RULE
Department of Health
Board of Medical Examiners

Licensure and Certification
(LAC 46:XLV.1307)

In accordance with the Louisiana Administrative Procedure Act, R.S. 49:950 et seq., and pursuant to the authority vested in the Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners (board) by the Louisiana Medical Practice Act, R.S. 37:1270, the board has amended its rules governing the taking of a complete history and physical by a podiatrist certified for advanced practice (§1307). The proposed amendments are set forth below. This Rule is hereby adopted on the day of promulgation.

Title 46
PROFESSIONAL AND OCCUPATIONAL STANDARDS
Part XLV. Medical Professions
Subpart 2. Licensure and Certification
Chapter 13. Podiatrists
Subchapter B. Requirements and Qualifications for Licensure, Scope of Practice
§1307. Qualifications for Certification for Advanced Practice; Scope of Practice

A. Certification of an applicant for advanced practice may be issued by the board for either the conservative treatment of the ankle or the surgical treatment of the ankle, or both, depending upon an applicant's education and training.

B. Qualifications for Certification in Conservative Treatment of the Ankle. To be eligible for certification for the conservative treatment of the ankle an applicant who possesses and meets the qualifications and requirements of §1305A.1.-5 of this Chapter shall have completed at least one year of postgraduate podiatric training in an internship or equivalent program accredited by the Council on Podiatric Medical Education of the American Podiatric Medical Association or its successor association, and approved by the board.

C. Scope of Practice for Conservative Treatment of the Ankle. The scope of practice for the conservative treatment of the ankle shall be limited to the following:

1. the prevention, examination, diagnosis, medical, surgical, and adjuvant treatment of the human foot, as defined in §1303.A, which is authorized for a doctor of podiatric medicine without certification in advanced practice;

2. the medical treatment of the ankle to include the muscles or tendons of the lower leg governing the functions of the foot and ankle;

3. surgical treatment of the superficial conditions of the ankle involving the skin and overlying tissues and extending proximally; and
4. assisting an orthopedic surgeon or a doctor of podiatric medicine whose practice prerogatives include surgical treatment of the ankle, as defined in this Section.

D. Qualifications for Certification in Surgical Treatment of the Ankle. To be eligible for certification in the surgical treatment of the ankle, whether for initial licensure or annual renewal, an applicant who possesses and meets the qualifications and requirements of §1305.A.1-5 of this Chapter shall:

1. have completed a surgical residency approved by the Council on Podiatric Medical Education of the American Podiatric Medical Association, consisting of:
   a. a three-year podiatric surgery residency (PSR 36) program or greater; or
   b. a three-year podiatric medicine and surgery residency (PM and S 36) program or greater; or
   c. a two-year podiatric surgery residency (PSR 24) program and:
      i. be board-certified in reconstructive rear foot and ankle surgery (RRA) by the American Board of Foot and Ankle Surgery (ABFAS), formerly the American Board of Podiatric Surgery (APBS); or
      ii. be board-certified in foot surgery and board qualified in reconstructive rear foot/ankle surgery (RRA) by the ABFAS.

E. Scope of Practice for Surgical Treatment of the Ankle. The scope of practice for surgical treatment of the ankle shall be limited to the following:

1. the scope of practice as described in this Section for the conservative treatment of the ankle; and

2. surgical treatment of the ankle and muscles or tendons of the lower leg governing the functions of the foot and ankle, limited to procedures listed by the Council on Podiatric Medical Education (CPME) and the American Board of Podiatric Surgery (ABPS) as found in the CPME 320 and ABPS 220 documents (and their successors) as being required for graduate podiatric medical education and board certification at the time that an applicant's application for initial licensure or annual renewal is filed with the board.

F. Surgical procedures authorized under this Section shall only be performed in the following types of facilities:

1. a licensed and accredited hospital as defined in R.S. 40:2102(A) and R.S. 37:611(3)(a), if the podiatrist is granted privileges to do the procedures;

2. a licensed and accredited trauma center as defined in R.S. 40:2171(3) and R.S. 37:611(3)(a), if the podiatrist is granted privileges to do the procedures; or

3. a licensed and accredited ambulatory surgical center as defined in R.S. 40:2133(A) and R.S. 37:611(3)(a) if the podiatrist is granted privileges to do the same procedure in a hospital as described in §1307F.1 or a trauma center as described in §1307F.2 of this Subsection.

G. Patient history and examination. A podiatrist certified for advanced practice under this Section:

1. with two or more years of postgraduate training, may independently perform a complete history and physical (H and P) on his or her patients for the purpose of pre-operative evaluation and diagnosis before a podiatric procedure the podiatrist is authorized to perform under the scope of his or her license

2. may independently perform a complete H and P for Institutional Review Board approved research studies.

H. The burden of satisfying the board as to the qualifications and eligibility of the applicant for certification of practice prerogatives shall be upon the applicant. An applicant shall not be deemed to possess such qualifications unless the applicant demonstrates and evidences such qualifications in the manner prescribed by and to the satisfaction of the board.


HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Board of Medical Examiners, LR 35:241 (February 2009), amended by the Department of Health, Board of Medical Examiners, LR 42:1519 (September 2016), amended by the Department of Health, Board of Medical Examiners, LR 42:2197 (December 2016), LR 47:729 (June 2021).

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