

# ADVISORY COUNCIL

## Minutes August 21, 2022

### ABAT Members Present

R. T. Floyd, Ed.D.  
Kyle Southall  
Daniel Lindsey

### Members Absent

Beverly Jordan, M.D.

### ABME Members Present

Eric Law, M.D., AC Chairman  
James Robinson, M.D.

### Others Present

Keith Warren (ABAT)  
Renee' Reames (ABAT)  
Matt Hart (ABME-Virtual/Zoom)

#### I. Call Meeting to Order

**The Advisory Council of the Alabama Board of Athletic Trainers (ABAT) and Alabama State Board of Medical Examiners (ABME) met on August 21, 2022. The meeting was held at the Board of Athletic Trainers' office located at 2777 Zelda Road in Montgomery. Dr. Eric Law, Advisory Council Chairman, called member roll and announced a quorum was present. He called the meeting to order at 6:12 p.m. and welcomed everyone in attendance.**

#### II. Approval of Minutes

Dr. Law called for a review of the Advisory Council's June 21, 2022, meeting minutes. Mr. Floyd presented corrections to the minutes on page 2 to read Mr. "Lindsey," rather than Mr. Daniel, and the spelling of "nominated" when discussing the Board Chair position. MOTION: Mr. Southall made the motion to approve the June 21, 2022, meeting minutes as corrected. Dr. Floyd seconded the motion and was unanimously approved by the Advisory Council.

#### III. Old Business

##### A. Update on Notifications to Supervising Physicians regarding Maximum Supervision:

Mr. Warren reported that he was working with Alabama Interactive in developing the targeted notification prompts in the online registration process to alert the supervising physician about reaching and exceeding the maximum number of supervisees. The Advisory Committee discussed notifying the current supervising physicians, along with all physicians (through the ABME) about the changes in the supervision requirements. Developing the pre-approval process was discussed and agreed that an early notice be sent to the physicians requesting pre-approval in advance of the renewal process, e.g., written notification to physician to notify ABAT that they are requesting approval to supervise more than 15 athletic trainers. Further discussion continued about the pre-approval process for the Advisory Council to recommend physician supervisors to the two Boards (ABAT and ABME) to approve AT licensure.

**B. Review of Dry Needling Documents:**

Mr. Southall presented documents from the AATA Task Force to include (1) an overview by State on approved dry needling statute and training criteria to perform dry needling in that State, (2) publication on “effectiveness of trigger points dry needling for multiple body regions: a systematic review,” (3) publication on “adverse events associated with therapeutic,” (4) publication on AT educational preparation, and (5) Arizona’s attestation form completed by ATs.

The members discussed at length the training hours required by various States and measurement of hours and potential cost to the AT in obtaining certification training in dry needling based on the availability of BOE-approved courses. Also considered were the training hours required by other Alabama professionals practicing dry needling and considered ATs having 46 to 54 in total training hours, of which 12-27 hours in basic training courses, along with refresher training for an additional 10-12 hours. Other recommendations included basic training courses comprised of 20-27 hours. The Advisory Council members emphasized the importance of “*the practitioner shall not perform dry needling beyond the scope of the highest level of the practitioner’s training,*” e.g., if trained only in lower extremities, then practice would be restricted to lower extremities and, in this case, would not include practice on other body parts. Also considered were situations where long gaps of time may occur between receiving the training and actually performing dry needling toward becoming proficient.

Dr. Law spoke briefly on the phone with Dr. Jordan about the Advisory Council members interest in obtaining feedback from the Board of Medical Examiners (ABME) on ATs obtaining dry needling training, and Dr. Law reported that she commented that the ABME would be interested in ATs obtaining intensive training, comparatively to other States, and refresher training be required, along with a plan of action to manage any harm or complications due to dry needling practice. The members discussed structuring requirements based on Dr. Jordan’s recommendations.

Options discussed by the members included: (1) 50+ hours of training over a 3-year period, initiating practice after the first training course, and breaking up the 50 hours with 25 hours initially and obtaining remaining 25 hours later, which would also distribute the cost of the training over the 3 years; and option (2) consisted of presenting one course on whole-body, before adding other requirements and include face-to-face components. The members reviewed the foundation courses from the four BOE providers and cost of training and discussed obtaining supervising physician approval before practicing dry needling.

A proposed attestation form was reviewed. The Advisory Council members agreed that the attestation form include a statement about not performing beyond the scope of training.

The Advisory Council discussed meeting again prior to the Board of Athletic Trainers meeting for the purpose of approving the dry needling attestation form. Mr. Southall agreed to work on revising the attestation form, to be submitted to Mr. Warren to distribute in advance of the next Advisory Council meeting.

MOTION: Dr. Floyd made the motion for Mr. Southall to modify the attestation form for consideration at the next meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Lindsey and was unanimously approved.

**IV. New Business**

**A. Discussion of Specialty Protocols:**

Following a brief discussion of delineating between settings by acknowledging any differences between the settings, Dr. Law tabled further discussion until the next meeting.

**B. BOC Practice Analysis:**

Chairman Law reported that a copy of BOC Practice Analysis Edition 7, as well as Edition 8, was distributed to the members in advance of the meeting. Mr. Warren reported that the BOC document comparing the two Editions had been sent to the members earlier and would be redistributed to them in advance of the next meeting. Chairman Law tabled further discussion until the next meeting.

**V. Announcements and Other Business**

**A. Other Business:**

Chairman Law asked Mr. Southall to comment on future topics for the Advisory Council. Mr. Southall mentioned that in addition to dry needling topic, the second popular topic concerning ATs was emergency IVs. Other topics he mentioned were single dose over-the-counter administration and suturing. Mr. Lindsey commented on a non-BOC training he had received on IVs regarding this Georgia Athletic Trainers license and offered to distribute the protocol to the members.


**B. Next Meeting Date and Location**

The members agreed to meet prior to the next meeting of the Alabama Board of Athletic Trainers (ABAT). Chairman Law announced that the meeting of the Advisory Council would be held on September 6, 2022, at 5:00 p.m. at the Briarwood Christian School in Birmingham. He reported that the next meeting of the ABAT was scheduled on the same date and location beginning at 6:30 p.m.

**V. Adjournment**

MOTION: Mr. Southall made the motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Lindsey and was unanimously approved by the members. Chairman Law adjourned the meeting at 8:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



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Eric Law, M.D.  
Chair, Advisory Council

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