

North Carolina Medical Board

Adverse Actions Report | May - July 2011

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. Recent Board actions are also available at www.ncmedboard.org. Go to "Professional Resources" to view current disciplinary data or to sign up to receive notification when new actions are posted via the RSS Feed subscription service.

Name/license#/location	Date of action	Cause of action	Board action
ANNULMENTS			
[NONE]			
SUMMARY SUSPENSIONS			
[NONE]			
REVOCATIONS			
STOWELL, Steven Douglas, MD (009701607) Cranberry Township, PA	06/16/2011	MD was convicted of a felony: Commonwealth of Pennsylvania v. Steven Douglas Stowell, M.D., case number, CR-181-08	Entry of revocation
SUSPENSIONS			
ALEXANDER, Joe McKnitt, MD (000033605) Fayetteville, NC	05/26/2011	MD inappropriately authorized more than 100 prescriptions for patients who, in most circumstances, he had not met or examined. MD wrote the prescriptions as part of an agreement to help another MD, whose license had been indefinitely suspended due to inappropriate prescribing, continue to see patients	MD's medical license is indefinitely suspended, effective 06/30/2011
GILLIAM, Linda Harris, MD (200300982) Jonesboro, AR	05/03/2011	History of narcotic abuse; MD improperly prescribed controlled substances to patients. AK medical board summarily suspended MD's license and later stayed a revocation on conditions	Indefinite suspension of NC medical license
GREIMEL, Deborah White, MD (009701378) Greenville, NC	07/28/2011	History of substance abuse/dependence; MD acknowledged in 02/2011 that she relapsed and used a substance prohibited by her NCPHP contract	Indefinite suspension of NC medical license
HEATH, Jerry Anderson, PA (000100336) Hays, NC	06/16/2011	Care provided to five patients whose records were reviewed by the Board was substandard; PA committed a boundary violation with a patient he was treating for behavioral health issues	Indefinite suspension of NC physician assistant license
LONG, Scott David, PA (00103319) Madison, NC	05/06/2011	PA obtained controlled substances for personal use by writing prescriptions in the names of others and diverting the medications for himself	Indefinite suspension of NC physician assistant license
WISE, Daniel Edwin, MD (000017813) Charlotte, NC	07/28/2011	MD inappropriately prescribed controlled substances to his NP whom he supervised and engaged in an intimate personal relationship with. When questioned by the Board about his relationship with the NP, MD provided false information. MD entered into a consent order in 4/2010, wherein he was reprimanded for prescribing inappropriately. MD's deception prevented the Board from fully evaluating his conduct	Via consent order, MD's license is suspended for 30 days beginning August 1, 2011. He is fined \$10,000
PROBATIONS			
[NONE]			
REPRIMANDS			
ANDERSON, Alton Ray, MD (000024334) Wilson, NC	06/27/2011	Deficiencies in record keeping, prescribing and quality of care, based on a review of six patient medical charts	Via consent order, MD is reprimanded. Must complete CME and obtain a practice monitor approved by the Board to complete chart review on 75% of patient charts
BARBER, James Bernard, MD (000036626) Durham, NC	05/04/2011	MD prescribed controlled substances to at least four patients for a variety of reasons; in some instances, care was below accepted and prevailing standards	Via consent order, MD is reprimanded. License is limited/restricted to performing disability determinations for the NC Disability Determination Services

