



Douglas A. Ducey
Governor

Arizona Regulatory Board of Physician Assistants

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Chair

June 28, 2016

Notice of a Special Meeting for Testimony and Public Commentary on the Use of Fluoroscopy by Physician Assistants

During the 2016 Legislative Session the Arizona Legislature passed, and Governor Ducey signed SB1096 into law. One of the provisions of the bill added physician assistants (PAs) to the list of health care professionals *not* required to obtain another license for the use of a diagnostic x-ray machine, allowing the Arizona Regulatory Board of Physician Assistants (ARBoPA) to retain jurisdiction over PAs using ionizing radiation while performing health care tasks. The language which amends A.R.S. § 30-672 (D) (Exemptions) now states:

*The agency shall not require persons licensed in this state to practice as a dentist, **physician assistant**, chiroprapist, or veterinarian or licensed in this state to practice medicine, surgery, osteopathy, chiropractic or naturopathic medicine to obtain any other license for the use of a diagnostic x-ray machine, but these persons are governed by their own licensing acts.*

Concerns raised by some stakeholders that additional training requirements should be mandatory for PAs using fluoroscopy have been submitted for consideration. ARBoPA is interested in engaging in a full dialogue with all stakeholders prior to shaping any course of action that could affect the profession, the physician-PA partnership, and the people of Arizona regarding how PAs are regulated as to use of ionizing radiation. Currently, ARBoPA does not mandate any additional specific requirements for PAs engaged in any other specialty practice. The Board's current regulatory construct leaves decisions about adequate training and competency for the performance of particular tasks to the supervising physician of record, and held accountable to the licensed PA. The scope of an individual PA's ability to practice is established by the delegation agreement entered into between the PA and the supervising physician.

ARBoPA will hear public testimony on the use of fluoroscopy by PAs and welcomes the public and all stakeholders to provide testimony as to their experience(s). ARBoPA is interested in hearing from practitioners about what is working well; what, if any, negative impact to public health and safety has occurred under the current practice and what improvements can be made to regulations governing the use of fluoroscopy by PAs.

A special meeting will be held on September 21, 2016 at 10AM to take testimony and comment on the use of fluoroscopy by PAs.

Sincerely,

Geoffrey W. Hoffa, DHSc, PA-C
Chairman