. Can we get money from a grant to help with this? Would WSNA put our brochures up on their bulletin boards in all hospitals?
- Tracy: are the brochures also on the website? Yes.
- We have not done any work on the plan to consider inactivating a nurse's license when they're dealing with a catastrophic event. Remove from work plan? Has been tabled during the pandemic. Tracy hates to let it go; should we discuss with case managers? Dawn doesn't want to see it go, either. Grant says we have very few of these cases.
- No headway yet on scholarship funds from WSNA or others. John thinks this issue is on the back burner for associations since the pandemic.
- Add RFP process to work plan. Also add WRAMP to the work plan.

**VIII. Public comment – Adam**

- Limited to two minutes per speaker
- No one commented.

**IX. Anything for the good of the order? – all**

- Refers to the portion of the agenda during which members may make statements or offer observations about the character or work of the subcommittee without having any particular item of business before the meeting.
- Reminding subcommittee members to get payroll done.
- Is everyone still solid with every other month meetings? Everyone thinks so.

**Adjourned at 4:50pm**