

Medical Board of California News

Volume 150, Spring 2019

Protecting consumers by advancing high quality, safe medical care.

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The Board's Mission

The mission of the Medical Board of California is to protect health care consumers through the proper licensing and regulation of physicians and surgeons and certain allied health care professionals and through the vigorous, objective enforcement of the Medical Practice Act, and to promote access to quality medical care through the Board's licensing and regulatory functions.

January 1, 2021: Start Using New Security Prescription Pads

In March, AB 149 (Cooper) was signed into law by Governor Gavin Newsom as an urgency statute. The law allows a phase-in period for the new serialized prescription pads which will not be required until January 1, 2021. Until that date, prescribers may use valid prescription forms that do not contain the serialized numbers.

Implementation issues surfaced almost immediately after AB 1753 (Low) took effect on January 1, 2019, requiring all prescriptions for controlled substances to be written on uniquely serialized prescription forms. The law, designed to help curb the opioid epidemic, contained no transition period and put the medical community into chaos.

Almost as soon as the new year began, physicians started fielding phone calls from pharmacies and patients saying their prescriptions were being rejected. Why? The prescriptions were written on “old” prescription pads (some of which were chronologically “new” but didn’t conform to the new law mandating serializing) and, therefore, could not be filled.

The Medical Board of California (Board) also received numerous calls and emails from physicians and patients. Some physicians said they had never heard of the new prescription pad requirement and wondered what to do for chronic pain patients and post-surgical patients while waiting for the new forms to be printed. AB 149 (Cooper) gives the prescribers more time to obtain the compliant prescription pads so they can continue to prescribe much-needed medication to their patients.

In addition to other requirements for compliant prescription pads, the Cooper bill requires “the serialized number to be utilizable as a barcode that may be scanned by dispensers.” Like the serialized numbers, the barcode requirement will not take effect until January 1, 2021.

Prescription pads must be ordered from Security Prescription Printers approved by the Department of Justice. Physicians should note that pursuant to AB 149, the Department of Justice is still working on implementing the bill and has not yet developed requirements for the new pads.

Meanwhile, another prescription mandate approved by Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr. in 2018 may eclipse the significance of legislation described above. That law, AB 2789 (Wood, Chapter 438), added section 688 to the Business and Professions Code, requiring e-prescribing -- electronic data transmission of all prescriptions, including prescriptions for controlled substances -- by January 1, 2022. Prescribers can begin e-prescribing at any time prior to the deadline, however, and avoid using prescription pads altogether.

Editor’s Spotlight

The Board’s recently upgraded License Verification Service (LVS) allows hospitals, outpatient surgery settings and health care facilities, and others authorized under Business and Professions Code section 805.5 to check credentials of physicians and podiatrists and to find out if any 805 reports have been filed against them affecting their practice privileges. Learn more about this tool on page 5.

How should a consumer file a complaint against an outpatient surgery setting? Find out in the Consumer Corner column on page 13.

Many legislative remedies have attempted to combat the country’s opioid overdose epidemic. Most involve restrictions on prescribers and pharmacies. California’s SB 1109 requires another approach: education. And the new law brings more people into the conversation, including student athletes and their parents, who must be told about potential consequences of medications they may encounter due to sports injuries. Please see page 11.

A new law requires physicians prescribing opioid medication to also offer a patient naloxone (Narcan or other FDA-approved opioid antagonist) in certain circumstances. Learn more on page 16.

Need a Speaker?

If you would like a speaker from the Medical Board of California to address your organization, please email Public Affairs Manager Carlos Villatoro at: Carlos.Villatoro@mbc.ca.gov

Medical Board of California News

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Submissions of originally written articles are welcome, but all submissions become the property of the Board and are subject to editing.

Sign Up for Subscriber Alerts

The Medical Board of California uses a subscriber service to notify individuals about items relating to the activities of the Medical Board via email. To subscribe or unsubscribe, please [visit the Board's website](#).

Newsletter Survey

Please take a moment to share your thoughts about the Board's newsletter. Do you have a particular section that you like or an idea on how to improve our publication? We want to hear from you! Please click on the [link to take the survey](#).

President's Message

Happy Spring!

Now that the rains have finally let up, I hope you are getting outside, stretching your muscles, and enjoying the natural wonders our beautiful state has to offer.

The Medical Board of California (Board) spent much of the first quarter indoors, working hard to meet our objectives for enhancing consumer protection. I am pleased to report our efforts have been fruitful. Here are a few highlights:

- **New laws** addressing issues of consumer protection have already taken effect this year. You can read more about them in the Board's Winter 2019 News, beginning on page 4.
- Among these new laws is the **Patient's Right to Know Act**, SB 1448 (Hill). In the past, consumers could check with the Board to learn about their physicians' licenses. With this law in place, on or after July 1, 2019, a physician who has been placed on probation for certain offenses will be required to inform and discuss their probation status directly with their patients. (The offenses a physician would be required to disclose include the commission of any act of sexual abuse, misconduct, or relations with a patient; drug or alcohol abuse directly resulting in harm to patient or to the extent that such use impairs the ability of the licensee to practice safely; criminal conviction directly involving harm to patient health; and inappropriate prescribing resulting in harm to patients and a probation period of five years or more.) Please see related story on page 9.
- Another big win in our efforts for more transparency with the public was **our first-ever open, noticed meeting with Patient Advocates**. On February 1, we discussed their concerns, as well as the Board's complex complaints process and enforcement efforts. We also devoted time to getting better acquainted so that we can work together more effectively in the future. The Board took careful notes during an informative Q&A session, and we have already implemented some suggested changes.

As the seasons change, we will continue to explore how we can improve transparency, connect with consumers, and ensure that all Californians receive excellent care.

To your health,
Denise

Wedding Bells in Your Future? Congratulations!

And remember, if your marriage involves a name change, please don't forget to report it to the Medical Board of California within 30 days. [Visit the Board's webpage for the name change form.](#)

Physicians Encouraged to Inform Patients About SDI Payment Options

Any physician who treats patients receiving State Disability Insurance (SDI) will want to lean in for some helpful information to pass along to them. Patients now have two options for how they can receive benefit payments which include the EDD Debit CardSM or by check sent through the mail.

The EDD Debit Card is the fastest and most convenient way to receive benefit payments. Benefit payments made through the EDD Debit Card are issued within 24 to 48 hours and immediately available to your patients.

Patients can opt to receive benefit payments by check by submitting the *Fee Disclosure and Other Important Disclosures* (DE 5617ID/IF) with their Disability Insurance (DI) or Paid Family Leave (PFL) claim. Allow seven to 10 days for delivery of checks in the mail.

Your patients can file for DI and PFL through SDI Online. SDI Online is easy to use, secure, and available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Patients submitting a claim via SDI Online can select their preferred payment method and review the *EDD Debit Card Fee Disclosure* (DE 5617PD) during the electronic application process. You can also submit medical certifications and other supporting documents through SDI Online.

Because of this new addition to the benefit payment methods, the *Claim for Disability Insurance (DI) Benefits* (DE 2501) and *Claim for Paid Family Leave (PFL) Benefits* (DE 2501F) have changed and are available to order. Please order a new supply of the forms, DE 2501 Rev. 80 (4-19) and DE 2501F Rev. 3 (4-19), to provide to patients. To order these new forms, visit the **EDD Forms and Publications** page or call 1-800-480-3287 for DI and 1-877-238-4373 for PFL. For more information about SDI Online and to establish an account, visit www.edd.ca.gov/disability/SDI_Online.htm.

To request a webinar presentation, please contact SDI at DIBOutreach@edd.ca.gov.
Headline: Spring is in the air & it is time for new beginnings.
To try volunteering, visit the MBC's Volunteer Physician Registry. Signing up is easy.

License Verification System Gets Faster, More User-Friendly

By Susan Wolbarst

The Medical Board of California's (Board) has recently upgraded its License Verification System (LVS), making it more efficient and user-friendly for the hundreds of hospitals, outpatient surgery settings and health care facilities who rely on it.

The Board's LVS is a free subscription service that provides facilities and credentialing services information regarding the licenses of physicians and podiatrists. LVS also provides information about 805 reports filed against these providers. This information is used to determine whether to grant or renew a physician's practice privileges.

LVS Streamlined; Old System

Until recently, the process of using the LVS required potential subscribers to fill out two forms: one to apply for access and one for a security agreement. Once subscribers obtained access, they could see a list of doctors or podiatrists with 805 reports filed

against them. If they found a doctor they were screening for potential practice privileges, users would need to fill out and submit a Request for Copy of 805 Report form to the Board for copies of that individual's 805 report(s). A separate form had to be filled out for each doctor. Each step of the process involved numerous human interactions and an increased wait time.

How the New LVS Differs from the Old System

The newly upgraded LVS allows users to fill out a single application to apply for access, which includes the security agreement. Once access is granted, users receive a username to access their password-protected account. For the next two years, they can log in to search, view, and download 805 reports needed from the LVS without submitting a written request or waiting. A user's free account must be renewed every two years.

After entering a physician's or podiatrist's name and/or license number, users can see whether any 805 reports have been filed against that person. The facility name and the date the 805 was received by the Board are included. The entire report can be downloaded, although such reports are not public record. When LVS subscribers sign the security agreement as part of their access request, they take responsibility for maintaining confidentiality of 805 report contents.

Everything available on BreEZe in the physician's license look-up, including any disciplinary actions, is accessed at the same time as the 805 reports without further searching. Checking for disciplinary actions used to require a separate step from checking the 805 reports which were stored in an entirely different area of the Board's website.

"They'll get everything at one time," said Marco Armas, Board Analyst. Mr. Armas has fielded sometimes 20 or 30 requests a day for 805 reports using the previous labor-intensive LVS.

Who Uses the LVS to See 805 Reports?

About 500 facilities subscribe to the LVS system. Most of them have a credentialing unit. Facilities and organizations authorized by Health and Safety Code section 1200 to request 805 reports include: general acute care hospitals, acute psychiatric hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, intermediate care facilities, intermediate care facilities for developmentally disabled or developmentally disabled-nursing, congregated living health facilities, correction treatment centers, health care service plans, medical care foundations, accredited outpatient surgery settings, and Medicare certified, as well as credentialing organizations. Approximately 90 percent of subscribers are from California. The other 10 percent are out-of-state credentialing services working on behalf of facilities that operate in California.

When Must an 805 Report Be Filed?

An 805 report must be filed within 15 days after the date of a peer review body action:

- to deny or reject a licentiate's application for staff privileges for medical disciplinary cause or reason,
- to terminate or revoke a licentiate's membership, staff privileges, or employment for medical disciplinary cause or reason,
- to impose restrictions (or they are voluntarily accepted) on staff privileges, membership, or employment for a cumulative total of 30 days or more for any 12-month period, for any medical disciplinary cause or reason. (Business and Professions Code section 805(b)).

