

**BOARD OF CHILD ABUSE EXAMINATION**  
500 N. Broadway, 5<sup>TH</sup> Floor Conference Room  
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73102

OCTOBER 21, 2009  
(Regular Meeting)

**Meeting Minutes**

The Board of Child Abuse Examination meeting was called to order by Chairman Bob Block at 9:07 a.m. Members present were: Dr. Bob Block, Pat Damron (SDH), Afton Wagoner (DHS), Dr. Sarah Passmore (Osteopathic Association), Steve Neuman (OSBI), Amy Baum (Allopathic Association), Marlene Asmussen (OHCA), Dr. Francene Weatherby (Board of Nursing), and Sherri Snyder (CACO) **Guests Present:** Dr. Janet Wilson, Grant Moak, Tricia Gardner, Shelagh Hadden (SDH), and Candace Shaw. **OCCY Staff Present:** Lisa Smith and Debbie McCowan.

**Review and approval of minutes from the July 15, 2009, Regular meeting of the Board of Child Abuse Examination – Dr. Bob Block**

Neuman moved, Wagoner seconded to approve the minutes of the July 15, 2009, Regular meeting of the Board of Child Abuse Examination as presented. Dr. Passmore and Amy Baum abstained, all other members present voted in the affirmative. Motion passed.

**Presentation on F.A.C.E. (Friday's Against Child Abuse) – Candace Shaw**

Ms. Shaw stated that she was here today to present on the Friday's Against Child Abuse (FACE) initiative and how the Board of Child Abuse Examination (BCAE) might utilize the technology to further deliver the BCAE training, information, and any awareness campaign information to audiences across the state.

Ms. Shaw stated that FACE is provided one Friday each month where there is a live video stream where someone would be doing a live presentation with technology that anyone across the state can link into to view the presentation live and participate in discussion(s) through online chat and/or live audio; typically for educational content, awareness issues, etc.

There was some discussion on whether or not presentations can be set up to only be accessed by those with a log-in/password, and Ms. Shaw responded that it could. There was also some discussion on how the Board might use this to do its basic training, as there had been some discussion about possibly videotaping the basic training and then uploading it to the internet.

Ms. Shaw stated that a produced 1 hour of training typically costs \$150.00; producing and posting. There is an additional small fee for her to post on the server.

**Report from Training Committee – Tricia Gardner**

Dr. Passmore as Chair of the Training Committee reported that the committee did in fact meet after the last meeting of this Board, and Ms. Gardner had with her some DVDs that were developed and used for developing questions with the intent of doing online training and making up questions for pre- and post-test review. They set a deadline for December to have

the questions completed and then they will begin working on developing the outline of speakers/presenters; how, when and where they will do video taping, etc.

Dr. Block reported that there was a disappointment in the annual update training this year, in which Dr. Mary Case was to be brought in to do a presentation on Head Trauma; there were simply not enough people signing up for the training to be of benefit of bringing Dr. Case in at this time. She did however agree to come at a later date, and it is possible that she will be brought in to do a few hours of video taped training on various topics.

Dr. Block stated that the one thing he is interested in involving video conferencing/training, is maintaining the integrity of the information exchanged in various programs so that misinformation is not promulgated out to the general public, as well as being very cognizant of what is said when taping as it could be used against someone in a court of law; out of context.

**Discussion and possible action on meeting dates for CY-2010 – Proposed Dates: January 20; April 21; July 21; and October 20**

Passmore moved, Asmussen seconded to have Board of Child Abuse Examination meetings on the following dates in CY-2010: January 20, April 14, July 21, and October 20. All members present voted in the affirmative. Motion passed unanimously.

**Reports from Agencies/Organizations on the Board of Child Abuse Examination**

**Dr. Bob Block, Chief Child Abuse Medical Examiner** – Dr. Block reported that Dr. Passmore would soon be one of 220 eligible physicians, who in November will be taking the Child Abuse Pediatric examination. This is the first by-annual exam and in order to be eligible for the exam, you must be Board certified by the American Academy of Pediatrics and you must have either done fellowship training or had devoted at least 50% of your practice to child abuse issues over a 5-year period. **GOOD LUCK DR. PASSMORE!!!**

Dr. Block reported that he has the opportunity to join the International Advisory Board for the National Center on Shaken Baby Syndrome. This will give him the opportunity to interact with other physicians, including Dr. Mary Case, around abusive head trauma issues. He also had the opportunity to be a part of the program in Tulsa that will be working on expanding the training on abusive head trauma to new moms and dads.

Dr. Block stated that there is now published a law review article from Washington University in St. Louis by a Debra Tuerkheimer; she is part of a group who is campaigning real hard to dispute that shaken baby syndrome actually happens. The article, he stated, is hugely biased and wrong and totally unbalanced.

He stated that there is a new project being started by Barry Sheck, called the Innocence Project. They have been looking at forensic evidence; releasing persons from prison using new DNA evidence. They are now taking on Shaken Baby Syndrome (SBS) and there is no DNA test for SBS; it is science vs. science. He wanted everyone to be aware of what was going on with this as it will become very pervasive in all abusive head trauma cases. He stated that there is some organization going on to respond to the article and put in its proper perspective.

