

North Carolina Medical Board

Quarterly Board Actions Report | August 2016 - October 2016

The Board actions listed below are published in an abbreviated format. The report does not include non-prejudicial actions such as reentry agreements and non-disciplinary consent orders. A complete listing of recent Board actions is available at www.ncmedboard.org/BoardActions.

Name/license #/location	Date of action	Cause of action	Board action
ANNULMENTS			
NONE			
SUMMARY SUSPENSIONS			
HAMEL, John David, MD (009300141) Nebo, NC	10/10/2016	MD violated his August 2014 consent order by performing certain surgical procedures prohibited by the order; MD performed cosmetic surgery in a manner that does not meet current accepted standards and that resulted in patient harm and subjected patients to unnecessary risk; MD falsified medical records to conceal that he was performing procedures prohibited by his consent order; and finally, MD has a history of alcohol abuse and was recently arrested for DWI.	Summary suspension of NC medical license.
REVOICATIONS			
WILSON, Wayne Vincent, MD (000033444) Hickory, NC	09/13/2016	MD was convicted of two counts of felony health care fraud in United States of America vs. Wayne Vincent Wilson, M.D., case number 5-15cr57.	Entry of Revocation
SUSPENSIONS			
CLARKE, Michael Thomas, MD (200700737) Dewitt, NY	08/04/2016	Action based on another jurisdiction's disciplinary action; While practicing in New York, MD made comments of a sexual nature to operating room staff and hospital staff; MD is also alleged to have physically struck patients on the hip area prior to operating, for the purposing of determining that they were fully under anesthesia, in a manner not consistent with standards of care.	MD's license is suspended for three years, immediately stayed; \$3,000 fine. MD must comply with the terms of his New York order. MD is placed on probation, to run concurrent with the terms of his New York order.
HERNANDEZ, Mario Augusto, MD (201000567) Charlotte, NC	09/02/2016	Allegations of professional sexual misconduct; MD was arrested and charged in December 2015 with three counts of 2nd degree sexual offense.	Indefinite suspension of NC medical license
KPEGLO, Maurice Kobla, MD (000029314) Greensboro, NC	10/13/2016	Quality of care; inappropriate prescribing of controlled substances for the treatment of pain. In addition, MD was convicted of DWI on February 21, 2016. MD was previously convicted of DWI in 1992 and has a prior diagnosis of alcohol use disorder.	Indefinite suspension of NC medical license
LASSITER, Paulette Denise, MD (200001401) Derby, KS	10/19/2016	MD engaged in a romantic relationship with a patient she treated for alcoholism, depression and anxiety. This is a violation of professional boundaries and of the ethics of the psychiatric profession.	Indefinite suspension of NC medical license
WELLS, Wendell D'Alton, MD (000026479) Rockingham, NC	09/26/2016	MD inappropriately prescribed controlled substances to a patient with whom MD was engaged in an inappropriate relationship with. This relationship included personal texts with the patient and touching not related to any medical treatment.	Indefinite suspension of NC medical license
PROBATION/CONDITIONS			
MCQUEEN, (Jr.), Fred Douglas, MD (000019375) Hamlet, NC	09/21/2016	History of substance use/abuse.	MD must maintain NCPHP contract and abide by all terms.
ZELLER, Kathleen Elizabeth, MD (200700068) High Point, NC	09/08/2016	History of alcohol abuse; MD has completed both inpatient and intensive outpatient treatment and is under a monitoring contract with NCPHP.	MD must maintain contract with NCPHP and abide by all terms.