An 805 report must also be filed if the licentiate responds to the receipt of notice of a pending investigation initiated for a medical disciplinary cause or reason, or after receiving notice that his or her application for membership or staff privileges is denied or will be denied for a medical disciplinary cause or reason, by:

- resigning or taking a leave of absence from membership, staff privileges, or employment,
- withdrawing or abandoning his or her application for staff privileges or membership,
- withdrawing or abandoning his or her request for renewal of staff privileges or membership. (Business and Professions Code section 805(c)).

An 805 report shall also be filed within 15 days of summary suspension of staff privileges, membership, or employment, if the suspension remains in effect more than 14 days. (Business and Professions Code section 805 (e))

How Many 805 reports are filed?

In fiscal year 2017-2018, the number of 805 reports of health facility discipline received by the Board was 141. This was a major increase from fiscal year 2016-2017, when the number of 805 reports received by the Board was 91. Numbers are reported in the Board's Annual Report.

What if Confidentiality is Breached?

Should any material from an 805 report end up in the wrong hands, the Board's Information Systems Branch can determine who accessed the LVS, who queried which licensee(s), and who viewed any particular 805 report.

News to Use

More Teens Vaping Marijuana

According to the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), the practice of using e-cigarettes to inhale vapors of marijuana is gaining popularity among teenagers. Approximately 37 percent of 12th graders reported "any vaping" in 2018, up from 27.8 percent in 2017, according to a survey of more than 44,000 teens. In addition, 13.1 percent of 12th graders said they had vaped marijuana in 2018, up from 9.5 percent in 2017.

“Vaping marijuana (THC oil) can be more dangerous than smoking the drug. This is because people often vape a higher concentration of THC, which, in turn, intensifies the high,” the DEA said.

Addiction, brain development issues, and attention span problems are some possible adverse outcomes of vaping marijuana, the DEA said. For more information, visit the DEA’s Get Smart About Drugs website.

Contra Costa’s Drug Disposal Kiosks

Contra Costa County has implemented a new plan to cut down on children getting into their parents’ leftover prescription drugs. “Nearly half of all calls placed to the California Poison Control System from Contra Costa County involved children who unintentionally consumed prescription or non-prescription drugs,” according to the Contra Costa Health Services website.

The county’s Safe Drug Disposal Ordinance requires companies making pharmaceutical drugs sold in the county to follow a plan for safely collecting unwanted or unused medicine. Some 27 CVS Pharmacy locations and two Walgreens; police departments in Clayton, Concord, Martinez, Moraga, Orinda, Pleasant Hill, San Ramon, Walnut Creek, Richmond, San Pablo and Pinole; two county sheriffs’ facilities; and 10 Kaiser health facilities are offering boxes for disposal of unwanted drugs and packaging, which are destroyed. A mail-in program is available for those with limited mobility.

Tech Med Corner

Telesitters Being Used to Save Money While Preventing Patient Falls

A mobile camera unit known as the AvaSys Telesitter Solution is being rolled into patient rooms to help reduce injuries caused by falls. The unit contains a two-way camera which can tilt, zoom and pan as well as a speaker. Using these devices, a trained telesitter can reportedly monitor 12-16 at-risk patients at a time. This compares to using one human bedside sitter per patient around the clock. The technology allows the telesitter to speak to a patient or nurse, to activate an automated message if a patient tries to get out of bed, or to activate an alarm if a nurse needs to attend to a patient. According to the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, 700,000-1 million patients fall every year in a U.S. hospital. Falling usually increases a patient’s length of stay and may cause harmful injuries. One health system using the telesitters, University of California San Diego Health, reported saving \$2.5 million over two years as a result. More information is available at [Health Leaders Media](#).

FDA Approves Nasal Spray Medication for Treatment-Resistant Depression

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has approved Spravato (esketamine) in conjunction with an oral anti-depressant for adults who have tried but not benefited from other therapies for severe depression. Severe depression can lead to suicide. In clinical trials, esketamine reportedly delivered reduction of symptoms in hours to days, in those patients who responded to the drug, versus weeks to months typically experienced with anti-depressants. Because of serious side effects and potential for abuse or misuse, the

drug is available only in a doctor's office or clinic. The patient self-administers the drug under supervision from a health care provider and cannot take it home. Patients must be monitored for at least two hours afterward due to risk of sedation and dissociation. Other side effects include high blood pressure, dizziness, nausea, anxiety, and vomiting. (KPBS, March 21, 2019 and FDA Press Release, March 5, 2019.)

New Law: Maternal Mental Health

Beginning July 1, 2019, health care practitioners providing prenatal or postpartum care for a patient must ensure that the mother is offered screening or is appropriately screened for any mental health condition that occurs during pregnancy or during the postpartum period and includes, but is not limited to, postpartum depression.

[The law](#) (AB 2193, Maienschein) defines health care practitioner as a physician, naturopathic doctor, nurse practitioner, physician assistant, nurse midwife, or midwife, acting within his or her scope of practice.

The law does not preclude any licensed or certified provider acting within his or her scope of practice from screening for maternal mental health conditions. In addition, the law does not apply to emergency services or care.

Health insurers and health care service plans are required to develop maternal mental health clinical case management programs designed to promote quality and cost-effective outcomes by July 1, 2019, according to the law. Program guidelines and criteria must be made available upon request to medical providers, including obstetric providers.

Save A Date

Medical Board of California Offering Four Expert Training Opportunities

Saturday, September 14, 2019

Saturday October 12, 2019 Los Angeles, CA

OR

Saturday, August 24, 2019

Saturday, November 16, 2019

Sacramento, CA

From 9:00 a.m. to 5 p.m.

CME Credits Offered

Register at the [Board's website](#).

Probation Status: New Law Requires Physicians and Surgeons to Inform Patients

Doctors placed on probation for certain violations on or after July 1, 2019 will be required to tell their patients about it.

Known as the Patient's Right to Know Act of 2018, SB 1448 (Hill, Chapter 570), requires physicians and surgeons to notify patients of their probationary status for cases that involve:

- the commission of any act of sexual abuse, misconduct, or relations with a patient as defined in Business and Professions Code sections 726 or Business and Professions Code section 729;
- drug or alcohol abuse directly resulting in harm to patients, or to the extent that such use impairs the ability of the licensee to practice safely;
- criminal conviction involving harm to patient health;
- inappropriate prescribing resulting in harm to patients and a probationary period of five years or more.

Licensees serving a probationary term for the violations cited above are required to provide a separate disclosure to a patient or patient's guardian or health care surrogate before the patient's first visit following the probationary order. The disclosure must include:

- the licensee's probation status,
- the length of the probation,
- the probation end date,
- all practice restrictions placed on the licensee by the Medical Board of California (Board),
- the Board's telephone number, and an explanation of how the patient can find further information about the licensee's probation on the licensee's profile page on the Board's license information website.

The licensee shall obtain from the patient, or the patient's guardian or health care surrogate, a separate, signed copy of that disclosure.

A licensee is not required to provide such a disclosure if any of the following applies:

- the patient is unconscious or otherwise unable to comprehend the disclosure and sign the copy of the disclosure and a guardian or health care surrogate is unavailable;
- the visit occurs in an emergency room or urgent care facility or the visit is unscheduled, including consultations in inpatient facilities;
- the licensee who will treat the patient is not known to the patient until immediately prior to the start of the visit;
- the licensee does not have a direct treatment relationship with the patient.

The law also requires podiatrists, acupuncturists, chiropractors, and naturopathic doctors who are on probation to notify patients of their probationary status before seeing a patient for the first time.

In addition, on and after July 1, 2019, the law requires the Board and the boards regulating allied health care professionals listed above to provide the following

information for licensees on probation and licensees practicing under probationary licenses in plain view on the licensee's profile page on the Board's website:

- for probation imposed pursuant to a stipulated settlement, the causes alleged in the operative accusation along with a designation identifying those causes by which the licensee has expressly admitted guilt and a statement that acceptance of the settlement is not an admission of guilt;
- for probation imposed by an adjudicated decision of the Board, the causes for probation stated in the final probation order;
- for a licensee granted a probationary license, the causes for which a probationary license was imposed;
- the length of the probation and end date; and
- all practice restrictions placed on the license by the Board.

This is the complete text of the [Patient's Right to Know Bill](#).

Pending Legislation: New Web Page

The Medical Board of California (Board) has launched a new [web page](#) focusing on pending legislation that affects the practice of medicine in California.

Visitors can check out the Board's position on bills being considered in the Legislature impacting the Board and its jurisdiction. Board Members take positions on bills at quarterly meetings following discussion of analyses and staff recommendations as well as comments from members of the public who attend or call in to Board meetings.

Members of the public can also express support or opposition to a bill by contacting the author's office or attending policy committee hearings in the Legislature. Visit the [California Legislative Information website](#) for hearing information.

The pending legislation web page will be updated before each quarterly Board meeting (see [Meetings page](#)) with a list of bills that will be discussed at the meeting. Links to the bill, author, title and Board position will be provided. Following the Board meeting, the list will be updated with the position taken by the Board on each bill.

For more information, contact Jennifer Simoes, Chief of Legislation, at Jennifer.Simoes@mbc.ca.gov or 916-274-6251.

Fighting the Opioid Crisis

By Susan Wolbarst

Public Information Officer

Latest statistics show 70,237 people died of drug overdoses in the U.S. in 2017, according to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC). Sixty-eight percent of those deaths were linked to opioids.

Despite numerous attempts to stop it, the opioid crisis shows no sign of slowing down. California alone lost 4,868 people to drug overdose in 2017, and was one of 23 states with a statistically significant increase in drug overdose deaths from 2016 to 2017.

An unknown number of those who died began on the path that ultimately led to overdose when a physician prescribed opioid pain medication following a surgery or an injury.

[Recently enacted legislation, SB 1109 \(Bates\)](#), uses a multi-pronged educational approach to fight opioid addiction: teaching providers, patients, student athletes and their parents about the potential hazards associated with opioids. “Addiction, misuse, and overdose of prescription opioids is a public health crisis affecting both adults and children,” according to the text of SB 1109, which took effect January 1, 2019.

First, the law requires for physicians licensed on or after January 1, 2019 existing mandated pain management continuing education courses to include the risks of addiction associated with the use of Schedule II drugs. The bill makes the same continuing education changes for all other prescribers. Physicians and surgeons practicing in pathology or radiology specialty areas are exempted from the requirement.

The bill also requires a bold warning label on all Schedule II controlled substance prescription bottles, drawing attention to addiction and overdose risks associated with a prescribed medication.

In addition, the bill requires a prescriber to discuss addiction and overdose associated with opioids with a minor and the minor’s parent or guardian (or other authorized adult) before directly dispensing or writing a first prescription of a controlled substance containing an opioid.

The prescriber must also discuss the increased risk of opioid addiction to an individual who is suffering from both mental and substance abuse disorders. They must be informed about the danger of taking an opioid with a benzodiazepine, alcohol or other central nervous system depressant, and any other information required by law.

