




**TO:** The Professional Practice Committee  
**FROM:** Douglas E. Lentivech  
  
**SUBJECT:** Update on Regents Advisory Workgroup on Healthcare  
**DATE:** February 6, 2012  
**AUTHORIZATION(S):**

### Summary

#### Issue for Discussion

This item will discuss the status of the recently established Regents Advisory Workgroup on Healthcare.

#### Reason for Consideration

Review of Policy.

#### Proposed Handling

This item will be submitted for discussion at the February 2012 meeting of the Professional Practice Committee.

#### Procedural History

At its meeting in January 2012, the Board of Regents established a Regents Advisory Workgroup on Healthcare to address a variety of emerging issues in healthcare that are having, or will have, a pronounced impact upon the licensed professions.

#### Background Information

The recently designated members of the Regents Healthcare Advisory Workgroup are Regent Cottrell, Regent Norwood and Regent Tallon, as well as Executive Deputy Commissioner Grey and Deputy Commissioner Lentivech. The Workgroup has convened to discuss the process and substance of issues that will be considered and has narrowed its focus to a number of issues that were initially

considered by the Medicaid Redesign Team (MRT). It is expected that additional members will be added to the Workgroup for the specific purpose of providing further expertise and guidance with respect to the initial matters under discussion.

At the heart of many of the recommendations of the MRT were issues related to medication administration and the use of personnel who do not have a professional license. Presently the Workgroup is compiling information in this area and considering a variety of approaches. Specifically, within the jurisdiction of the Board of Regents and the State Education Department is the responsibility to interpret the scopes of practice of the various professions, as well as to determine the various qualifications necessary to acquire a professional license. Having a balanced and reasonable approach to the review of these issues is central to protecting the public and ensuring a capable and qualified body of licensed professionals. In this regard, the Workgroup is considering various approaches to providing guidance as healthcare providers struggle to provide quality professional services with dwindling resources.

The Workgroup expects to have a detailed analysis of the issues under consideration, as well as recommendations, where appropriate, as it develops its work and will report back to the Professional Practice Committee regularly.