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REPRIMANDS			
FUENTES, Edwin Laserna, DO (009701749) Danville, VA	10/02/2016	Action taken by another state medical board; An audit of DO's billing practices conducted by the Virginia board found that 68 percent of DO's billing was inappropriate or excessive.	Reprimand
HUSSEIN, Diaa Eldin, MD (200000467) Morganton, NC	08/16/2016	A patient complained to the Board that MD touched her inappropriately during an examination, made inappropriate comments regarding her appearance and offered her his personal cell phone number. MD states that it is his normal practice to provide patients with his personal cell phone number. MD denies that he touched the patient inappropriately and states that he did not make inappropriate comments. MD acknowledges that he may have done or said things during the course of the examination that the patient perceived to be inappropriate.	Reprimand; MD must use a female chaperone who has read this Board order, be present any time MD is in an examination room with a female patient.
STONECIPHER, Karl Gene, MD (000034914) Greensboro, NC	09/19/2016	MD prescribed controlled and non-controlled drugs to family members and to a co-worker without performing or documenting an appropriate medical examination. Administrative rules specifically prohibit the prescribing of controlled substances to family members.	Reprimand
DENIALS OF LICENSE/APPROVAL			
NONE			
SURRENDERS			
BECERRA, Gonzalo Daniel, MD (201101599) Goldsboro, NC	08/02/2016		Voluntary Surrender of License
MITCHELL, James Alistair, MD (200400921) Stillwater, OK	09/08/2016		Voluntary Surrender of License
PUBLIC LETTERS OF CONCERN			
BULLARD, Dennis Eugene, MD (000026088) Raleigh, NC	10/17/2016	The Board is concerned that MD's care of a patient who underwent decompression surgery with placement of an interbody cage for treatment of symptomatic spondylolisthesis may have been below accepted standards.	Public letter of concern
CRAWFORD, (Jr), Clifford Addison, MD (201001488) Duluth, GA	08/10/2016	Action taken by Georgia medical board; The Board is concerned that MD's license was suspended by the Georgia board for defaulting on his federal student loans; MD's Georgia license was reinstated after MD showed evidence that he had entered into a repayment plan.	Public letter of concern
COOK, John Edmund, MD (000026647) Dakota Dunes, SD	10/21/2016	MD entered into a public agreement with another state medical regulatory board; While practicing in Nebraska, MD allowed medical radiographers to administer Propofol intravenously for sedation purposes. MD agreed not to do this.	Public letter of concern
HAGA, Edward Wayne, MD (201602223) Jacksonville, NC	10/11/2016	The Virginia medical board took action against MD due to the fact that MD engaged in a sexual relationship with a patient in 2004.	MD is issued a NC medical license, with a Public Letter of Concern.
HEIMBINDER, David Allan, MD (201601792) Shelton, CT	08/01/2016	Action taken by Connecticut medical board, based on wrong-side application of nerve block anesthetic.	Public letter of concern
LYNCH, Christopher Robert, MD (201601803) Tulsa, OK	08/03/2016	The Board is concerned about MD's history of substance use, which it learned of due to a board order issued by the Oklahoma medical board. MD has entered a monitoring contract with NCPHP and is obliged to abide by all terms.	Public Letter of Concern
MANDHARE, Vijaysinha Ashok, MD (200800275) Raleigh, NC	08/15/2016	MD performed epidural injections on a family member with chronic pain caused by severe spinal stenosis. The fifth procedure performed resulted in complications that necessitated a hospitalization for the family member.	Public letter of concern; MD is urged to read the Board's position statement on Self Treatment and Treatment of Family Members.