Dr. Block further reported that he recently attended a meeting of the American Academy of Pediatrics where he had the opportunity to hear the keynote address by Eric Holden, U.S. Attorney General. He stated that his talk was on the importance of combating violence and abuse on America's youth. He spoke in terms of children who are in family violence situations, witnessing it and involved in some type of domestic violence; children who are being abused; children who are in violent communities; children in gangs; and children who are distracted from education due to bullying, etc.

**Amy Baum, Allopathic Association** – Ms. Baum reported that the next Finding Words workshop will be held the 1<sup>st</sup> week of November, 2009.

**Pat Damron, State Department of Health** – Ms. Damron introduced Ms. Shelagh Hadden, who is the Programs Manager for the CATCC program.

Ms. Damron reported that trainings for the CATCC program have all been set and will be held between the months of January and June, 2010. She will share with everyone at the next meeting a calendar of these training dates.

She reported that training on the Indian Child Welfare Act will be held in November, along with training with Lawyers for Children on deprived children.

Ms. Damron further reported that the new Commissioner of Health, Dr. Terry Cline, is officially on board now. Dr. Cline was previously the Commissioner of the Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services, and after a brief time with the federal government, is now back with the State of Oklahoma.

**Marlene Asmussen, OHCA** – Ms. Asmussen reported on the success of increasing the reimbursement rates for child abuse medical examinations; from \$115.00 to \$167.00.

Dr. Block asked if she or Terrie Fritz could send an email to him that outlines how and when to use the modifier when doing billing. Ms. Asmussen stated that a letter to providers is currently being drafted to include information on the rate increase as well as addressing his concerns on how and when to use the modifier when billing.

**Dr. Francene Weatherby, Board of Nursing** – No news to report.

**Afton Wagoner, DHS** – Ms. Wagoner reported that a rewrite of policies was recently completed and submitted for approval.

She updated everyone on the relocation of all of the Child Protective Services staff; they are now all located and centralized at the Juvenile Justice Center Building, under the direction of one County director, Ms. Jerri Poplin.

Effective November 1, 2009, the intake staff who actually takes the reports on abuse and neglect, will be moving into their new location. Esther Rider-Salem is the Director of this unit.

She further stated that the DHS hotline name has changed to OKDHS Abuse and Neglect Hotline; this was done so that people would understand that this hotline could be used not

only to report abuse and neglect of children, but that of senior citizens as well. The hotline number is 1-800-522-3511.

**Dr. Sarah Passmore, Oklahoma Osteopathic Association** – No news to report.

**Sherri Snyder – Child Advocacy Centers of Oklahoma, Inc.** – Ms. Snyder reported that there is new, updated information on digital cameras, high technology camera systems that are really great photo digital documentation in child abuse cases. This would save a great deal of money over paying for a culpa scope machine.

Ms. Snyder further reported that the National Children's Alliance will bring in new standards in 2010. The new standards no longer allow for a doctor to state that he sees a child only medically, even though the child is also an abuse victim. The medical components of Advocacy Centers now have to see children for the abuse investigation of a child. She stated that the standards are of good quality, are attainable, they require peer review, case consultation, linkage agreements, etc. However, there will be communities that are going to have to upgrade their systems and provide ongoing education.

Ms. Snyder further reported that for those who practice medicine as an LPC, the new standards dictate that they can no longer provide services across teleconferencing systems.

Ms. Snyder also reported that the Muskogee County Child Advocacy Center recently had a site review and was told that their Center was one of the best that was ever seen.

**Lisa Smith, OCCY** – Ms. Smith provided a follow-up on HB 2028, Consent to Medical Care and Treatment for DHS custody children. Basically, the bill states that no more can County Directors or designees authorize consent for psychotropic medications for custody children. The Department must go to a parent for this authorization first and if they are unable to get this in 24 hours, they can go through the courts to get authorization. This does not affect when dosage are simply increased/decreased; only new prescriptions.

**Trish Gardner, Training Update** – Ms. Gardner talked about how this same consent issue came up in regards to DHS custody children being involved in research studies. Her office is working on an agreement with DHS and the Health Sciences Center to get consent.

Ms. Gardner also reported on the legislative agenda from the Oklahoma Institute for Child Advocacy, they include: (1) requiring health education at least one semester in grades 6, 7 or 8 in accordance with priority academic student skills guidelines; topics of instruction should include, but not be limited to, physical activity and nutrition, alcohol and tobacco and other drugs, behavioral health, oral health, environmental health, growth and development, injury prevention, and wellness; (2) addressing the needs of incarcerated parents; establishing an Oklahoma Bill of Rights for children of incarcerated parents; create an advisory council for children and families of incarcerated parents to facilitate collaboration to ensure such children receive appropriate services and supports; (3) preventing youth access to tobaccos; support tobacco free Oklahoma to prevent youth access to tobacco by allowing stronger local ordinances and by making all public places and work places smoke free; and (4) addressing the needs of children with autism; continue to support proposals that will lead to health insurance coverage for the diagnosis and treatment of children and youth with autism spectrum disorders.

**Dr. Janet Wilson, Telemedicine** – Dr. Wilson reported that they recently attended a mid-year meeting of the American Telemedicine Association. There was huge enthusiasm due to healthcare reform; tele-health being built into every portion of the bill.

Candace Shaw invited everyone to the first Oklahoma Telemedicine Conference at the Health Sciences Center on November 10-11, 2009. This is a day and a half full of presentations on telemedicine applications in Oklahoma.

**New Business**

None

**Adjournment**

Dr. Block adjourned the meeting at 11:00 a.m.