

WAC 246-922-400 Intent of substance abuse monitoring. It is the intent of the legislature that the podiatric medical board seek ways to identify and support the rehabilitation of podiatric physicians and surgeons where practice or competency may be impaired due to an applicable impairing health condition. The legislature intends that these podiatric physicians be treated so that they can return to or continue to practice podiatric medicine and surgery in a way which safeguards the public. The legislature specifically intends that the podiatric medical board establish an alternate program to the traditional administrative proceedings against podiatric physicians and surgeons.

In lieu of disciplinary action under RCW 18.130.160, if the podiatric medical board determines that the unprofessional conduct may be the result of an applicable impairing health condition, the board may refer the licensee to a physician health program or a voluntary substance use disorder monitoring program approved by the board.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 18.57.005 and 2022 c 43. WSR 24-01-121, § 246-922-400, filed 12/19/23, effective 1/19/24. Statutory Authority: RCW 18.22.015 and chapter 18.22 RCW. WSR 94-14-082, § 246-922-400, filed 7/5/94, effective 8/5/94.]