MEDICAL BOARD 2168 APPLICANT REPORT – AMODEO, ANTONIO

DATE REPORT ISSUED: September 16, 2025

ATTENTION: Members, Medical Board of California

SUBJECT: Special Faculty Permit Application
Antonio Amodeo, M.D.

STAFF CONTACT: Neal Funston, Analyst, Licensing Program

REQUESTED ACTION:

Review the Special Faculty Permit Review Committee's (Committee) recommendation for a Special Faculty Permit (SFP) appointment for Antonio Amodeo, M.D., pursuant to California Business and Professions Code (BPC) section 2168.1(a)(1)(B).

BACKGROUND

The Medical Board of California (Board) is authorized to issue an SFP to a physician who is academically eminent and meets all the requirements pursuant to BPC section 2168.1.

The SFP authorizes an individual to practice medicine only within the medical school and its affiliated institutions where the SFP holder is providing instruction as part of the medical school's educational program, and for which the medical school has assumed direct responsibility.

The Committee is comprised of 14 members: one representative from each of the 11 medical schools in California, one representative from academic medical centers, and two Board members. The Committee reviews and makes recommendations to the Board regarding the eligibility of the applicants applying pursuant to BPC section 2168.1(a)(1)(B).

On September 3, 2025, the Committee reviewed the qualifications of an applicant from Stanford University School of Medicine (Stanford): Dr. Amodeo. Committee member Dr. Pedro Paulo Tanaka presented Dr. Amodeo's qualifications for an SFP to the Committee.

Dr. Amodeo is an internationally recognized leader in pediatric heart failure, thoracic transplantation, and mechanical circulatory support. He received his M.D. from Naples University Medical School. Dr. Amodeo completed board certification in cardiovascular medicine in 1986 and in cardiovascular surgery in 1991. With decades of experience, he has served as a pediatric cardiac surgeon at Bambino Gesu Pediatric Hospital in Rome since 1990. As of 2010, he has led the hospital's Heart Failure, Thoracic

Transplant, and Mechanical Circulatory Support Unit as chief. He has also held a full professorship at the Catholic University of the Sacred Heart since 2012.

Dr. Amodeo has received awards for his clinical research. His notable innovative contributions include the first pediatric heart transplant from a COVID-positive donor in Europe, the world's first implantation of Impella® via carotid artery in pediatric population, and implantation of a 50cc artificial heart in the smallest pediatric patient. He has over 150 publications, including 125 journal articles, 26 editorials and commentaries, and six book chapters. He has organized conferences and is a member of several professional organizations, including the Italian Society of Cardiac Surgeons and European Association of Cardio-Thoracic Surgery.

Stanford recruited Dr. Amodeo for the position of professor in the Department of Cardiothoracic Surgery.

EDUCATION

Medical School:	Naples University Medical School Federico II; Naples, Italy – Doctor of Medicine: 1983
Postgraduate Study:	Naples University Medical School Federico II; Naples, Italy – Internship in Cardiology: 1981 - 1983
	Bambino Gesu Hospital; Rome, Italy – Internship in Pediatric Cardiac Surgery: 1984 - 1986
	Bambino Gesu Hospital; Rome, Italy – Internship in Pediatric Cardiac Surgery: 1987 – 1988
	Bambino Gesu Hospital; Rome, Italy – Internship in Pediatric Cardiac Surgery: 1988 – 1990

If approved for an SFP by the Board, Dr. Amodeo will hold a full-time faculty position at Stanford, overseeing weekly pediatric advanced cardiac therapies, pediatric lung transplants, as well as providing comprehensive care before, during, and after heart, lung, and heart-lung transplant procedures. Additionally, time will be dedicated to teaching, involving daily professor rounds, and direct training of residents, fellows, and advanced practice providers in the care of complex patient populations. Research will focus on leading initiatives in pediatric myocardial recovery and the development of next-generation pediatric-specific mechanical support devices. Leadership responsibilities will include serving as director of pediatric thoracic transplantation, which involves collaborating with medical directors of heart and lung transplantation to oversee surgical services, program organization, and regulatory compliance, as well as

managing all surgical aspects of pediatric transplantation and mechanical circulatory support.

SPECIAL FACULTY PERMIT REVIEW COMMITTEE FINDINGS:

The Committee recommended approval of Dr. Amodeo for this SFP at Stanford, pursuant to BPC section 2168.1(a)(1)(B).

MEDICAL BOARD 2168 APPLICANT REPORT – PAKDEL, FARZAD

DATE REPORT ISSUED: September 16, 2025

ATTENTION: Members, Medical Board of California

SUBJECT: Special Faculty Permit Application
Farzad Pakdel, M.D.

STAFF CONTACT: Neal Funston, Analyst, Licensing Program

REQUESTED ACTION:

Review the Special Faculty Permit Review Committee's (Committee) recommendation for a Special Faculty Permit (SFP) appointment for Farzad Pakdel, M.D., pursuant to California Business and Professions Code (BPC) section 2168.1(a)(1)(B).

