

GEORGIA BOARD OF DENTISTRY
Sedation Committee Conference Call
2 Peachtree St., N.W., 6th Floor
Atlanta, GA 30303
February 28, 2020
3:00 p.m.

The following Committee members were present:

Dr. Richard Bennett, Chair
Dr. Tracy Gay
Dr. Glenn Maron

Staff present:

Tanja Battle, Executive Director
Eric Lacefield, Deputy Director
Max Changus, Assistant Attorney General
Kimberly Emm, Attorney
Brandi Howell, Business Support Analyst I

Open Session

Dr. Bennett established that a quorum was present and called the meeting to order at 3:01 p.m.

Dr. Maron reported that he will be attending a meeting in Chicago in April. He stated that he is unsure if any other board members are interested in attending. Dr. Maron stated that having a meeting with all the state boards over the country and finding out what issues they are addressing can only be helpful moving forward especially when it comes to the changes concerning sedation/anesthesia that are coming. He stated that it is a great opportunity to get feedback. Dr. Maron stated that he is hoping it will shed some light on issues the Board is dealing with.

Dr. Maron stated that he feels that moderate conscious sedation having end tidal CO₂ monitoring should become a mandate. He stated that it is mandated in everything else. He added that he feels the Board is being looked at carefully by the American Society of Anesthesiologists (ASA). Dr. Maron stated that he knows the Board received a lot of pushback when the idea of requiring monitors was initially brought up. He stated that it does not change the fact that is a hard and fast new rule established by the ASA. He stated if you have an emergency, CO₂ is going to be critical. Dr. Maron suggested bringing this matter to the full Board for discussion. He asked if there were any comments. Dr. Gay asked if this would be the standard of care, in Dr. Maron's opinion. Dr. Maron affirmed. Dr. Bennett commented that when there is a mandate such as this, it means the people who are not doing that currently would be required to buy instruments to fulfill that mandate. Dr. Maron agreed. Dr. Maron suggested requiring the licensee to obtain the required monitors, if he/she does not have such already, in order to renew his/her sedation permit. Dr. Bennett and Dr. Gay agreed. Dr. Bennett stated the Board has held discussions on this matter numerous times since he has been on this board. He stated that obviously the Board is dealing with newer technology than it was in the years past and now it is more standardized. He further stated that the pediatric dentists and special needs dentists will have the most to say about an absolute mandate because it is hard to get an accurate read on a pediatric patient. Dr. Bennett stated that he knows those groups will have input on this matter. He stated that not everyone is an oral surgeon and this rule transcends all the specialties that would be involved. Dr. Maron responded by stating this is not just an oral surgeon's rule. He added that it is an ASA rule. Dr. Maron stated that he is not commenting on this as an oral surgeon, but as a dentist. He stated that he knows the Board will receive pushback; however, he just wanted to discuss this matter and have a logical discussion with the Board about it. Dr. Maron stated, as Dr. Bennett commented, it has been several years now and it is going to be hard to argue that they do not want to spend the money on necessary equipment. Dr. Bennett asked if this would also include oral sedation. Dr. Maron responded yes, that it would include anyone doing moderate sedation.

Dr. Maron stated that the next item he would like to discuss is site evaluations and inquired as to where the Board stands in terms of which level of sedation is receiving a site evaluation. He stated there are three categories of sedation: oral, parenteral and IV. He stated that from what he understood, applicants using oral sedation do not need a site evaluation. Ms. Howell affirmed that was how staff had been previously trained. Dr. Maron responded that from a safety/standardization issue, one can dose someone a lot with oral sedation and by not monitoring those or not having them meet the same standards as everyone else is a bit antiquated. He suggested moving forward for the Board to grandfather everyone in who now has a permit for oral sedation; however, going forward all applicants should receive a site visit. Dr. Gay stated he has no objection to this and inquired as to what needed to be done to get this matter before the Board. Ms. Emm responded by stating that the Committee would be looking to amend Rule 150-13-.01. She asked for input on exactly where they suggested the changes be. Dr. Bennett stated that the Board had discussion on capnography several years ago. He asked if the draft changes from that time would still be available. Ms. Emm responded that she should have Ms. Foreman's prior drafts. Ms. Emm commented that Dr. Treadway previously asked for these changes, but they were not approved. Ms. Emm stated that she would also share his previous draft with the Committee

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 3:14 p.m.

Minutes recorded by Brandi P. Howell, Business Support Analyst I
Minutes edited by Tanja D. Battle, Executive Director