



DENTAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA
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DENTAL BOARD TELECONFERENCE MEETING MINUTES

April 2, 2004

The meeting of the Dental Board was called to order at 5:45 pm. Roll was called and all members were present via telephone except Ms. LaDonna Drury-Klein, Brandon Hernandez and Dr. George SooHoo. A quorum was established.

Agenda Item 2 – Adoption of the Consumer-Friendly Dental Materials Fact Sheet

Board President, Dr. Newton Gordon, restated the motion made at the March 12, 2004 meeting of the board, which was to accept the updated Dental Materials Fact Sheet (DMFS) both in concept and content as the DMFS supported by this board after verification of quoted materials.

The following directive was recommended by Legal Counsel, Ms. Norine Marks at the March 12th meeting: Send the fact sheet to Communication and Education Division (CED) with very specific directions to take the approved fact sheet and format it similar to the brochure produced in November. She also suggested that CED be directed to limit their comments to grammar and/or vocabulary, be careful about not changing any of the substance, and to show proposed changes using the redline method as La Rita did during the DMFS Committee Meeting.

The board members reviewed the proposed changes from CED and voted on each paragraph.

It was m/s/c (Terlet/Benveniste) to change the headings to the following:

Allergic Reactions to Allergic Reactions to Dental Materials

Toxicity – A Discussion of Dental Amalgam to Toxicity of Dental Materials with subheadings Dental Amalgam and Composite Resin

It was m/s/c (Benveniste/Terlet) to accept the CED Proposed Fact Sheet with the above amendments.

Mr. Biggers commented "that after careful thought and extended research, he has come to the conclusion that this dental material fact sheet falls way short of what should be handed out to patients. We need to have a stronger warning telling people that they are being contaminated with a toxin that can cause health problems in the future."

Mr. Biggers also stated his opposition to the dental board holding a public meeting in a lobbyist's office.

Public Comment:

Mr. Charlie Brown of Consumers for Dental Choice publicly commended Dr. Gordon and Dr. Hundley for being men of their word and getting the fact sheet finished. He requested the newly adopted fact sheet be translated to Spanish and distributed along with the English version to all patients as soon as possible.

Ms. Cathy Mudge of the California Dental Association, thanked the board for their hard work on the fact sheet. Ms. Mudge asked to go on record as making the following comment: "In the paragraph that we went along with and supported where it says that mercury may harm the developing brain of a child or fetus, that this statement is about mercury itself alone and I would just caution you to watch what will come out from people who oppose the use of amalgam whether they will transpose and put in the word dental amalgam may harm the developing brain of a child or fetus because we believe that is going to happen and we believe that is incorrect."

A member of the public in San Francisco asked the Board to consider translating the fact sheet into Chinese as well.

Dr. Gordon informed the public that the issues of format and distribution will be addressed at the May board meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 pm.