DISCIPLINARY REPORT

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BONNER, Steven Paul, MD (00028004) Charlotte, NC	06/03/2011	The Board reviewed medical records of four patients treated by MD for a variety of complaints,. An independent expert reviewer found that MD's prescribing and other aspects of care fell below accepted and prevailing standards.	Via consent order, MD is reprimanded. License is limited/restricted. May not prescribe controlled substances in Schedules II/III. Must complete CME
CALDWELL, Chad Dewey, MD (200100652) Oxford, NC	07/07/2011	MD was unavailable to perform a corrective surgery in a patient who suffered complications following laparotomy with resection of a portion of the small bowel and lysis of adhesions. A lawsuit filed against MD alleged his unavailability led to a delay in performing the second surgery, resulting in prolonged recovery	Via consent order, MD is reprimanded.
<u>DENIALS OF LICENSE/APPROVAL</u>			
FREEMAN, William James, MD (NA) Tullahoma, TN	07/07/2011		Application for NC medical license denied
GUALTEROS, Oscar Mauricio, MD (009900236) Southern Pines, NC	05/19/2011	Prior history of inappropriate contact with patients; Prior NCMB disciplinary history	Application for reinstatement of NC medical license denied
PARIKH, Himanshu Pravinchandra, MD (009600671) Cary, NC	06/03/2011	Board reviewed allegations that MD asked patients to bring pill bottles to his office after filling prescriptions for opioid medications, then diverted the drugs. Ordered to NCPHP for an assessment, and asked to provide a urine sample. It was later determined that the sample provided was likely water. MD denied substituting water. A valid urine and hair sample tested positive for oxycodone. MD was not being prescribed oxycodone and denied taking the drug. Later admitted to inappropriately taking oxycodone	Application for reinstatement of NC medical license denied
SINTHUSEK, Hatai Jan, MD (NA) Tucson, AZ	06/03/2011	Between 08/06 and 09/09, MD worked and practiced medicine without a NC medical license at a medical practice in Winston-Salem owned by a relative. MD also failed to disclose that he was placed on academic probation during medical school in 1996	Denial of application for NC medical license
<u>SURRENDERS</u>			
HART, Darlington Ibifubara, MD (009800560) Charlotte, NC	06/01/2011		Voluntary surrender of NC medical license
JAMES, James Franklin, MD (000015359) Greenville, NC	07/19/2011		Voluntary surrender of NC medical license
JOHNSON, Janet, MD (000034366) Raleigh, NC	05/12/2011		Voluntary surrender of NC medical license
MCDONALD, Janice Adelaide, MD (200101474) Elizabeth City, NC	06/21/2011		Voluntary surrender of NC medical license
RUSSELL, Anthony Otis, MD (000035491) Elkin, NC	06/22/2011		Voluntary surrender of NC medical license
<u>PUBLIC LETTER OF CONCERN</u>			
ALTER, Lauren Jill, MD (200901875) Hamlet, NC	05/25/2011	The Board is concerned that MD issued numerous prescriptions to herself, and without appropriate documentation, from 2006 to 2010. On two occasions, MD wrote prescriptions for personal use in someone else's name	Public letter of concern
COOMBE, Courtney Fickle, NP (5004130) Mooresville, NC	06/28/2011	While involved in an improper relationship with her supervising physician, NP received prescriptions from him that were called into the pharmacy under the names of other physicians with whom NP did not have a physician-patient relationship	Public letter of concern; must complete NC Board of Nursing CME in ethical and legal decision making.
DUBIK, Michael Carlyle, MD (000029984) Norfolk, VA	07/07/2011	The Board is concerned that, according to a consent order dated 08/19/10 with the Virginia Board of Medicine, MD wrote four prescriptions for a total of 360 dosage units of Mirapex in the name of a family member, which he then diverted for personal use	Public letter of concern
FINK, Gary Lee, MD (000028409) Faith, NC	07/19/2011	MD prescribed controlled substances to friends and family. In one instance, MD called in prescriptions and personally picked up the medication and delivered it to the patient	Public letter of concern. MD is required to attend a Category 1 CME course on maintaining proper boundaries with patients

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GYARTENG-DAKWA, Kwadwo, MD (200500050) Durham, NC	06/01/2011	MD's care of a patient with a history of chronic pain due to fibromyalgia/reflex sympathetic dystrophy was below accepted standards. The patient died of methadone toxicity two days after MD prescribed 30 mg of methadone three times a day. The patient's most recent prescription was 20 mg of methadone once a day	Public letter of concern
HALL, Gregory Bruno, MD (009600335) Mooresville, NC	07/22/2011	MD performed an elective laparoscopic Nissen fundoplication on a patient, during which the patient suffered a bile duct injury that led to complications and rehospitalization. MD performed an elective incisional herniorrhaphy in a patient who developed post-operative infection. MD failed to properly identify the etiology of the post-operative infection and this caused the patient to experience recurrent infection and rehospitalization	Non-disciplinary consent order to serve as a public letter of concern
HAYNES, Gregory Delano, MD (200800455) Lenoir, NC	05/02/2011	On two separate occasions, MD's attempts to perform screening colonoscopies resulted in patients suffering bowel perforations	Public letter of concern; MD required to obtain appropriate CME
HENDRICKS, Jonathan Cleon, PA-C (001002871) Fort Myers, FL	07/18/2011	While practicing in Florida, PA made an incision for the insertion of a chest tube on the incorrect side. The Florida Department of Health issued a Letter of Concern, \$8,000 fine, required PA to pay \$2,664 in administrative costs, ordered him to complete 70 hours of community service, five hours of continuing education and present a one hour lecture/seminar on wrong site surgeries	Public letter of concern
KERNER, Paul Jason, MD (200800627) Durham, NC	07/14/2011	MD performed an ankle stabilization procedure on the left ankle of a patient when he was, in fact, to perform the operation on the patient's right ankle. The right ankle was identified and marked; however, the wrong leg was subsequently draped, resulting in the wrong-side surgery	Public letter of concern
LOCKLEAR, Kenneth Edward, MD (000024605) Red Springs, NC	05/26/2011	MD's care of a patient with recurrent bilateral lower extremity cellulitis and secondary lethargy, bilateral basilar infiltrates, acute or chronic renal failure, anemia, narcolepsy and obstructive sleep apnea and thrombocytopenia was below accepted standards of care	Public letter of concern
MALLETTE, Julius Quintin, MD (000028261) Kinston, NC	05/06/2011	MD's recognition of a deteriorating fetal heart rate pattern was delayed during the course of his management of a patient's labor	Public letter of concern; MD must complete 10 hours of CME in interpretation of fetal monitoring
PONTZER, John Tucker Hayward, MD (200000936) North Wilkesboro	07/06/2011	Regarding MD's management of a patient who was ultimately diagnosed with Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever. The Board is concerned that a different interpretation of laboratory results and patient symptoms by MD may have led to a more timely diagnosis and treatment of progressive illness. The patient died 11 days after initially presenting in 06/08	Public letter of concern
SLAWEK, David Francis, MD (000017902) Hendersonville, NC	05/06/2011	The Board is concerned that MD accessed private and protected health information without a legitimate medical purpose; it is further concerned that MD prescribed a controlled substance to a patient's mother without an examination or medical records	Public letter of concern
TAMBAKIS-ODOM, C. Roseann, MD (200201414) Wilmington, NC	06/01/2011	MD aided and abetted the unlicensed practice of medicine through her involvement with two tattoo parlors that perform laser tattoo removal and are not owned by licensees of the Board. The Board considers laser tattoo removal to be the practice of medicine and medical practices in NC must be owned by licensees of the Board	Public letter of concern
WATTS, Lawrence James, MD (009701194) Clinton, NC	07/06/2011	Over an 18-month period, MD prescribed, treated and ordered tests for family for a variety of health conditions that were neither minor nor emergencies	Public letter of concern