The above requirements do not apply if the prescriber is treating an addict or a patient with chronic pain, if the minor’s treatment includes emergency services and care, is associated with or incident to an emergency surgery, or if – in the prescriber’s professional judgment – the requirements would be detrimental to the minor’s health or safety or in violation of the minor’s legal rights regarding confidentiality.

The law requires any school district, charter school, private school, or youth sports organization offering an athletic program to give the Centers for Disease Control’s (CDC’s) Opioid Fact Sheet for Patients to each student athlete. The law requires each athlete and his or her parent to sign an acknowledgment that they have received the fact sheet. The fact sheet must be given to student athletes and their parents annually, and signed acknowledgement of the document’s receipt must be collected by the athletic program annually.

Finally, the bill aims to head off addiction before it starts by warning young athletes of the addictive potential of drugs they could encounter as a result of sports injuries. According to the text in the law, “Both short-term and long-term prescriptions of opioids to minors fall within situations that require counseling of patients and their parents or guardians by their prescribers. It is the intent of the legislature to ensure that health care providers and young athletes receive necessary education on this topic.”

Renew Your License Early, Help the Planet

Did you know that the Medical Board of California (Board) is now renewing physician's licenses as early as 180 days in advance of expiration dates? Online renewals processed prior to 120 days before the renewal date will generate no paperwork, helping the planet by cutting down on paper being sent to licensees.

If you wait to renew your license until after the 120-day threshold for early renewal, you will receive a mailed reminder sent to your address of record. The Board sends out about 6,000 renewal notices a month.

To be notified when you can take advantage of this new earlier renewal window, make sure the Board has your current email address.

TIP: give the Board your personal email account address, not your work email, which will not work if you change jobs. Note that email addresses provided to the Board are confidential and will not be released to the public.

Your license must be renewed with the Medical Board of California every two years. It expires at midnight on the last day of your birth month.* It is illegal to practice medicine with an expired license.

More information is available on the [Physician and Surgeon License Renewal page on the Board's website](#).

* Licenses issued after July 1, 2018 will expire, every two years, on the last date of the month in which they were issued.

Patients Must Be Notified That Physicians Are Licensed and Regulated by MBC Pursuant to the [California Code of Regulations section 1355.4](#), all California medical doctors, engaged in the practice of medicine, are required by law to inform patients that they are licensed and regulated by the Medical Board of California (Board), and to provide the Board's contact information.

The notice shall include the following: NOTICE, Medical doctors are licensed and regulated by the Medical Board of California, (800) 633-2322, www.mbc.ca.gov.

Physicians may provide such notice to consumers using one of the following methods:

- Prominently posting the notice in an area visible to patients on the premises where the licensee provides the licensed services, in which case the notice shall be in at least 48-point type in Arial font. [A sample sign for printing](#) meeting all legal requirements can be printed from the Board's website.
- Including the notice in a written statement, signed and dated by the patient or the patient's representative and retained in that patient's medical records, stating the patient understands the physician is licensed and regulated by the Board.
- Including the notice in a statement on letterhead, discharge instructions, or other document given to a patient or patient's representative, where the notice is placed immediately above the signature line for the patient in at least 14-point type.

Failure to comply with this requirement may subject the physician to action by the Board.

Consumer Corner

How Do I File a Complaint Involving an Outpatient Surgery Center?

If a surgical procedure requires anesthesia to be administered in doses that have the probability of placing a patient at risk for loss of the patient's life-preserving protective reflexes, then the surgery must be performed in an accredited, licensed, or certified setting.

Complaints about an outpatient surgery setting that is accredited by one of the five accrediting agencies recognized by the Medical Board of California (Board) may be submitted directly to the Board using the [Medical Board Consumer Complaint Form](#). The form is also available in Spanish [on the Board's website](#). To have a complaint form mailed to you, please call 800-633-2322.

Once completed, the complaint form can be submitted online or mailed to the Board at Medical Board of California, 2005 Evergreen Street, Suite 1200, Sacramento, CA 95815 or faxed to 916-263-2435.

When completing the complaint form, under "Nature of Complaint" please check the box marked "other." Write the name of the outpatient surgery setting on the adjacent line. Complaints can also be filed with the agency that accredited the outpatient surgery setting. Each outpatient surgery setting's certificate of accreditation must be posted along with the name and telephone number of that accrediting agency including instructions on submitting complaints. The information must be posted in a location that is readily visible to patients.

Note that outpatient surgery settings may be licensed by the California Department of Public Health as surgical clinics. To view other types of outpatient surgery settings not required by California statute to be listed on the Board's listing of outpatient surgery settings, visit the Board's [website](#).

If the Board receives a consumer complaint about an outpatient surgery setting that is non-accredited, unlicensed, and not certified by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid (CMS), but is performing surgical procedures using a level of anesthesia requiring the facility to be accredited, licensed, or certified, it is referred to the Health Quality Investigation Unit for investigation. If the consumer complaint is about an outpatient surgery setting that is accredited, the Board forwards the complaint to the appropriate accreditation agency for investigation; if public safety is in jeopardy, an immediate inspection is initiated. After the accreditation agency has completed its investigation or inspection, the agency submits findings to the Board for review and posting.

For complaints that pose an immediate risk to the public the accreditation agency must submit its findings within five business days. All other complaint investigations must be submitted to the Board within 30 days. If a physician/provider issue is identified during the scope of the investigation, these findings are forwarded to the Central Complaint Unit for review and referral for formal investigation where appropriate.

The Medical Board is required to investigate complaints related to a violation of [Health and Safety Code Section 1248](#). Accredited outpatient surgery settings are also subject to the adverse event reporting requirements under [Business and Professions Code Sections 2216.3](#) and [2216.4](#).

Is there a topic you would like for us to discuss on a future Consumer Corner? Email the editor at susan.wolbarst@mbc.ca.gov and tell us.

Helping Patients Take One Small Step at a Time

By Susan Wolbarst

Public Information Officer

As an undergraduate student at the University of California San Diego, Doctor Sarah Kim focused her studies on what she loved – biochemistry, organic chemistry, and any literature she could get her hands on pertaining to feminism, ethnicity and culture. It wasn't until the end of her college years that she decided to pursue medicine.

“I didn't know a whole lot about it back then, but decided that I wanted to work with people on a day to day basis and help them be healthier,” she said.

She traded the sunny shores of the San Diego coastline for the waters of the Mystic River that skirt Tufts University Medical School in Massachusetts, where she earned her M.D. in 2004.

As a Steven M. Thompson loan repayment grant recipient, Dr. Kim said she is incredibly grateful to have been awarded the grant.

Far removed from her days at Tufts, Dr. Kim wears many hats, serving as an Associate Clinical Professor at the UCSF Division of Endocrinology, Director of the Zuckerberg San Francisco General (ZSFG) Adult Diabetes Clinic and Adult Weight Management Clinic, Co-Director of the ZSFG Pediatric Healthy Lifestyles Clinic, and Director of the UCSF Diabetes Teaching Center. Some days she travels to Salinas to work as an endocrinologist at clinics associated with the University of California, San Francisco. Any given day for Dr. Kim is anything but typical.

“I see patients a lot, managing diabetes and obesity,” she said. “I also teach medical trainees and perform administrative work pertaining to the operations of the clinics I work at. No two days are the same.”

What she loves most about her career harkens back to the reason that she first began studying medicine: “helping patients take better care of themselves under my guidance,” she said.

For example, she encourages them to prioritize their own self-care.

“Lots of my patients have competing priorities and putting their own health care first is not something they often do,” she said. Another approach she encourages is, “to take one small step at a time – checking sugars one time a day, taking medication most days of the week.”

On the flip side, her least favorite thing about her job involves frustration she feels surrounding medical billing and documentation demands, she said.

She says the most significant challenge she has seen in recent years that affects her ability to deliver health care is, “The connectivity with patients through medical electronic health. I think it’s causing a bit of a divide between those who can easily access this technology and those who cannot.”

Still, perhaps more important than technology in the field of medicine is its need for “compassionate people who are also innovative and think outside the box. And despite its frustrations, it remains an extremely gratifying career.”

Aside from helping others, Dr. Kim enjoys spending her spare time with her husband and 4-year-old daughter. Playing with Play-Doh or a doll house are favorite activities; they also enjoy visiting local museums.

You Asked For It

Questions Received from the Web

By Alexandria Schembra

Assistant Governmental Program Analyst

I am a physician who dispenses opioids directly out of my office. Do I have to enter these prescriptions into CURES? Yes. Direct dispensers are required to report information on all Schedule II – IV controlled substances dispensed, and must do so within seven days of dispensing. The Department of Justice (DOJ), in coordination with Atlantic Associates, Inc. (AAI), allows direct dispense prescribers and entities, including pharmacies filling less than 25 prescriptions per month, to electronically report dispensing data to the DOJ. The direct dispense application can be accessed on the direct dispense website. Also available at this website are instructions on how to apply for an account and submit dispensing data. Please note that the DOJ no longer accepts paper direct dispense reports. To access the secured direct dispense site, [dispensers must first complete the application](#). Once an application has been submitted, an email confirmation from AAI will provide approved users with a username and temporary password. If an email confirmation is not received within 48 hours of submitting the application, please contact AAI at CACures@aainh.com or (800) 539-3370.

I am retiring soon, but want to keep my license. How do I put my license in retirement status and what does that status allow me to do? The holder of a retired license may not engage in the practice of medicine. A licensee who applies for a retired license will be exempt from payment of the renewal fees and the continuing medical education (CME) requirements. However, [California Business and Professions Code \(B&P\) section 2436.5](#) requires licensees to pay a mandatory fee of \$25 at the time of renewal of a physician's and surgeon's license to the [Physician Loan Repayment Program](#). The Physician Loan Repayment Program encourages recently licensed physicians to practice in underserved locations in California by authorizing a plan of repayment of their medical school loans in exchange for their service in a designated medically underserved area for a minimum of three years. To receive a fee exemption, a licensee must apply for the status change before the expiration date of the license. If the license is current, no fee is required. If the license is in a delinquent status, a payment of all accrued renewal fees, delinquent fees, the \$25 mandatory fee, and penalty fee must be submitted with the application. To learn more, please read the [Frequently Asked Questions about Retired Status](#).

I am applying for a license in another state and need a letter of good standing from the Medical Board. How do I obtain that? License Verifications are letters sent to other state and/or country medical boards to verify the status of a license. These letters are required by other boards to assist them in determining if there is any reason to prohibit or delay licensure by alerting boards of past or pending disciplinary action. There are two options available to request a license verification: License Verification obtained through [VeriDoc](#) or by contacting the Board directly. [This link provides information on the process, cost and timeline for obtaining a license verification](#).

Have a question? If you have a question, write to Webmaster@mbc.gov. Although only some questions may be featured here in "YOU ASKED FOR IT," all questions will receive an email response, so let us hear from you.

