

# Rulemaking Efforts



WASHINGTON  
**Medical  
Commission**  
Licensing. Accountability. Leadership.

## Amelia Boyd Program Manager

### Health Equity Continuing Education for MDs and PAs

The WMC officially filed a [CR-101](#) with the Office of the Code Reviser on February 10, 2023 as WSR# is 23-05-054. The WMC is considering adopting a new section in chapter 246-918 WAC (physician assistants) and 246-919 WAC (physicians) to meet the requirements of Engrossed Substitute Senate Bill 5229 (Chapter 276, Laws of 2021) regarding health equity continuing education (CE). The Department of Health created model rules, WAC 246-12-800 through 246-12-830, to comply with the bill codified in [RCW 43.70.613](#). The WMC will consider these model rules as part of this rulemaking. The WMC will also consider whether additional CE hours and course topics should be included.

Workshops for this rulemaking will be scheduled in the coming months. Please visit our [Rules in Progress](#) page for the current schedule.

### Collaborative Drug Therapy Agreements

The [CR-101](#) for creating rules related to Collaborative Drug Therapy Agreements was filed with the Office of the Code Reviser on July 22, 2020 as WSR #20-16-008.

One aspect of the practice of medicine is working with pharmacists to deliver drug therapy to patients. This coordination can take many forms, but the WMC's concern involves treating patients under a collaborative drug therapy agreement (CDTA). These arrangements occur pursuant to a written agreement entered into by an individual physician or physician assistant and an individual pharmacist.

The Pharmacy Quality Assurance WMC has adopted a rule that governs CDTAs from the pharmacy perspective, however there are no statutes or rules that govern a physician's responsibilities under a CDTA. A rule is needed to define the roles and responsibilities of the physician or physician assistant who enters into a CDTA, any defined limit to the number of pharmacists who may have a CDTA with any one physician or physician assistant, and how the physician or physician assistant and pharmacist can best collaborate under these agreements.

Regulating the use of CDTAs would place the WMC in an active patient safety role. Rulemaking would provide clarity around this issue to help avoid potential discipline and increase patient safety. New sections being considered will potentially benefit the public's health by ensuring participating providers are informed and regulated by current national industry and best practice standards.

Workshops for this rulemaking are ongoing. Please visit our [Rules in Progress](#) page for the current schedule and draft language.

### More Information

Please visit our [rulemaking site](#) for continued updates on rule development, interested parties are encouraged to join the [WMC's rules GovDelivery](#).

## Mission

Promoting patient safety and enhancing the integrity of the profession through licensing, discipline, rule making, and education.

## Vision

Advancing the optimal level of medical care for the people of Washington State.