



QUESTIONS FOR MEDICAL EXAMINING BOARD NOMINEE - PUBLIC MEMBER

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CONNECTICUT MEDICAL EXAMINING BOARD (CGS § 20-8A)

The Medical Examining Board is within the Department of Public Health (DPH). By law, it must (1) hear and decide matters concerning suspension or revocation of a practitioner's license, (2) adjudicate complaints against practitioners, and (3) impose sanctions where appropriate. The board must refer all statements of charges filed with the board by DPH to a medical hearing panel within 60 days of receiving the charges. The board reviews a panel's proposed final decision and may adopt or modify the decision or remand it to the panel for further review or the taking of additional evidence.

QUESTIONS

1. What do you consider the primary role and function of the Medical Examining Board? Is the board's primary responsibility to the medical community or health care consumers?
2. The board is sometimes criticized as having an antiquated model. Do you believe that the board, as currently structured, funded, and administered, is able to meet its statutory duties?
3. How do you view the relationship between the board and DPH? Do you see any need for changes in this relationship?
4. The board is sometimes criticized for failing to discipline physicians in a timely and appropriate manner. For the past 10 years, Connecticut has ranked lower than most other states in its rate of physician discipline. How do you react to this? What should be the board's approach in its oversight and review of physician performance?
5. The Department of Public Health recorded 534 adverse events in hospitals and ambulatory surgical centers in 2013, more than twice as high as in any of the previous eight years. What is the board's role in reducing medical errors and adverse events? How can health information technology help in this regard?

6. What particular expertise do you bring to the board?
7. In 2012, the board expanded from 15 to 21 members to include public members and representatives of certain medical specialties. How do you think this change has impacted the board's ability to meet its statutory duties? Do you think these members improve the board's decision making process?
8. As a consumer, rather than a health care practitioner, do you bring a different perspective to the possible disciplining of a physician?

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