New Law Requires Naloxone Hydrochloride Prescriptions in Certain Instances

A law ([AB 2760, Wood, Chapter 324](#)) which took effect January 1, 2019, requires prescribers to offer a prescription for naloxone hydrochloride or another drug approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for complete or partial reversal of opioid depression in certain circumstances.

Naloxone (or another FDA-approved opioid antagonist) must be offered:

- If the patient is taking a daily prescription dose of 90 or more morphine milligram equivalents of an opioid medication;
- If an opioid medication is prescribed concurrently with a prescription for benzodiazepine, or
- If the patient presents with an increased risk for overdose, including
 - the patient has a history of overdose;
 - the patient has a history of substance use disorder; or
 - the patient is at risk for returning to a high dose of opioid medication to which the patient is no longer tolerant.

In addition, the new law requires a prescriber to provide education to a patient, or patient's designee, or for a minor patient, the patient's parent or guardian, on overdose prevention and use of naloxone (or similar FDA-approved drug).

The law specifies that a prescriber who fails to offer a prescription or provide education, as required by this law, must be referred to the appropriate licensing board solely for the imposition of administrative sanctions deemed appropriate by that board.

For more information about naloxone, including a video on administering naloxone nasal spray -- sold as Narcan – please see [the California Department of Public Health's Get Naloxone website](#).

Administrative Actions

November 1, 2018 – January 31, 2019

Explanation of disciplinary language and actions

“Effective date of decision” — Example: “March 14, 2012” at the bottom of the summary means the date the disciplinary decision goes into operation.

“Gross negligence” — An extreme deviation or departure from the standard of care.

“Incompetence” — Lack of knowledge or skills in discharging professional obligations.

“Judicial review pending” — The disciplinary decision is being challenged through the court system, i.e., Superior Court, Court of Appeal, or State Supreme Court. The discipline is currently in effect.

“Probationary License” — A conditional license issued to an applicant with probationary terms and conditions. This is done when cause exists to deny the license application, but limitations can be put in place to protect the public.

“Public Letter of Reprimand” — A lesser form of discipline that can be negotiated after or in lieu of the filing of formal charges. The reprimand may include educational and clinical training requirements.

“Revoked” — The right to practice is ended due to disciplinary action. The license is invalidated, voided, annulled, or rescinded.

“Revoked, stayed, 5 years' probation with terms and conditions, including 60 days suspension” — “Stayed” means the revocation is postponed. Professional practice may continue so long as the licensee complies with specified probationary terms and conditions which, in this example, includes 60 days of actual suspension from practice. Violation of any term of probation may result in the revocation that was postponed.

“Stipulated Decision or Settlement” — A form of plea bargaining. The case is formally negotiated and settled prior to hearing.

“Surrender” — To resolve a disciplinary action, the licensee has given up his or her license — subject to acceptance by the Board.

“Suspension from practice” — The licensee is prohibited from practicing for a specific period of time.

Physicians and Surgeons

ABDALAH, EHAB FAROUK, M.D. (A 97083), Paradise Valley, AZ

Disciplined by Arizona for deviations from the standard of care in the care and treatment of four patients. Revoked, stayed, placed on five years' probation with terms and conditions including, but not limited to, completing an education course, a medical record keeping course, a prescribing practices course, an ethics course, and a clinical competence assessment program; prohibited from ordering, prescribing, dispensing, administering, furnishing or possessing any controlled substances in Schedules II and III and from issuing an oral or written recommendation or approval to possess or cultivate marijuana; maintaining a record of all controlled substances ordered, prescribed, dispensed, administered, or possessed by Respondent; and obtaining a practice monitor. November 30, 2018

[*View the decision and the order on the Board's website.*](#)

ADESOKAN, PAULA N. (G 88987), Lilburn, GA

Disciplined by Maryland for unprofessional conduct in the practice of medicine, grossly over utilizing medical services, failing to provide patients with details of their medical records, and failing to cooperate with their investigation. Revoked.

November 8, 2018

[*View the decision and the order on the Board's website.*](#)

AHLUWALIA, HARDEEP SINGH, M.D. (A 86707), Los Altos, CA

No admissions but charged with repeated negligent acts, incompetence, and failure to maintain adequate and accurate medical records in the care and treatment of one patient. Physician must complete a medical record keeping course and a clinical competence assessment program. Public Reprimand. November 9, 2018

[*View the decision and the order on the Board's website.*](#)

AHMED, SYED IMRAN (A 87103), Brookville, NY

Convicted of one felony count of health care fraud, three felony counts of making false statements relating to health care matters, and two felony counts of unlawful monetary transactions. Revoked. December 6, 2018

[*View the decision and the order on the Board's website.*](#)

AKOPYAN, OGANES JOHN, M.D. (A 105942), Sun Valley, CA

No admissions but charged with gross negligence, repeated negligent acts, and failure to maintain adequate and accurate medical records in the care and treatment of one patient. Revoked, stayed, placed on three years' probation with terms and conditions including, but not limited to, completing an education course, a medical record keeping course, an ethics course, and a professional boundaries program; and required to have a third party chaperone present while consulting, examining or treating female patients. January 11, 2019

[*View the decision and order on the Board's website.*](#)

ALLMOND, BAYARD W., JR., (C 25846), Berkeley, CA

No admissions but charged with sexual misconduct and sexual exploitation with a minor patient. Surrender of License. December 19, 2018

[*View the decision and the order on the Board's website.*](#)

ALTCHEK, MARK J. (G 43919), San Francisco, CA

Unable to satisfy the terms and conditions of his Board-ordered probation. Surrender of License. January 16, 2019

[*View the decision and the order on the Board's website.*](#)

ANDERSON, LAUREN CONSTANCE (C 158959), Natchitoches, LA

Unable to satisfy the terms and conditions of her Board-ordered probation. Surrender of License. November 30, 2018

[*View the decision and the order on the Board's website.*](#)

ANDREW, MADELINE (A 51143), Fairfield, CA

Unable to satisfy the terms and conditions of her Board-ordered probation. Surrender of License. November 20, 2018

[*View the decision and the order on the Board's website.*](#)

ARELLA, SALVADOR, A., M.D. (A 49797), Bell Canyon, CA

Violated his Board-ordered probation by failing a clinical competence assessment program. Placed on an additional two years of probation, with terms and conditions including, but not limited to, suspended until completion of the clinical competence assessment program and recommendation by the program that he is safe to practice medicine; prohibited from ordering, prescribing, dispensing, administering, furnishing or possessing any controlled substances listed in Schedules II and III, except for Ritalin, Vyvanse, and Adderall for two years; and all other conditions of his previous decision. November 30, 2018

[*View the decision and the order on the Board's website.*](#)

ATWAL, MANINDERJIT KAUR, M.D. (A 103499), Elk Grove, CA

No admissions but charged with gross negligence, repeated negligent acts, and failure to maintain adequate and accurate medical records in the care and treatment of one patient. Revoked, stayed, placed on thirty-five months' probation with terms and conditions including, but not limited to, completing an education course and a medical record keeping course, prohibited from engaging in the solo practice of medicine, and prohibited from practicing labor and delivery. November 30, 2018

[*View the decision and the order on the Board's website.*](#)

BJARKE, CHRIS B., M.D. (G 72621), Renton, WA

Disciplined by Washington for practicing below the standard of care in the treatment of high risk patients. Probationary license issued, placed on three years' probation with terms and conditions including, but not limited to, completing an ethics course, an education course, and a prescribing practices course; obtaining a practice monitor; and prohibited from engaging in the solo practice of medicine. January 29, 2019

[*View the decision and the order on the Board's website.*](#)

BRANDNER, MICHAEL DAMIEN (G 46448), Anchorage, AK

Convicted of four counts of wire fraud and three counts of tax evasion. Revoked. November 9, 2018

[*View the decision and the order on the Board's website.*](#)

BURGOS, IVAN, M.D. (A 60370), Santa Monica, CA

Convicted of possession of a controlled substance, methamphetamine, and being under the influence of a controlled substance; used controlled substances in such a manner as to be dangerous or injurious to himself, another person, or to the public; and violated statutes regulating dangerous drugs. Revoked, stayed, placed on four years' probation with terms and conditions including, but not limited to, abstaining from the use of controlled substances and alcohol; submitting to biological fluid testing; completing an ethics course; and prohibited from engaging in the solo practice of medicine. January 9, 2019

[*View the decision and the order on the Board's website.*](#)

CANDELARIA, YESSENNIA (C 52575), Rocklin, CA

No admissions but charged with violating the terms of her Board-ordered probation by improperly ordering, prescribing and/or dispensing Schedule II controlled substances when she did not have the authority to do so. Surrender of License. December 11, 2018

[*View the decision and the order on the Board's website.*](#)

CANGA, CYNTHIA ROSE C. (A 72274), Bountiful, UT

Unable to satisfy the terms and conditions of her Board-ordered probation. Surrender of License. January 18, 2019

[*View the decision and the order on the Board's website.*](#)

CARDONA-LOYA, OCTAVIO, M.D. (A 31244), Chula Vista, CA

No admissions but charged with gross negligence and repeated negligent acts in the care and treatment of five patients, dishonesty and failure to maintain adequate and accurate medical records in the care and treatment of three patients, and incompetence in the care and treatment of two patients. Revoked, stayed, placed on five years' probation with terms and conditions including, but not limited to, completing an education course, a prescribing practices course, a medical record keeping course, an ethics course, and a clinical competence assessment program; and obtaining a practice and billing monitor. November 30, 2018

[*View the decision and the order on the Board's website.*](#)

CASSMASSI, BRIAN JOSEPH (A 113944), West Hollywood, CA

Convicted of a misdemeanor for lewd conduct and committed acts of sexual misconduct with a patient. Revoked. November 21, 2018

[*View the decision and the order on the Board's website.*](#)

CHALAM, KAKARLA VENKATA, M.D. (C 149136), Jacksonville, FL

Public Letter of Reprimand issued pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 2233 for being disciplined by Florida for failing to appropriately and adequately diagnose a patient's eye condition and failing to document the medical records properly.