BACKGROUND

The Medical Board of California (Board) is authorized to issue an SFP to a physician who is academically eminent and meets all the requirements pursuant to BPC section 2168.1.

The SFP authorizes an individual to practice medicine only within the medical school and its affiliated institutions where the SFP holder is providing instruction as part of the medical school's educational program, and for which the medical school has assumed direct responsibility.

The Committee is comprised of 14 members: one representative from each of the 11 medical schools in California, one representative from academic medical centers, and two Board members. The Committee reviews and makes recommendations to the Board regarding the eligibility of the applicants applying pursuant to BPC section 2168.1(a)(1)(B).

On September 3, 2025, the Committee reviewed the qualifications of an applicant from the University of Southern California Keck School of Medicine (USC): Dr. Pakdel. Committee member Dr. Glenn Ault presented Dr. Pakdel's qualifications for an SFP to the Committee.

Dr. Pakdel is an internationally renowned ophthalmologist, oculoplastic surgeon, academic leader, and clinical researcher, with over two decades of experience. After earning his M.D. in 1993, he completed residency, fellowship, and advanced training in oculoplastics, epidemiology, and aesthetics in Iran, the Netherlands, and the United States. Dr. Pakdel is recognized worldwide as a pioneer in minimally invasive orbital and lacrimal surgery, orbital decompression, skull base surgery, and innovative biologic

therapies for orbital diseases. He is a leading authority in the management of thyroid eye disease, orbital inflammatory disorders, and orbital fungal infections, having played a critical role in shaping national and international treatment strategies, including during the COVID-associated mucormycosis epidemic. His contributions also extend to orbital trauma, tumors, optic nerve surgery, congenital anomalies, and aesthetic oculofacial procedures, for which he has founded specialized clinics and trained future surgeons.

A prolific researcher with more than 90 peer-reviewed publications and multiple book chapters, Dr. Pakdel has advanced the fields of regenerative medicine, optic nerve repair, patient-specific orbital implants, and biologic therapies for thyroid eye disease. His work has been supported by major grants, recognized with national awards, and featured in international clinical trials, including collaboration on the groundbreaking Advanced Research Projects Agency for Health (ARPA-H) Whole Eye Transplant project. As a global educator and mentor, he has served in key leadership roles in the International Thyroid Eye Disease Society and International Orbital Society and has spoken at more than 200 international conferences. Dedicated to advancing surgical standards worldwide, he has also co-authored competency rubrics with the International Council of Ophthalmology. Dr. Pakdel's career is distinguished by surgical innovation, academic excellence, and an unwavering commitment to improving patient care.

USC recruited Dr. Pakdel for the position of associate professor in the Department of Ophthalmology.

EDUCATION

Medical School:	Islamic Azad University, Tehran Medical Branch; Tehran, Iran – Doctor of Medicine: 1993
Postgraduate Study:	Iran University of Medical Sciences and Health; Rasool Hospital, Tehran, Iran – Residency in Ophthalmology; 1998 – 2002
	Iran University of Medical Sciences and Health; Rasool Hospital, Tehran, Iran – Fellowship in Oculoplasty; 2008 – 2010
	Iran University of Medical Sciences and Health; Tehran, Iran – Clinical Epidemiology Course; March 2020 – October 2020
	Orbital Center of the University of Amsterdam; Amsterdam, Netherlands – Observership in Oculoplasty and Orbit and Graves Orbitopathy; December 2010
	Eyesthetica; Los Angeles, CA, U.S. – Observership in Oculoplasty and Aesthetics; May – June 2012

If approved for an SFP by the Board, Dr. Pakdel will hold a full-time faculty position at USC, establishing multidisciplinary clinics for orbital inflammatory disease, and fostering skull base collaborations. He will also play a vital role in advancing surgical training and curriculum development. On the research front, Dr. Pakdel will collaborate with faculty to support USC's vision research goals and help maintain the department's National Institutes of Health funding ranking. His research initiatives include leading efforts in the ARPA-H funded Whole Eye Transplant project, clinical trials on anti-insulin-like growth factor 1 biologics for thyroid eye disease, erythropoietin, statins, and exosomes for optic neuropathy, as well as advancing personalized orbital implants, artificial intelligence (AI)-assisted surgical planning, and federated AI platforms for multi-center collaboration in orbital and skull base diseases. He will also contribute to innovations in orbital imaging. In addition, Dr. Pakdel will play a key role in teaching and mentoring students, residents, fellows, and postdoctoral trainees, helping to shape the next generation of leaders in ophthalmology and vision science.

SPECIAL FACULTY PERMIT REVIEW COMMITTEE FINDINGS:

The Committee recommended approval of Dr. Pakdel for this SFP at USC, pursuant to BPC section 2168.1(a)(1)(B).