

Noteworthy

December 2000



National Commission on Orthotic and Prosthetic Education

Technical Assessment Form Now Required For Residency

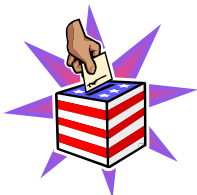
Effective January 1, 2001, directors will be required to fill out an attestation form on the resident's technical competence. This form will be required prior to the resident's completion of the program. Committee members from NCOPE and ABC developed the form.

With the format changes to ABC's Clinical Patient Management (CPM) (further information on the changes are found in this edition of *Noteworthy*) exam in December 2000, the two groups worked collaboratively to develop a form which would attest and focus on the technical aspect of O&P. Directors will receive a letter with the form in January 2001. The form is a requirement for completion of the residency program. Residents will not be released as completing a residency without submission of the form.

NCOPE Officers Elected for 2001

The NCOPE board of commissioners held their fall meeting in Atlanta, GA on November 3-4, 2000. The following officers for 2001 were elected at this meeting:

Michael Brncick, CPO - *Chairman*
Scott Hornbeak, CPO - *Vice-Chairman*
Buddy Jeffcoat, CO - *Secretary-Treasurer*



Rounding out the Board of Commissioners for 2001 are the following individuals:

John Ferguson, CPO - *Commissioner*
Don Shurr, CPO - *Commissioner*
Mark Edwards, CP - *Commissioner*
Mike Russell, CPO - *Commissioner*
Rick Psonak, CPO - *Commissioner*
Mark Taylor, CPO - *Commissioner*
Gene Gary-Williams, Ph.D. - *Public Member*

Technician Program Granted Accreditation

Francis Tuttle Area Vocational Technical School in Oklahoma City, OK, applied for accreditation in the spring of 2000. Based upon their application and an on-site visit, the program was granted accreditation by NCOPE at their meeting on November 3rd. Francis Tuttle offers an Associate Degree in Applied Science for the technician level. For further information on the program and admission requirements go to NCOPE's web site at www.ncope.org.

NCOPE Granted

501(c)(3) Tax Status

NCOPE made application in February 2000, after incorporation in December 1999, for the charitable tax status 501(c)(3). NCOPE received notice from the IRS on October 25th that the tax status had been granted. This status will afford NCOPE opportunities in the future to seek grants to embellish all program activities. NCOPE will begin investigating possible grants in early 2001.

ABC Changes the CPM Format

The clinical patient management (CPM) examination format has changed as a result of the *1999 Practice Analysis of the Disciplines of Orthotics and Prosthetics*. The new practitioner profiles emphasize more direct patient assessment, treatment implementation and patient follow-up in both orthotic and prosthetic patient care. Therefore, the prosthetic and orthotic CPM exams will test clinical patient assessment, technical skills related to measurement and fitting, device recommendation specific to patient scenarios and patient follow-up care. Fabrication will be de-emphasized.

NCOPE residency programs are absolutely critical to training and educating residents to manage patients safely and effectively. The NCOPE residency programs play an integral part in preparing people for the profession and for the exams that ABC develops and administers.

The candidates will spend more time with real-life assessment/treatment scenarios. The new format of the CPM exam process will take approximately 5 1/2 hours. Candidates will be assessed on verbal, written, and demonstrated activities. They will be working with patient models and examiners. The initial 1 to 1 1/2 hours of the exam will consist of an orientation including the rules, policies, format of the exam, and tasks administered in a classroom setting. An additional three hours of the exam consists of 5 modules that are 30-40 minutes each. After the completion of the exam it will take approximately one hour to complete the necessary protocols to release candidates from the exam.



Changes to Educational Standards Coming in 2001

The NCOPE board of commissioners reviewed and voted at their meeting in November to make changes to the educational standards. These changes will have to formally be provided to CAAHEP prior to their adoption. The majority of changes are editorial in nature, except for approval of dropping "computer science" as a prerequisite requirement.



NCOPE Needs Your Email Address

If you are a student, resident or residency director, please send us an email with your address so we can add you to our email database. The goal is to provide the *Noteworthy* via email rather than printing a hard copy and mailing. Please email Robin Seabrook at rseabrook@ncope.org and put *Noteworthy* in the subject line.

Accreditation Team to Visit Northwestern

Northwestern University will host a site team for accreditation on January 22-23, 2001. A site visit is part of the accreditation process. The program submitted an application/self-study in 2000 for reaccreditation.

Relocation of Office

NCOPE will be moving in the spring with ABC. The lease for the current office space expires in May 2001. New office space has not been secured, but the location will be in the Alexandria, VA area.

Worth Repeating! Sites Can Now Advertise for Residents!

NCOPE has made significant changes to the listing of accredited residency sites on its web site. In an effort to provide a more accurate list of those residency sites hiring residents, NCOPE has changed the listing to include an indication of "hiring" or "not hiring" by the residency site name. In the past NCOPE listed only those site's which requested and stated their intent to hire residents. After complaints this past spring that the list was not accurate, NCOPE moved to make changes.



Residency sites can now access their own listing on the web via a password. With a password the site will be able to write a profile of their program as well as have the ability to "turn on" or "off" a hiring button. Residents will be able to quickly scan the list and see which sites are currently hiring. For \$50 a residency site can be issued its own personal password and make changes to its listing. We want to provide residents with an accurate list, so please use the new system NCOPE has incorporated. To receive your password and instructions, please contact Freddie Fonvielle at ffonvielle@ncope.org.

NCOPE Receives Funding from Sister Organizations for 2001

For fiscal year 2001, each of the three sister organizations (ABC, the Academy and AOPA) have agreed to provide a funding grant to NCOPE to support the activities of accreditation and education.

Residents Can Join the Academy for Free

The American Academy of Orthotists and Prosthetists (the Academy) now offers residents free membership in the Academy as *Candidate Members*. The Academy supports your future and as such has waived your dues while you are a resident. The only cost is a one-time application fee of \$15. You receive the following as a member:

- ✓ All the benefits and privileges of membership, except the right to vote
- ✓ Free society membership in one of the seven scientific societies (great resource for preparing your research project!)
- ✓ Research Reference Guide (wonderful tool for preparing your research!)
- ✓ Your own copy of the Journal of Prosthetics and Orthotics

And much more! For further information go to the Academy's website at <http://oandp.org/member/residents> or call 703-836- 7118 and ask for Lisa.

Happy Holidays!



From the NCOPE Staff