November 16, 2018

[*View the decision and the order on the Board's website.*](#)

CHENG, HUNG-CHUAN, M.D. (A 82948), Fountain Valley, CA

No admissions but charged with gross negligence, repeated negligent acts and failure to maintain adequate and accurate medical records in the care and treatment of five patients; excessive prescribing in the care and treatment of three patients; prescribing without an appropriate prior medical examination or indication; and dispensed dangerous drugs on the internet to two patients. Revoked, stayed, placed on five years' probation with terms and conditions including, but not limited to, prohibited from ordering, prescribing, dispensing, administering, furnishing, or possessing any controlled substances in Schedules II-IV until successful completion of a prescribing practices course; prohibited from issuing an oral or written recommendation or approval to possess or cultivate marijuana; maintaining a record of all controlled substances ordered, prescribed, dispensed, administered, or possessed; completing an education course, a prescribing practices course, a medical record keeping course, and an ethics course; and obtaining a practice monitor. November 9, 2018

[*View the decision and the order on the Board's website.*](#)

CHIB, PRIYA, M.D. (A 102799), Las Vegas, NV

No admissions but charged with gross negligence, false medical records, dishonest or corrupt acts, and failure to maintain adequate and accurate medical records in the care and treatment of a patient. Physician must complete an education course and a medical record keeping course. Public Reprimand. December 28, 2018

[*View the decision and the order on the Board's website.*](#)

CHISTY, KHAJA NAJIBUDDIN, M.D. (A 115512), Fort Lauderdale, FL

Disciplined by Colorado for improper prescribing practices, failure to ensure continuity of care, and failure to obtain consent from patients scheduled for telehealth appointments. Revoked, stayed, placed on thirty-five months' probation with terms and conditions including, but not limited to, completing a prescribing practices course, an ethics course, and a clinical competence assessment program; obtaining a practice monitor; and prohibited from using telehealth technologies to practice medicine. December 27, 2018
[View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

CHRISTENBURY, JONATHAN DAVID (G 55826), Charlotte, NC

Disciplined by North Carolina for being unable to practice medicine safely by reason of alcohol or other substance abuse and harassing female employees. Surrender of License. November 7, 2018
[View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

COX, PAUL ANDREW, M.D. (A 118998), Stockton, CA

Physician has a condition affecting his ability to practice medicine safely; used controlled substances and/or alcohol in such a manner as to be dangerous or injurious to himself, another person, or to the public; and violated statutes regulating dangerous drugs. Revoked, stayed, placed on seven years' probation with terms and conditions including, but not limited to, prohibited from ordering prescribing, dispensing, administering, furnishing or possessing any Schedule II or III controlled substances except in the perioperative setting when he is acting as an anesthesiologist for a patient where the patient will only use such controlled substances at the location of the procedure; prohibited from issuing an oral or written recommendation or approval to possess or cultivate marijuana; maintaining a record of all controlled substances ordered, prescribed, dispensed, administered, or possessed; abstaining from the use of controlled substances and alcohol; completing a medical record keeping course and an ethics course; prohibited from engaging in the solo practice of medicine; notification of employer; submitting to biological fluid testing; attending substance abuse support group meetings; and obtaining a worksite monitor. November 2, 2018
[View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

DE BRITO, DIRK, M.D. (A 66604), Pasadena, CA

No admissions but charged with being convicted of assault and making criminal threats; gross negligence in the care and treatment of one patient; and having a condition affecting his ability to practice medicine safely. Revoked, stayed, placed on three years' probation with terms and conditions including, but not limited to, completing an anger management program and an ethics course, and obtaining a practice monitor. January 25, 2019
[View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

DE CARVALHO, CARLOS TINOCO, M.D. (A 38504), Chula Vista, CA

Committed acts of gross negligence in the care and treatment of one patient, incompetence in the care and treatment of two patients, repeated negligent acts and failure to maintain adequate and accurate medical records in the care and treatment of multiple patients, and unprofessional conduct for inappropriately touching two patients. Revoked, stayed, placed on five years' probation with terms and conditions including, but not limited to, completing an education course, a prescribing practices course, a medical record keeping course, an ethics course, a professional boundaries program, and a clinical competence assessment program; obtaining a practice monitor; prohibited from engaging in the solo practice of medicine; and required to have a third party chaperone present while consulting, examining or treating female patients. December 7, 2018

[*View the decision and the order on the Board's website.*](#)

DHILLON, KARNAIL SINGH (A 66751), Phoenix, AZ

No admissions but charged with being disciplined by Arizona for inappropriately prescribing Suboxone in combination with an anti-anxiety medication in the care and treatment of six patients, failed to conduct random urine drug screens, failed to review the Controlled Substance Monitoring Program for five patients, failed to identify and respond to patterns of early refills, and prescribed excess dosages of Adderall to two patients. Surrender of License. December 10, 2018

[*View the decision and the order on the Board's website.*](#)

DIXSON, ALANA DOREEN, M.D. (A 160037), Sacramento, CA

Committed acts of unprofessional conduct. Probationary license issued, placed on five years' probation with terms and conditions including, but not limited to, requiring the first two years of practice be performed in an ACGME approved postgraduate training program. December 20, 2018

[*View the decision and the order on the Board's website.*](#)

DHALIWAL, PARMINDER SINGH, M.D. (A 46401), Newport Beach, CA

No admissions but charged with gross negligence, repeated negligent acts, and failure to maintain adequate and accurate medical records in the care and treatment of one patient. Physician must complete an education course, a medical record keeping course, and a clinical competence assessment program. Public Reprimand. December 28, 2018

[*View the decision and the order on the Board's website.*](#)

DOAN, TUAN ANH, M.D. (G 77825), Rocklin, CA

Committed acts of gross negligence, repeated negligence, and failure to maintain adequate and accurate medical records in the care and treatment of one patient. Revoked, stayed, placed on three years' probation with terms and conditions including, but not limited to, completing an education course, obtaining a practice monitor, and prohibited from engaging in the solo practice of medicine. November 30, 2018

[*View the decision and the order on the Board's website.*](#)

DURRANI, KHURRAM KHAN, M.D. (A 72805), Tracy, CA

Committed acts of gross negligence, repeated negligence, and failure to maintain adequate and accurate medical records in the care and treatment of two patients. Revoked, stayed, placed on five years' probation with terms and conditions including, but not limited to, completing a medical record keeping course and a professional boundaries program; obtaining a practice monitor; and required to have a third party chaperone present while conducting any physical examination of any patient. December 7, 2018

[*View the decision and the order on the Board's website.*](#)

ELLIS, AMY ELIZABETH, M.D. (C 141678), Marysville, CA

Public Letter of Reprimand issued pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 2233 for failure to maintain adequate and accurate medical records. December 11, 2018

[*View the decision and the order on the Board's website.*](#)

ELLIS, JERI LYNN (G 85106), Oklahoma City, OK

Disciplined by Oklahoma for signing prescriptions for patients she had never seen. Revoked. January 16, 2019

[*View the decision and the order on the Board's website.*](#)

EYRE, GREGORY GENE (A 83380), South Lake Tahoe, CA

Physician has a condition affecting his ability to practice medicine safely. Revoked. January 30, 2019

[*View the decision and the order on the Board's website.*](#)

FLORIAN, HUMBERTO AGUSTIN (A 26087), Anaheim, CA

Committed acts of gross negligence, repeated negligence, and failure to maintain adequate and accurate medical records in the care and treatment of one patient. Revoked. December 21, 2018. Judicial review pending.

[*View the decision and the order on the Board's website.*](#)

FUENTES, JULIAN ROBERT, M.D. (G 45631), Redding, CA

Committed acts of gross negligence and failure to maintain adequate and accurate medical records in the care and treatment of one patient. Revoked, stayed, placed on six years' probation with terms and conditions including, but not limited to, completing a prescribing practices course, an education course, a medical record keeping course, an ethics course, and a clinical competence assessment program; prohibited from treating a patient for opiate and opioid addictions; and obtaining a practice monitor. November 30, 2018

[*View the decision and the order on the Board's website.*](#)

FURNESS, GARY NEAL, M.D. (A 42216), Santa Rosa, CA

No admissions but charged with gross negligence, repeated negligent acts, and failure to maintain adequate and accurate medical records in the care and treatment of three patients, and prescribing without an appropriate prior medical examination or indication in the care and treatment of two patients. Revoked, stayed, placed on three years' probation with terms and conditions including, but not limited to, maintaining record of all controlled substances ordered, prescribed, dispensed, administered, or possessed and any recommendation or approval to possess or cultivate marijuana; and completing an education course, a prescribing practices course, a medical record keeping course, and an ethics course. November 2, 2018

[*View the decision and the order on the Board's website.*](#)

GANESH, VILASINI MALYALA (A 80087), Los Gatos, CA

Convicted of five felony counts of health care fraud and five felony counts of making false statements relating to health care matters. Revoked. December 21, 2018

[*View the decision and the order on the Board's website.*](#)

GONZALEZ, ALLYSON ANN, M.D. (G 79621), Santa Monica, CA

No admissions but charged with repeated negligent acts and failure to maintain adequate and accurate medical records in the care and treatment of two patients. Physician must complete a medical record keeping course. Public Reprimand. December 28, 2018

[*View the decision and the order on the Board's website.*](#)

HAFI, MUHANNAD S. (A 127064), Cupertino, CA

Committed acts of gross negligence, sexual misconduct, and sexual exploitation in the care and treatment of two patients. Revoked. December 21, 2018. Judicial review pending.

[*View the decision and the order on the Board's website.*](#)

HICKOX, PETER GRAFF (G 86782), Stockton, CA

Failed to comply with the terms of his Board-ordered probation by testing positive for a controlled substance. Revoked. November 15, 2018

[*View the decision and the order on the Board's website.*](#)

HIERRO, MARTHA ELVA, M.D. (G 65495), Los Angeles, CA

No admissions but charged with having a condition affecting her ability to practice medicine safely; used alcoholic beverages in such a manner as to be dangerous or injurious to the licensee, or to any other person or to the public. Revoked, stayed, placed on five years' probation with terms and conditions including, but not limited to, abstaining from the use of controlled substances and alcohol, completing an ethics course, prohibited from engaging in the solo practice of medicine, completing a clinical diagnostic evaluation, notification of employer, submitting to biological fluid testing, attending substance abuse support group meetings, and obtaining a worksite monitor. December 28, 2018

[*View the decision and the order on the Board's website.*](#)

HISER, DANIEL LEE, M.D. (G 47397), La Mesa, CA

Aided the abetted the unlicensed practice of medicine and committed acts of gross negligence, repeated negligence, furnishing dangerous drugs without an appropriate prior medical examination or indication, and incompetence in the care and treatment of five patients. Physician must complete a prescribing practices course. Public Reprimand. November 9, 2018

[*View the decision and the order on the Board's website.*](#)

HOLDEN, CHRISTOPHER, M.D. (G 75635), Orange, CA

No admissions but charged with gross negligence and repeated negligent acts in the care and treatment of one patient. Placed on one additional year of probation with terms and conditions including, but not limited to, completing an education course and a prescribing practices course, and obtaining a practice monitor. November 2, 2018

[*View the decision and the order on the Board's website.*](#)

HOSALKAR, HARISH S., M.D. (A 107847), San Diego, CA

No admissions but charged with gross negligence, repeated negligent acts, and dishonesty in knowingly preparing, transmitting and using data in publications that was falsified or fabricated. Revoked, stayed, placed on three years' probation with terms and conditions including, but not limited to, completing an education course and an ethics course, and prohibited from serving as Principal Investigator, nor initiating or participating in an Institutional Review Board submission process during probation. November 16, 2018

[*View the decision and the order on the Board's website.*](#)

JOHNSON, JONATHAN MICHAEL, M.D. (A 110262), Madison, WI

Public Letter of Reprimand issued pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 2233 for being disciplined by Michigan for failing to notify the Michigan Board about discipline taken in Maryland. December 10, 2018

