

Licensing and Physician Mental Health

A number of factors appear to discourage physicians from seeking help for mental illness. This reluctance may be exacerbated by fears – well-founded or imagined – that by seeking help, physicians may put their medical license in jeopardy. A group of executives from organizations ranging from the FSMB and the FSPHP to the AMA, the APA, and the Joint Commission undertook to examine the licensing applications, policies, and procedures of state medical boards regarding physician mental health. Based on what they found they made eight recommendations that will be the subject of the poster.