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MISCELLANEOUS ACTIONS			
VANPALA, Henry Joseph, MD (000028586) Greenville, NC	05/25/2011	MD pleaded guilty to illegally prescribing controlled substances in 1986; Also in 1986, MD pleaded guilty to larceny and conspiracy for his involvement in a stolen car ring. MD surrendered his NC medical license in January 1986. He has been evaluated by CPEP and has addressed and completed all issues identified. MD has passed certification exam of the American Board of Internal Medicine	Via consent order, MD is issued a resident training license for the purpose of completing a 12-month mini-residency at East Carolina University, Department of Internal Medicine; the Board is under no obligation to approve a full license
REZAI, Reza, MD (200701238) Jamestown, NC	03/25/2011	History of substance abuse.	MD is issued an NC medical license via consent order; must maintain contract with NCPHP and comply with conditions.
CONSENT ORDERS AMENDED			
<i>[NONE]</i>			
TEMPORARY/DATED LICENSES: ISSUED, EXTENDED, EXPIRED, OR REPLACED BY FULL LICENSES			
ADKINS, Paula Clark, MD (009900745) Pinehurst, NC	05/19/2011	History of addiction to hydrocodone; MD has successfully completed treatment and is in compliance with NCPHP contract	Temporary physician license extended; expires 09/30/2011
BOOK, Roy Dewayne, MD (009701700) Greensboro, NC	05/19/2011	History of alcohol abuse; MD has completed inpatient treatment and is in compliance with NCPHP contract	Via consent order, MD is issued a temporary medical license to expire 11/21/2011; he must complete a program of reentry under the mentorship of a preceptor approved by the NCMB
BOOK, Roy Dewayne, MD (009701700) Greensboro, NC	07/21/2011	History of alcohol abuse; MD has completed inpatient treatment and is in compliance with NCPHP contract	Temporary license extended; Expires January 31, 2012
CALDWELL, Chad Cameron, PA-C (200103163) Winston-Salem, NC	06/07/2011	History of alcohol dependence; PA is compliant with NCPHP contract	Via consent order, PA is issued a temporary license to expire October 7, 2011; Must maintain a contract with NCPHP
GUARINO, Clinton Toms Andrew, MD (009900062) Hickory, NC	05/20/2011	History of alcohol/substance abuse	Temporary physician license extended; expires 11/30/2011
JAMES, James Franklin, MD (000015359) Greenville, NC	05/19/2011	History of diverting benzodiazepines and sleep medications prescribed for family members and patients; MD has completed appropriate treatment and is in compliance with NCPHP contract	Temporary physician license extended; expires 11/30/2011
LAND, Phillip Barton, PA (000102750) Winston-Salem, NC	05/19/2011	History of opiate dependence; prior arrest for 'going armed in the terror of the public'; PA must maintain NCPHP contract	Temporary physician assistant license replaced with full license
NOWLAN, Ashley Elizabeth, PA (001001770) High Point, NC	05/19/2011	History of chemical dependence; PA has completed treatment and is compliant with NCPHP contract	Temporary physician assistant license extended; expires 11/30/2011
SESSOMS, Rodney Kevin, MD (000033927) Clinton, NC	07/21/2011	MD has addressed multiple areas of concern	Temporary physician license replaced with full license
STROTHER, Eric Furman, MD (009901620) Durham, NC	05/19/2011	History of chemical dependence; MD is in recovery and is in compliance with NCPHP contract	Temporary physician license replaced with full license
SHUMWAY, David Lucius, MD (000021310) Knoxville, TN	07/21/2011	History of alcohol abuse	Temporary license extended; Expires July 31, 2012
WILKINSON, Heather Lee, DO (200400777) Charlotte, NC	05/02/2011	History of narcotic dependence	Dated physician license issued; expires 11/02/2011
COURT APPEALS/STAYS			
<i>[NONE]</i>			
DISMISSALS			
<i>[NONE]</i>			