[*View the decision and the order on the Board's website.*](#)

KARU, ESHANI NIRANYA, M.D. (A 160038), Claremont, CA

Applicant requested an extension of the validity period of her scores. Probationary license issued, placed on two years' probation, with terms and conditions including, but not limited to, completing an education course and prohibited from engaging in the solo practice of medicine. December 21, 2018

[*View the decision and the order on the Board's website.*](#)

KATER, VINCENT PAUL (G 45851), San Diego, CA

No admissions but charged with gross negligence and repeated negligent acts in the care and treatment of five patients, failure to maintain adequate and accurate medical records in the care and treatment of four patients, and excessive prescribing in the care and treatment of two patients. Surrender of License. January 31, 2019

[*View the decision and the order on the Board's website.*](#)

KAZANCHIAN, ARMEN, M.D. (A 53993), Glendale, CA

Failed to comply with the terms of his Board-ordered probation by failing the clinical competence assessment program. Revoked, stayed, placed on seven years' probation, beginning on the effective date of the previous decision, with terms and conditions including, but not limited to, maintaining a record of all controlled substances ordered, prescribed, dispensed, administered, or possessed and any recommendation or approval to possess or cultivate marijuana; completing an education course, a prescribing practices course, a medical record keeping course, an ethics course, a professional boundaries program, and a clinical competence assessment program; and prohibited from engaging in the solo practice of medicine. November 15, 2018

[*View the decision and the order on the Board's website.*](#)

KHANKHANIAN, MOIEZ, M.D. (A 41134), West Covina, CA

Public Letter of Reprimand issued pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 2233 for repeated negligent acts and failure to maintain adequate and accurate medical records in the care and treatment of a patient. December 19, 2018

[*View the decision and the order on the Board's website.*](#)

KIM, DAVID HWAN, M.D. (A 87499), Long Beach, CA

No admissions but charged with gross negligence, repeated negligent acts, incompetence, and failure to maintain adequate and accurate medical records in the care and treatment of one patient. Revoked, stayed, placed on three years' probation with terms and conditions including, but not limited to, completing an education course and a medical record keeping course, and obtaining a practice monitor. November 16, 2018

[*View the decision and the order on the Board's website.*](#)

KIM, KIUP ALEX (A 116829), Chandler, AZ

No admissions but charged with being disciplined by Arizona for deviating from the standard of care in the treatment of four patients. Surrender of License. December 10, 2018

[*View the decision and the order on the Board's website.*](#)

KIM, RICHARD B., M.D. (G 84650), Newport Beach, CA

Committed acts of gross negligence and repeated negligence in the care and treatment of four patients and failure to maintain adequate and accurate medical records in the care and treatment of seven patients. Revoked, stayed, placed on five years' probation with terms and conditions including, but not limited to, completing an education course, a medical record keeping course, an ethics course, and a clinical competence assessment program; and obtaining a practice monitor. January 3, 2019. Judicial review pending.

[*View the decision and the order on the Board's website.*](#)

KOKKALERA, UTHAIAH PONNAPPA, M.D. (A 100600), Northridge, CA

No admissions but charged with gross negligence, repeated negligent acts, incompetence, and failure to maintain adequate and accurate medical records in the care and treatment of one patient. Physician must complete a clinical competence assessment program and a medical record keeping course. Public Reprimand.

November 15, 2018

[View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

KOLLI, HEMCHAND, M.D. (A 56066), Hemet, CA

No admissions but charged with gross negligence in the care and treatment of one patient, and repeated negligent acts and failure to maintain adequate and accurate medical records in the care and treatment of four patients. Revoked, stayed, placed on three years' probation with terms and conditions including, but not limited to, completing an education course, a prescribing practices course, and a medical record keeping course; and obtaining a practice monitor. November 16, 2018

[View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

KORNHABER, EUGENE MARTIN (G 33626), Mount Kisco, NY

Unable to satisfy the terms and conditions of his Board-ordered probation. Surrender of License. January 25, 2019

[View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

KURAISHI, MANZAR SARFARAZ, M.D. (A 40352), Burbank, CA

No admissions but charged with gross negligence, repeated negligent acts, incompetence, excessive prescribing, and failure to maintain adequate and accurate records in the care and treatment of one patient, and aiding and abetting the unlicensed practice of medicine and failure to supervise a medical assistant. Revoked, stayed, placed on three years' probation with terms and conditions including, but not limited to, completing an education course, a prescribing practices course, and a medical record keeping course; and obtaining a practice monitor. November 16, 2018

[View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

LATOURETTE, GARY JOSEPH, M.D. (G 24735), Las Vegas, NV

Public Letter of Reprimand issued pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 2233 for being disciplined by Nevada for failing to maintain timely, legible, accurate, and complete medical records relating to the diagnosis, treatment and care of a patient.

December 10, 2018

[View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

LI, FRANK D. (A 69092), Beverly Hills, CA

Disciplined by Washington for providing dangerously substandard care to vulnerable patients suffering from chronic pain conditions. Revoked. November 1, 2018

[View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

LIU, STEPHEN KAO, M.D. (A 50939), Modesto, CA

No admissions but charged with repeated negligent acts and failure to maintain adequate and accurate medical records in the care and treatment of one patient. Physician must complete an education course, a medical record keeping course, and a clinical competence assessment program. Public Reprimand. November 16, 2018
[View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

LO, WANDA LIZA, M.D. (G 45357), Los Osos, CA

No admissions but charged with gross negligence in the care and treatment of one patient. Physician must complete an education course. Public Reprimand. December 19, 2018
[View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

LOCKHART, BILLY JOHN (A 144446), San Francisco, CA

Convicted of one count of possession of child pornography and failed to report the conviction to the Board. Revoked. January 30, 2019
[View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

LUONG, JEAN FRANCOIS, M.D. (A 48809), San Jose, CA

No admissions but charged with gross negligence, repeated negligent acts, and failure to maintain adequate and accurate medical records in the care and treatment of one patient. Physician must complete a prescribing practices course and a medical record keeping course. Public Reprimand. January 25, 2019
[View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

MADRIGAL, MARIA TERESA, M.D. (A 65683), Martinez, CA

Committed acts of gross negligence, repeated negligence, incompetence, alteration of medical records, and failure to maintain adequate and accurate medical records in the care and treatment of one patient. Revoked, stayed, placed on five years' probation with terms and conditions including, but not limited to, completing an education course, a medical record keeping course, an ethics course, and a clinical competence assessment program; obtaining a practice monitor; prohibited from engaging in the solo practice of medicine; and prohibited from practicing prenatal care in any high-risk or twin pregnancies and from performing in any labor and delivery practice role. November 8, 2018
[View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

MAH-MCCAA, BRENDA JOYCE, M.D. (G 77039), Huntington Beach, CA

No admissions but charged with gross negligence in the care and treatment of one patient. Physician must complete a clinical competence assessment program. Public Reprimand. November 21, 2018
[View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

MAINOR, NAKIA THERESA, M.D. (A 87346), Harbor City, CA

Committed acts of gross negligence and failure to maintain adequate and accurate medical records in the care and treatment of one patient. Revoked, stayed, placed on five years' probation with terms and conditions including, but not limited to, completing an education course. November 9, 2018

[*View the decision and the order on the Board's website.*](#)

MARSHALL, GRANVILLE H., M.D. (A 70232), Los Angeles, CA

Committed acts of gross negligence, repeated negligence, and failure to maintain adequate and accurate medical records in the care and treatment of one patient and failed to attend and participate in an interview with the Board. Revoked, stayed, placed on three years' probation with terms and conditions including, but not limited to, completing an education course, a prescribing practices course, and a medical record keeping course; obtaining a practice monitor; and prohibited from engaging in the solo practice of medicine. November 8, 2018

[*View the decision and the order on the Board's website.*](#)

MATTHEWS, ELI CARGILE, M.D. (A 118115), Fayetteville, AR

No admissions but charged with gross negligence, repeated negligent acts, and failure to maintain adequate and accurate medical records in the care and treatment of one patient. Physician must complete a medical record keeping course and an education course. Public Reprimand. November 29, 2018

[*View the decision and the order on the Board's website.*](#)

MATZNER, WILLIAM LEE, M.D. (A 43053), Simi Valley, CA

Convicted of a felony for the sale, transportation, or offer to sell controlled substances; and committed acts of gross negligence, repeated negligence, prescribing without an appropriate prior medical examination or indication, and creating false medical records in the care and treatment of five patients. Revoked, stayed, placed on seven years' probation with terms and conditions including, but not limited to, 30 day suspension; prohibited from ordering, prescribing, dispensing, administering, furnishing, or possessing any controlled substances and shall not issue an oral or written recommendation or approval for the possession or cultivation of marijuana; surrender DEA permit; providing 100 hours of free non-medical community service; completing a prescribing practices course and an ethics course; obtain a practice monitor; prohibited from engaging in the solo practice of medicine; and prohibited from practicing any form of pain management. November 30, 2018

[*View the decision and the order on the Board's website.*](#)

MELGEN, SALOMON EMILIO (C 42283), West Palm Beach, FL

Disciplined by Florida for being convicted of 37 counts of health care fraud, 18 counts of making false, fictitious, and fraudulent claims, and 10 counts of making false statements relating to health care. Revoked. December 26, 2018

[*View the decision and the order on the Board's website.*](#)

MICHEL, DENNIS WILLIAM, M.D. (G 50804), Auburn, CA

No admissions but charged with gross negligence in the care and treatment of one patient. Physician must complete an education course. Public Reprimand. January 25, 2019

[*View the decision and the order on the Board's website.*](#)

MITCHELL, JOHN FRANCIS (G 51589), Emmaus, PA

Disciplined by Pennsylvania for prescribing controlled substances to multiple patients without documentation and without an explanation or justification for the medications. Revoked. November 21, 2018

[*View the decision and the order on the Board's website.*](#)

MOAZZAZ, PAYAM, M.D. (A 100652), Oceanside, CA

Committed acts of gross negligence and failure to maintain adequate and accurate medical records in the care and treatment of one patient. Revoked, stayed, placed on three years' probation with terms and conditions including, but not limited to, completing an education course, a medical record keeping course, and an ethics course. January 25, 2019

[*View the decision and the order on the Board's website.*](#)

NAIM, ARJANG, M.D. (A 74735), Los Angeles, CA

No admissions but charged with gross negligence in the care and treatment of four patients, failure to maintain adequate and accurate medical records in the care and treatment of six patients, and repeated negligent acts in the care and treatment of five patients. Revoked, stayed, placed on four years' probation with terms and conditions including, but not limited to, completing an education course and a medical record keeping course, obtaining a practice monitor, and prohibited from training interns, residents or fellows. November 9, 2018

[*View the decision and the order on the Board's website.*](#)

ONKIN, RONALD H., M.D. (C 27700), Encino, CA

No admissions but charged with repeated negligent acts in the care and treatment of one patient, and gross negligence and sexual misconduct in the care and treatment of two patients. Revoked, stayed, placed on four years' probation with terms and conditions including, but not limited to, completing an ethics course and a professional boundaries program, and obtaining a practice monitor. November 21, 2018

[*View the decision and the order on the Board's website.*](#)

PATEL, NARENDRA JAGJIVAN (C 37535), El Centro, CA

No admissions but charged with being convicted of a misdemeanor count of petty theft, committing acts of dishonesty, and physician has a condition affecting his ability to practice medicine safely. Surrender of License. December 10, 2018

[*View the decision and the order on the Board's website.*](#)

PAUL, CAREY B., M.D. (C 42993), Liberty Lake, WA

No admissions but charged with repeated negligent acts, prescribing without an appropriate prior medical examination or indication, excessive prescribing, and failure to maintain adequate and accurate medical records in the care and treatment of two patients. Revoked, stayed, placed on thirty-five months' probation with terms and conditions including, but not limited to, completing an education course, a prescribing practices course, and a medical record keeping course. January 25, 2019

View the decision and the order on the Board's website.

