STATE OF NEW YORK

4613--A

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

IN ASSEMBLY

February 4, 2025

Introduced by M. of A. PRETLOW, ROZIC, BRONSON, PAULIN, GRIFFIN, KAY, BERGER, EACHUS, STIRPE, CLARK -- read once and referred to the Committee on Higher Education -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee

AN ACT to amend the education law, in relation to modernizing the scope of the practice of podiatry

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

Section 1. Subdivisions 1 and 2 of section 7001 of the education law, subdivision 1 as amended by chapter 23 of the laws of 2013 and subdivision 2 as amended by chapter 438 of the laws of 2012, are amended to read as follows:

1. The practice of the profession of podiatry is defined as diagnosing, treating, operating and prescribing for any disease, injury, deformity or other condition of **and affecting** the foot **and ankle and the skin of the leg below the tibial tuberosity, unless otherwise provided by this section**, and may include performing physical evaluations in conjunction with the provision of podiatric treatment. [~~For the purposes of wound care however, the practice of podiatry shall include the treatment of such wounds if they are contiguous with wounds relating, originating or in the course of treatment of a wound on the foot within the podiatric scope of practice.~~] **The practice of podiatry shall not include the following treatments or procedures performed above the level of the malleoli, unless otherwise provided: the treatment of melanoma; performance of mohs surgery; muscle flaps or microvascular anastamoses.** Wound care shall not[~~, however,~~] extend beyond the level ending at the [~~distal~~] tibial tuberosity. [~~The practice of podiatry may also include diagnosing, treating, operating and prescribing for any disease, injury, deformity or other condition of the ankle and soft tissue of the leg below the tibial tuberosity if the podiatrist has obtained an issuance of a privilege to perform podiatric standard ankle surgery or~~

EXPLANATION--Matter in *italics* (underscored) is new; matter in brackets [-] is old law to be omitted.

LBD07128-05-5

~~advanced ankle surgery in accordance with section seven thousand nine of this article.~~] Podiatrists may treat traumatic open wound fractures only in hospitals, as defined in article twenty-eight of the public health law. For the purposes of this article, the term "ankle" shall be defined as the distal metaphysis and epiphysis of the tibia and fibula, the articular cartilage of the distal tibia and distal fibula, the ligaments that connect the distal metaphysis and epiphysis of the tibia and fibula and talus, and the portions of skin, subcutaneous tissue, facia, muscles, tendons, ligaments and nerves at or below the level of the myotendinous junction of the triceps surae.

2. The practice of podiatry shall not include [~~treating any part of the human body other than the foot, nor treating fractures of the malleoli or~~] **the surgical treatment of fractures of the malleoli which includes** cutting operations upon the malleoli unless the podiatrist obtains an issuance of a privilege to perform podiatric standard ankle surgery or podiatric advanced ankle surgery. Podiatrists who have obtained an issuance of a privilege to perform podiatric standard ankle surgery may perform surgery on the ankle which may include soft tissue and osseous procedures except those procedures specifically authorized for podiatrists who have obtained an issuance of a privilege for advanced ankle surgery. Podiatrists who have obtained an issuance of a privilege to perform podiatric advanced ankle surgery may perform surgery on the ankle which may include ankle fracture fixation, ankle fusion, [~~ankle arthroscopy,~~] insertion or removal of external fixation pins into or from the tibial diaphysis at or below the level of the myotendinous junction of the triceps surae, and insertion and removal of retrograde tibiotalocalcanneal intramedullary rods and locking screws up to the level of the myotendinous junction of the triceps surae, but does not include the surgical treatment of complications within the tibial diaphysis related to the use of such external fixation pins. Podiatrists licensed to practice, but not authorized to prescribe or administer narcotics prior to the effective date of this subdivision, may do so only after certification by the department in accordance with the qualifications established by the commissioner. The practice of podiatry shall include administering only local anesthetics for therapeutic purposes as well as for anesthesia and treatment under general anesthesia administered by authorized persons. The practice of podiatry by any licensee shall not include [~~partial or total ankle replacements nor~~] the treatment of pilon fractures.

§ 2. The opening paragraph of section 7010 of the education law is designated subdivision 1 and subdivisions 2 and 3, as added by chapter 438 of the laws of 2012, are amended to read as follows:

2. A limited permit to perform podiatric advanced ankle surgery, as described in subdivision two of section seven thousand one of this article, may be issued by the department to a podiatrist who is licensed pursuant to this article and who has met the residency and board certification requirements set forth in subdivision two of section seven thousand nine of this article in order to authorize such podiatrist to obtain the training and experience required for the issuance of a podiatric advanced ankle surgery privilege pursuant to subdivision two of section seven thousand nine of this article**; provided, however, that board qualification shall be deemed to satisfy the certification requirements set forth in such section for purposes of this subdivision**. Such permits shall authorize the performance of podiatric advanced ankle surgery only under the [~~direct personal~~] supervision of a licensed podiatrist holding a podiatric advanced ankle surgery privilege issued

pursuant to subdivision two of section seven thousand nine of this article or of a physician licensed pursuant to article one hundred thirty-one of this title and certified in orthopedic surgery by a national certifying board having certification standards acceptable to the department.

3. For the purposes of this section, [~~direct personal~~] supervision means supervision of procedures based on instructions given [~~directly~~] by the supervising podiatrist or physician who [~~remains in the immediate area where the procedures are being performed,~~] authorizes the procedures and evaluates the procedures performed by the holder of the limited permit.

§ 3. This act shall take effect immediately.