

North Carolina Medical Board
License Committee Agenda
July 2018

Debra Bolick, MD, Chairperson, Varnell McDonald-Fletcher, PA-C, Venkata Jonnalagadda, MD,
R. Walker, JD, Michaux Kilpatrick, MD

Open Session

Old Business

New Business

Review of health question on license application

Dr. Bolick requested the license committee review the health question on the license application. The current question and proposed change is listed below.

Current question

In the past five (5) years, have you had, or have you been told you have, a mental health or physical condition (not referenced above) which in any way limits or impairs or, if untreated, could limit or impair your ability to practice medicine in a competent or professional manner?

Change to question:

Important: The Board recognizes that licensees encounter health conditions, including those involving mental health and substance use disorders, just as their patients and other health care providers do. The Board expects its licensees to address their health concerns and ensure patients safety. Options include seeking medical care, self-limiting the licensee's medical practice, and anonymously self-referring to the North Carolina Physicians Health Program (www.ncphp.org), a physician advocacy organization dedicated to improving the health and wellness of medical professionals in a confidential manner.

The Failure to adequately address a health condition, where the licensee is unable to practice medicine with reasonable skill and safety to patients, can result in the board taking action against the license to practice medicine.

I have read and understood the above advisory and acknowledge same by answering "Yes."

Recommendation: Approve change to application question.