PAYNE, BROWNELL HILLIARD, M.D. (A 26350), Culver City, CA

Violated the terms of his Board-ordered probation by failing to pay his outstanding probation monitoring costs and a fine. Revoked, stayed, placed on two years' probation with terms and conditions including, but not limited to, complete payment of currently outstanding probation monitoring costs. November 9, 2018

View the decision and the order on the Board's website.

PAYNE, WILLIAM BARRETT (A 126143), Seattle, WA

Unable to satisfy the terms and conditions of his Board-ordered probation. Surrender of License. November 28, 2018

View the decision and the order on the Board's website.

PENNER, NICHOLAS DAVID (A 115701), San Diego, CA

Disciplined by Minnesota for having a condition affecting his ability to practice medicine safely. Revoked. January 18, 2019

View the decision and the order on the Board's website.

PHILLIPS, ROGER BEVERLY, M.D. (G 66426), Chico, CA

No admissions but charged with repeated negligent acts and failure to maintain adequate and accurate medical records in the care and treatment of six patients, and gross negligence in the care and treatment of five patients. Revoked, stayed, placed on four years' probation with terms and conditions including, but not limited to, completing an education course, a medical record keeping course, and a clinical competence assessment program; obtaining a practice monitor; and prohibited from engaging in the solo practice of medicine. November 21, 2018

View the decision and the order on the Board's website.

PIERCE, JOHN MICHAEL, M.D. (C 160121), Scottsdale, AZ

Used alcohol in such a manner as to be dangerous or injurious to himself, another, or to the public. Probationary license issued, placed on five years' probation with terms and conditions, including but not limited to, completing a clinical diagnostic evaluation, notification of employer, submitting to biological fluid testing, attending substance abuse support group meetings, obtaining a worksite monitor, abstaining from the use of alcohol and controlled substances, and completing an ethics course. December 28, 2018

View the decision and the order on the Board's website.

POSPISIL, RICK FRANK, M.D. (G 39717), Lakeport, CA

No admissions but charged with repeated negligent acts, making or signing a document directly related to the practice of medicine which falsely represented the existence of a state of facts, created a false medical record, committed an act of dishonesty, and failed to maintain adequate and accurate medical records in the care and treatment of one patient. Physician must complete an ethics course and a medical record keeping course. Public Reprimand. November 9, 2018

[View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

PUNZALAN, RODOLFO (A 33873), San Dimas, CA

Physician has a condition affecting his ability to practice medicine safely and failed to comply with a Board-ordered examination. Revoked. November 21, 2018

[View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

RAMOS, DAVID EDMUNDO, M.D. (G 74865), Salinas, CA

No admissions but charged with gross negligence and repeated negligent acts in the care and treatment of one patient. Public Reprimand. January 18, 2019

[View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

REDDY, THIRUPATHI K., M.D. (A 54174), Fremont, CA

No admissions but charged with repeated negligent acts and failure to maintain adequate and accurate medical records in the care and treatment of one patient. Physician must complete an education course and a medical record keeping course. Public Reprimand. December 14, 2018

[View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

RISSER, JOSEPH AURELIUS, M.D. (G 70886), San Diego, CA

Committed acts of gross negligence, repeated negligence, and failure to maintain adequate and accurate medical records in the care and treatment of three patients. Revoked, stayed, placed on five years' probation with terms and conditions including, but not limited to, completing an education course, a prescribing practices course, a medical record keeping course, and an ethics course; and prohibited from engaging in the solo practice of medicine. January 18, 2019

[View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

RIZKALLA, SAFWAT, M.D. (A 50231), Yorba Linda, CA

Committed acts of gross negligence and repeated negligence in the care and treatment of his patients and used controlled substances in such a manner as to be dangerous or injurious to himself, another person, or the public. Revoked, stayed, placed on five years' probation with terms and conditions including, but not limited to, abstaining from the use of controlled substances, submitting to biological fluid testing, completing an ethics course, and prohibited from engaging in the solo practice of medicine. January 7, 2019

[View the decision and the order on the Board's website.](#)

ROBBINS, HARRISON M. (C 29549), Encinitas, CA

No admissions but charged with gross negligence, repeated negligent acts and failure to maintain adequate and accurate medical records in the care and treatment of one patient; aiding and abetting the unlicensed practice of medicine; engaging in false and misleading advertising; and failing to comply with a Board-ordered examination.

Surrender of License. November 1, 2018

View the decision and the order on the Board's website.

SABO, STEVEN R., M.D. (G 77124), San Luis Obispo, CA

No admissions but charged with gross negligence, repeated negligent acts, incompetence, and failure to maintain adequate and accurate medical records in the care and treatment of one patient. Physician must complete an education course and a medical record keeping course. Public Reprimand. November 28, 2018

View the decision and the order on the Board's website.

SALHOTRA, PREM P., M.D. (A 42671), Yucca Valley, CA

No admissions but charged with repeated negligent acts in the care and treatment of two patients and failure to maintain adequate and accurate medical records in the care and treatment of one patient. Physician must complete a prescribing practices course and a medical record keeping course. Public Reprimand. November 16, 2018

View the decision and the order on the Board's website.

SEED, LAURA JEAN, M.D. (G 55560), San Diego, CA

No admissions but charged with gross negligence, repeated negligent acts, and failure to maintain adequate and accurate medical records in the care and treatment of one patient. Revoked, stayed, placed on five years' probation, with terms and conditions including, but not limited to, completing a medical record keeping course, an ethics course, a professional boundaries program, and obtaining a practice monitor. November 16, 2018

View the decision and the order on the Board's website.

SHAMS, TAHER AHMED, M.D. (A 41410), Yucaipa, CA

No admissions but charged with gross negligence in the care and treatment of three patients, and repeated negligent acts and failure to maintain adequate and accurate medical records in the care and treatment of five patients. Revoked, stayed, placed on four years' probation with terms and conditions including, but not limited to, prohibited from ordering, prescribing, dispensing, administering, furnishing or possessing any controlled substances in Schedules II and III except Methadone, Testosterone, Suboxone and Subutex, which may only be prescribed for drug rehabilitation or detoxification purposes; prohibited from issuing an oral or written recommendation or approval to possess or cultivate marijuana; maintaining a record of all controlled substances ordered, prescribed, dispensed, administered, or possessed; completing an education course, a prescribing practices course, a medical record keeping course; obtaining a practice monitor; prohibited from practicing, performing, or treating any patients in the area of pain management. November 9, 2018

View the decision and the order on the Board's website

SHARRAR, KELLY ANDRE, M.D. (A 93376), Mariposa, CA

No admissions but charged with gross negligence, repeated negligent acts, and failure to maintain adequate and accurate medical records in the care and treatment of three patients and physician has a condition affecting his ability to practice medicine safely. Revoked, stayed, placed on five years' probation with terms and conditions including, but not limited to, maintaining a record of all controlled substances ordered, prescribed, dispensed, administered, or possessed and any recommendation or approval to possess or cultivate marijuana; completing a prescribing practices course, a medical record keeping course, an ethics course, a clinical competence assessment program, and a medical evaluation; and obtaining a practice monitor. November 9, 2018

[*View the decision and the order on the Board's website.*](#)

SIDDIQ, SIMIN, M.D. (A 38666), Fremont, CA

No admissions but charged with repeated negligent acts and failure to maintain adequate and accurate medical records in the care and treatment of one patient. Physician must complete a medical record keeping course and an education course on hypertension. Public Reprimand. November 16, 2018

[*View the decision and the order on the Board's website.*](#)

SILVERMAN, LAURANCE (A 43134), Tucson, AZ

Disciplined by Arizona for prescribing controlled substances to patients without an examination and allowing an unlicensed person to perform a liposuction procedure on patients. Revoked. December 7, 2018

[*View the decision and the order on the Board's website.*](#)

SMITH, BRYAN DAVID, M.D. (A 73728), Pullman, WA

No admissions but charged with repeated negligent acts and failure to maintain adequate and accurate medical records in the care and treatment of one patient. Public Reprimand. November 16, 2018

[*View the decision and the order on the Board's website.*](#)

SMITH, G. SCOTT, M.D. (G 42987), Orange, CA

No admissions but charged with repeated negligent acts and failure to maintain adequate and accurate medical records in the care and treatment of one patient. Physician has completed a prescribing practices course and a medical record keeping course. Public Reprimand. December 21, 2018

[*View the decision and the order on the Board's website.*](#)

STUBBLEFIELD, MATTHEW SINCLAIR, M.D. (G 72442), Palo Alto, CA

Committed acts of gross negligence, repeated negligence, prescribing without an appropriate prior medical examination or indication, and failure to maintain adequate and accurate medical records in the care and treatment of three patients, and excessive prescribing in the care and treatment of one patient. Revoked, stayed, placed on five years' probation with terms and conditions including, but not limited to, maintaining a record of all controlled substances ordered, prescribed, dispensed, administered, or possessed and any recommendation or approval to possess or cultivate marijuana; completing an education course, a prescribing practices course, a medical record keeping course, an ethics course, and a clinical competence assessment program; obtaining a practice monitor; and prohibited from engaging in the solo practice of medicine. November 19, 2018

[*View the decision and the order on the Board's website.*](#)

SYFU, JOSELITO LADAO, M.D. (C 51932), Fresno, CA

No admissions but charged with repeated negligent acts and failure to maintain adequate and accurate medical records in the care and treatment of one patient. Physician must complete an education course and a medical record keeping course. Public Reprimand. November 9, 2018

[*View the decision and the order on the Board's website.*](#)

TANTUWAYA, LOKESH SHANTANU, M.D. (G 79268), Escondido, CA

Public Letter of Reprimand issued pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 2233 for being disciplined by Arizona for failing to respond to the Board's investigation and failing to disclose three malpractice settlements. November 16, 2018

[*View the decision and the order on the Board's website.*](#)

TOLWIN, MICHAEL HIRSCH, M.D. (G 48816), Los Angeles, CA

No admissions but charged with gross negligence in the care and treatment of two patients, and repeated negligent acts and failure to maintain adequate and accurate medical records in the care and treatment of three patients. Revoked, stayed, placed on three years' probation with terms and conditions including, but not limited to, maintaining a record of all controlled substances ordered, prescribed, dispensed, administered, or possessed, and any recommendation or approval to possess or cultivate marijuana; completing a prescribing practices course and a medical record keeping course; and obtaining a practice monitor. December 14, 2018

[*View the decision and the order on the Board's website.*](#)

TORRES, ALEJANDRO CASTELLANOS (G 40390), Visalia, CA

No admissions but charged with having a condition affecting his ability to practice medicine safely. Surrender of License. November 5, 2018

[*View the decision and the order on the Board's website.*](#)

TOWNSEND, DAVID RAY, M.D. (G 75851), San Mateo, CA

No admissions but charged with gross negligence, repeated negligent acts, and failure to maintain adequate and accurate medical records in the care and treatment of three patients. Revoked, stayed, placed on three years' probation with terms and conditions including, but not limited to, completing an education course, a medical record keeping course, and a clinical competence assessment program; obtaining a practice monitor; and prohibited from engaging in the solo practice of medicine. January 18, 2019

View the decision and the order on the Board's website.