BOARD ACTIONS

Name/license #/location	Date of action	Cause of action	Board action
MCNEEL, Don Frederick, MD (009800634) Greenville, SC	08/19/2016	The Board is concerned that MD prescribed antibiotics to a five year old child who developed ear pain following seven days of head congestion after a telephone consultation. An expert reviewer opined that it is not consistent with standards of care to prescribe antibiotics to every patient with ear pain and cold symptoms.	Public letter of concern
MILLER, Bruce Loring, PA (001004644)	09/08/2016	PA prescribed a variety of medications, including controlled substances, to his fiancée, using prescription blanks from a former employer's practice in NY but written on the authority of his NC license.	Reprimand
MORSE, Eric Dalton, MD (009901445) Raleigh, NC	09/22/2016	MD prescribed Suboxone to a patient after the patient moved out of state, with only sporadic face-to-face interaction with the patient. The Board is concerned that this is not consistent with current standards of care.	Public Letter of Concern; Within 30 days of the date of this letter, MD must arrange to attend 10 hours of CME in Suboxone prescribing.
OGUNNIYI, Sola Egberanmwun, MD (001003067) Knightdale, NC	08/31/2016	The Board is concerned that MD permitted his brother, who is not a licensed health care professional, to perform range of motion measurements on a female patient that involved placing hands on the patient. The examination was unchaperoned. MD acknowledged to a Board investigator that he permitted his brother to perform these examinations on other patients as well.	Public letter of concern
OKWARA, Benedict Onwukwe, MD (000033878) Monroe, NC	09/07/2016	Quality of care; MD ordered a thyroid function test for a patient and then neglected to make the patient aware that the results were consistent with hyperthyroidism. The patient was subsequently seen by another physician and diagnosed with a grossly enlarged thyroid.	Public Letters of Concern; MD must complete a comprehensive personal assessment in Internal Medicine within six months of the date of this order and complete all recommendations for remediations within one year of the date of the order.
RIZVI, Syed Asif Raza, MD (009401482) Fayetteville, NC	08/22/2016	The Board is concerned that MD prescribed growth hormone at a level that was too high for a pediatric patient and in a manner not consistent with accepted standards of care.	Public Letter of Concern
SUHR, Christopher, MD (000036128) Jacksonville, NC	10/28/2016	The Board is concerned about the circumstances involving an operating room fire resulting in burn injury to the patient. In preparation for removal of a lipoma on the patient's posterior neck, the surgery area and the hairline were treated with an alcohol based antibacterial solution. During the procedure, which was performed using open oxygen under monitored anesthesia care, strands of patient's hair covered with solution residue were ignited from electrocautery. The cause of the fire was multifactorial; however, the Board believes that the surgeon is ultimately responsible for the patient's safety during an operation. The Board believes that MD responded appropriately to the intraoperative emergency and notes that MD sustained second degree burns to his hands trying to extinguish the flames. The Board also acknowledges that the operating team's rapid response minimized the harm to the patient. The Board also acknowledges that MD has since implemented appropriate risk reduction procedures to reduce the risk of future operating room fires.	Public Letter of Concern; \$1,000 administrative fine
MISCELLANEOUS ACTIONS			
NONE			
CONSENT ORDERS AMENDED			
NONE			
TEMPORARY/DATED LICENSES: ISSUED, EXTENDED, EXPIRED, OR REPLACED			
NONE			



Glossary of Terms

Annulment: Retrospective and prospective cancellation of the practitioner's authorization to practice.

Conditions: Actions or requirements a licensee must complete and/or comply with as a condition of licensure.

Consent Order: An order of the Board that states the terms of a negotiated settlement to an enforcement case; A method for resolving a dispute without a formal hearing.

Denial: Decision denying an application for licensure, reinstatement, or reconsideration of a Board action.

Dismissal: Board action dismissing a contested case.

Inactive Medical License: Licenses must be renewed annually in NC. The Board may negotiate a provider's agreement to go inactive as part of the resolution of a disciplinary case.

Public Letter of Concern (PubLOC): A public record expressing the Board's concern about a practitioner's behavior or performance. A public letter of concern is not considered disciplinary in nature; similar to a warning.

Revocation: Cancellation of authorization to practice. Authorization may not be reissued for at least two years.

Stay: Full or partial stopping or halting of a legal action, such as suspension, on certain stipulated grounds.

Summary Suspension: Immediate cancellation of authorization to practice; Ordered when the Board finds the public health, safety, or welfare requires emergency action.

Suspension: Withdrawal of authorization to practice, either indefinitely or for a stipulated period of time.

Temporary/Dated License: A License to practice for a specific period of time. Often accompanied by conditions contained in a Consent Order.

Voluntary Surrender: The practitioner's relinquishing of authorization to practice pending or during an investigation. Surrender does not preclude the Board bringing charges against the practitioner.

Limitation: A restriction placed on a licensee's practice. When practicing under a restriction, it is not lawful for the licensee to engage in the prohibited activity. Example: Dr. Smith is restricted from prescribing Schedule II and III medications.