

**PROPOSED REGULATION OF THE
BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS**

LCB File No. R008-17

April 9, 2018

EXPLANATION – Matter in *italics* is new; matter in brackets ~~omitted material~~ is material to be omitted.

AUTHORITY: §§1 and 2, NRS 630.130 and 630.275.

A REGULATION relating to standards of practice for the provision of health care; repealing certain provisions which authorize the prescription of appetite suppressants; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel’s Digest:

Existing law requires the Board of Medical Examiners to establish by regulation the standards for licensure of physicians and physician assistants, including regulations which set forth the medical services which a physician assistant is authorized to perform. (NRS 630.130, 630.275)

Existing regulations authorize certain physicians and physician assistants to prescribe an appetite suppressant to control the weight of a patient if certain requirements are satisfied. Those requirements include either a determination by the physician or physician assistant that the patient’s obesity represents a threat to the patient’s health or the fact that the patient’s weight exceeds by not less than a certain percentage the upper limit of the patient’s healthy weight as described in the publication *Dietary Guidelines for Americans, 2010*. (NAC 630.205) **Section 2** of this regulation repeals that provision, and **section 1** of this regulation removes the provision which adopted by reference the publication *Dietary Guidelines for Americans, 2010*.

Section 1. NAC 630.187 is hereby amended to read as follows:

630.187 1. The Board hereby adopts by reference ~~†~~

~~—(a) The†~~ *the Model Policy on the Use of Opioid Analgesics in the Treatment of Chronic Pain*, July 2013, published by the Federation of State Medical Boards of the United States, Inc. , ~~† and~~

~~—(b) The *Dietary Guidelines for Americans, 2010*, 7th edition, published jointly by the United States Department of Health and Human Services and the Department of Agriculture pursuant to 7 U.S.C. § 5341,~~

→] and any subsequent revision of ~~[those publications]~~ *the publication* that has been approved by the Board for use in this State. Each revision of ~~[those publications]~~ *the publication* shall be deemed approved by the Board unless it disapproves of the revision within 180 days after the date of publication of the revision.

2. The most recent publication of ~~†~~

~~(a) The~~ *the Model Policy on the Use of Opioid Analgesics in the Treatment of Chronic Pain* that has been approved by the Board will be available for inspection at the office of the Board of Medical Examiners, 1105 Terminal Way, Suite 301, Reno, Nevada 89502, or may be obtained, free of charge, from the Federation of State Medical Boards of the United States, Inc., 400 Fuller Wisner Road, Euless, Texas 76039, or from the Federation of State Medical Boards of the United States, Inc., at the Internet address **<http://www.fsmb.org>**.

~~[(b) The *Dietary Guidelines for Americans* that has been approved by the Board will be available for inspection at the office of the Board of Medical Examiners, 1105 Terminal Way, Suite 301, Reno, Nevada 89502, or may be obtained, free of charge, from the Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion of the United States Department of Health and Human Services at the Internet address <http://www.health.gov/dietaryguidelines>.]~~

3. The Board shall:

(a) Review each revision of ~~[a]~~ *the* publication described in subsection 1 to ensure its suitability for this State; and

(b) File a copy of each revision of ~~the~~ *the* publication described in subsection 1 that it approves with the Secretary of State and the State Library, Archives and Public Records Administrator.

Sec. 2. NAC 630.205 is hereby repealed.

TEXT OF REPEALED SECTION

630.205 Prescription of appetite suppressants. (NRS 630.130, 630.275)

1. A physician or physician assistant who is authorized to prescribe controlled substances may prescribe an appetite suppressant to control the weight of a patient if the appetite suppressant is prescribed for use in the treatment of exogenous obesity as part of a program of medical treatment which includes dietary restrictions, modification of behavior and exercise and:

(a) The physician or physician assistant determines that the patient's obesity represents a threat to the patient's health; or

(b) The patient's weight exceeds by not less than 20 percent the upper limit of the patient's healthy weight as described in the *Dietary Guidelines for Americans* adopted by reference in NAC 630.187.

2. A physician or physician assistant shall not prescribe an appetite suppressant for more than 3 months, unless the patient:

(a) Has lost an average of not less than 2 pounds per month since he or she began taking the appetite suppressant; or

(b) Has maintained his or her weight at the level which was established by the patient's physician or a physician assistant under the supervision of his or her physician.

3. A physician or physician assistant who prescribes an appetite suppressant for more than 3 months shall maintain a record of the patient's weight at the beginning and end of each month during which the patient takes the appetite suppressant.

4. Before prescribing an appetite suppressant, a physician or physician assistant shall obtain a medical history and perform a physical examination of the patient and conduct appropriate studies to determine if there are any contraindications to the use of the appetite suppressant by the patient.

5. As used in this section, "appetite suppressant" means a drug or other substance listed in schedule IV pursuant to NAC 453.540 which is used to suppress the appetite of a natural person.