VAN VALIN, WILLIAM BARNHART, II, M.D. (A 56365), Buellton, CA

No admissions but charged with gross negligence, repeated negligent acts, and failure to maintain adequate and accurate medical records in the care and treatment of three patients, and repeatedly prescribed controlled substances to himself. Revoked, stayed, placed on four years' probation with terms and conditions including, but not limited to, maintaining a record of all controlled substances ordered, prescribed, dispensed, administered, or possessed and any recommendation or approval to possess or cultivate marijuana; abstaining from the use of controlled substances; submitting to biological fluid testing; completing an education course, a prescribing practices course, a medical record keeping course, and an ethics course; and undergoing a medical evaluation. November 29, 2018

View the decision and the order on the Board's website.

WARNER, CLARENCE EMANUEL, M.D. (G 62334), Sherman Oaks, CA

No admissions but charged with failing to comply with the terms of his Board-ordered probation by not paying the costs associated with a prior investigation and prosecution. Revoked, stayed, placed on one additional year of probation with terms and conditions including, but not limited to, complying with the terms and conditions in the previous disciplinary order and paying the costs associated with the costs of investigation in the previous case. November 9, 2018

View the decision and the order on the Board's website.

WILHITE, CHARLES EDWARD, M.D. (G 52675), Chico, CA

No admissions but charged with gross negligence in the care and treatment of two patients, and repeated negligent acts and failure to maintain adequate and accurate medical records in the care and treatment of three patients. Revoked, stayed, placed on four years' probation with terms and conditions including, but not limited to, maintaining a record of all controlled substances ordered, prescribed, dispensed, administered, or possessed and any recommendation or approval to possess or cultivate marijuana; completing a prescribing practices course, a medical record keeping course, and an ethics course; and obtaining a practice monitor. November 14, 2018

View the decision and the order on the Board's website.

WONG, FOOK YEN, M.D. (G 66621), San Jose, CA

No admissions but charged with gross negligence, repeated negligent acts, and incompetence in the care and treatment of one patient. Physician must complete an education course. Public Reprimand. November 16, 2018

[*View the decision and the order on the Board's website.*](#)

ZABREK, EDWARD MARTIN, M.D. (C 53009), El Centro, CA

No admissions but charged with gross negligence in the care and treatment of one patient, repeated negligent acts in the care and treatment of three patients, falsifying medical records and dishonesty in the care and treatment of one patient, and failure to maintain adequate and accurate medical records in the care and treatment of four patients. Revoked, stayed, placed on three years' probation with terms and conditions including, but not limited to, completing an education course, a medical record keeping course, and an ethics course; obtaining a practice monitor; and prohibited from engaging in the solo practice of medicine. November 30, 2018

[*View the decision and the order on the Board's website.*](#)

Polysomnographic Technicians

SCHNADARLE, TYLER ALLAN (PTCN 571), Madera, CA

No admissions but charged with resisting or delaying a peace officer. Surrender of Registration. January 9, 2019

[*View the decision and the order on the Board's website.*](#)

Physician Assistant

EANES, MARY FAY (PA 12590), Pismo Beach, CA

No admissions but charged with gross negligence, repeated negligent acts, failure to maintain adequate and accurate medical records, prescribing without an appropriate prior examination, prescribing controlled substances without advance approval by a supervising physician, providing services outside her competency, and failing to enter the name of her supervising physician on all written or oral patient records in the care and treatment of multiple patients. Surrender of License. January 29, 2019

[*View the decision and the order on the Board's website.*](#)

MEDINA, RONY E., P.A. (PA 15130), La Mirada, CA

No admissions but charged with gross negligence, repeated negligent acts, and failure to maintain adequate and accurate medical records in the care and treatment of one patient. Revoked, stayed, placed on two years' probation with terms and conditions including, but not limited to, completing a medical record keeping course and an education course, required to keep written medical records for each patient contact and make them available for immediate inspection by the board, and obtaining approval of a supervising physician. December 6, 2018

[*View the decision and the order on the Board's website.*](#)

PALFINI, TIRA RENE, P.A. (PA 22290), Folsom, CA

No admissions but charged with gross negligence, repeated negligent acts, and failure to maintain adequate and accurate medical records in the care and treatment of one patient, and failed to establish written guidelines for physician assistant supervision. Revoked, stayed, placed on three years' probation with terms and conditions including, but not limited to, maintaining a record of all controlled substances administered, transmitted orally or in writing on a patient's record or handed to a patient; completing a medical record keeping course, an ethics course, and a prescribing practices course; and obtaining approval of a supervising physician. December 6, 2018

[*View the decision and the order on the Board's website.*](#)

PATEL, MONALI B., P.A. (PA 56350), Long Beach, CA

No admissions but charged with being dishonest during her training program. Probationary license issued, placed on one year probation with terms and conditions including, but not limited to, completing an ethics course and providing 20 hours of free community service, and obtaining approval of a supervising physician. December 4, 2018

[*View the decision and the order on the Board's website.*](#)

RAPHAEL, DAN GERARDO, P.A. (PA 18785), Garden Grove, CA

Prescribed and administered a controlled substance to himself, committed acts of dishonesty, violated statutes regulating dangerous drugs, knowingly made or signed a document related to the practice of medicine which falsely represented the facts, and created a false medical record with fraudulent intent. Revoked, stayed, placed on seven years' probation with terms and conditions including, but not limited to, 30 day suspension; providing 40 hours of free community service; completing a medical record keeping course and an ethics course; undergoing a medical evaluation; having a supervising physician on site at least 50% of the time; undergoing a clinical diagnostic evaluation; abstaining from the use of alcohol and controlled substances; completing a drug and alcohol recovery monitoring program; submitting to biological fluid testing; attending facilitated group support meetings; obtaining a work site monitor; and obtaining approval of a supervising physician. January 11, 2019

[*View the decision and the order on the Board's website.*](#)

ROSE, LARRY MICHAEL (PA 11751), Monterey, CA

No admissions but charged with gross negligence and incompetence in the care and treatment of one patient, repeated negligent acts and failure to maintain adequate and accurate medical records in the care and treatment of six patients. Surrender of License. December 5, 2018

[*View the decision and the order on the Board's website.*](#)

VANDERBECK, KENNETH JASON, P.A. (PA 21190), San Diego, CA

No admissions but charged with general unprofessional conduct for inappropriate communications with a patient. Physician Assistant must complete an ethics course and a professional boundaries program, and pay cost recovery. Public Reprimand. November 16, 2018

[*View the decision and the order on the Board's website.*](#)

Podiatric Medicine

EBAUGH, JOHN EDWARD (E 4495), Indio, CA

Unable to satisfy the terms and conditions of his Board-ordered probation. Surrender of License. January 17, 2019

[*View the decision and the order on the Board's website.*](#)

LIU, JAZMIN, S., DPM (E 4931), Tustin, CA

No admissions but charged with repeated negligent acts and incompetence in the care and treatment of two patients, and gross negligence in the care and treatment of one patient. Must complete an education course and a clinical training program, and pay cost recovery. Public Reprimand. December 27, 2018

[*View the decision and the order on the Board's website.*](#)

PACADA, MARIO ANTONYO (E 4163), Long Beach, CA

No admissions but charged with gross negligence, repeated negligent acts, excessive prescribing, and failure to maintain adequate and accurate medical records in the care and treatment of multiple patients; practicing without a valid license and outside the scope of podiatric medicine; prescribing without a valid DEA license; and acts of dishonesty. Surrender of License. January 25, 2019

[*View the decision and the order on the Board's website.*](#)

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Department of Consumer Affairs, Medical Board of California, 2005 Evergreen Street, Suite 1200, Sacramento, CA 95815-5401

Headline: MBC Meetings

August 8-9, 2019, San Francisco Area

November 7-8, 2019, Southern California Area

All meetings of the Medical Board of California are open to the public. To the extent possible, meetings will be webcast and offered via teleconference. To watch the meetings streamed live and/or to find the telephone number to phone in a question, Visit the Board's website.

Headline: Contact Us

Headline: Medical Board of California

For questions or assistance with the following: Consumer Complaints/Information, Applications, Health Facility Discipline Reports, Fictitious Name Permits, License Renewals, or BreZE Assistance: (800)633-2322 or (916) 263-2382.

For questions or assistance with the following: Continuing Education, (916) 263-2645. Expert Reviewer Program, (818) 551 -2129. Publications/Outreach, (916) 263-2466. Affiliated Arts Professions. Midwives – all inquiries (916-263-2393. Physician Assistants (916) 561-8780. Department of Consumer Affairs. Healings Arts Board and Bureau Complaints (800) 952-5210.

Headline: Officers

Visit Board President Denise Pines' web profile

Visit Board Vice President Ronald H. Lewis', M.D., web profile

Visit Board Secretary Michelle Anne Bholat's, M.D., web profile

Headline: Members

Visit Susan F. Friedman's web profile

Visit Dev GnanaDev's, M.D., web profile

Visit Randy W. Hawkins', M.D., web profile

Visit Howard R. Krauss', M.D., web profile

Visit Kristina D. Lawson's, J.D., web profile

Visit Laurie Rose Lubiano, J.D., web profile

Visit Brenda Sutton-Wills J.D., web profile

Visit David Warmoth's web profile

Visit Jamie Wright's, J.D., web profile

Visit Felix Yip's, M.D., web profile

Business and Professions Code sections 2021(b) and (c) require physicians to inform the Medical Board in writing of any name or address change. Go to the Board's Address of Record webpage.

Medical Board of California, Executive Director – Kimberly Kirchmeyer
Spring 2019 – Medical Board of California News – Susan Wolbarst, Editor
(916) 263-2480
Contact us by email at webmaster@mbc.ca.gov