

# **Arizona State Board of Homeopathic and Integrated Medicine Examiners**

## **Minutes of the Examination Committee**

**Held at 1400 West Washington, Ste 230, Phoenix, Arizona  
at  
8:00 .m. on November 5, 2014**

### **I. Call to Order and Roll Call**

A **telephone meeting** of the Examination Committee of the Board of Homeopathic and Integrated Medicine Examiners was called to order at 8:00 a.m. by Dr. Les Adler who was present on the telephone along with Dr. Mary Grace Warner and Mario Fontes, L.Ac. C,C,H. Dr. Garry Gordon, was also present in an advisory capacity.

Christine Springer the Executive Director was also present by phone at the 1400 West Washington location. No members of the public were present.

### **II. Examination Committee – Review the number of questions related to each therapeutic modality on the written homeopathic physician examination.**

Dr. Adler confirmed that members of the committee had received the informational materials provided with the agenda. Dr. Warner began the discussion and suggested that the examination could be crafted to provide for two separate certifications; one with a homeopathic emphasis and the other with an integrated medicine emphasis.

Mrs. Springer pointed out that the statutes regarding the written examination and the license did not allow for a specific certification in one or the other emphasis as she had indicated. She explained that during the last sunset review the auditors had pointed out that prospective licensees should be tested in all of the allowed modalities, not just one or the other. Mr. Fontes pointed out that the examination is in place to establish competency of the applicant and to protect the public. Prospective applicants should be able to answer questions relative to all of the allowed modalities in statute.

Dr. Adler suggested maintaining the total number of questions at 100 and reconfiguring the number of questions in each of the modalities as follows: 35 homeopathic, 35 orthomolecular/chelation, 10 ethics, 5 neuromuscular, 5 nutrition, 5 acupuncture and 5 pharmaceutical. Committee members also discussed possibly increasing the number of questions from 100 to 125.

The committee discussed the need to create an examination that is timely and that does not intimidate prospective applicants that may never use homeopathy in actual practice.

Mr. Fontes urged them to consider that the point of the written examination is to establish proficiency. He noted that all applicants must have at least 40 hours of training in homeopathy.

Dr. Gordon commented that many members of the integrated medical community had expressed interest in obtaining the license but that they were discouraged by the heavy emphasis on classical homeopathy on the written examination.

Dr. Warner expressed her preference to add 10-15 more questions to ensure each of the modalities were represented on the examination. She also suggested that the number of remedies that applicants must know be lowered from 50 to 20 or 25 and that the questions focus on acute prescribing, rather than the constitutional remedy. Mr. Fontes expressed concern with lowering the number of remedies to 20 or 25.

Dr. Warner reminded committee members that the 40 hour homeopathy course is geared toward acute care and the examination should also orient to acute care. She recommended reducing the number of questions relating to the Materia Medica. There was general agreement that by reducing the emphasis on the Materia Medica, then additional questions could be added relating to Chelation and orthomolecular therapy.

Dr. Adler and committee members agreed that there were several tasks that would need to be done to create a new examination:

- 1) the full Board would need to be informed of the new percentages and agree to them;
- 2) new questions must be written
- 3) the full Board must consider whether to maintain the examination with 100 questions or increase the number to 125. Additionally, the number of remedies must be determined.

Dr. Gordon and Dr. Adler agreed to write new questions relating to orthomolecular medicine and chelation. Mr. Fontes agreed to assist with homeopathic and acupuncture related questions. Dr. Gordon agreed to provide questions relating to pharmaceutical medicine and Dr. Warner indicated she would assist with homeopathic questions.

The committee reiterated that the number of questions; whether 100 or 125 was open to further discussion and the number of remedies should be reduced from 50 to 25 – 40 and an emphasis on acute care and family medicine should be the focus.

The committee also discussed the importance of adequate review materials that applicants could reference and the possibility of creating a review course.

The meeting adjourned at 9:05 a.m.

Respectfully submitted

Christine Springer, Executive Director