

ACTION REPORT

BOARD OF MEDICAL QUALITY ASSURANCE

No. 3 March 1977

A report on Board Activities Prepared as an Information Service for Licensees and Health Facilities.

BOARD OPENS NEW REGIONAL OFFICES

The Division of Medical Quality of the Board of Medical Quality Assurance has opened its four new regional offices. These will be staffed by supervising investigators, investigators, medical consultants, stenographers, and consumer service representatives who will handle complaints relating to physicians and surgeons.

The four BMQA offices are located at the following addresses:

1. Los Angeles Regional Office
Airport Office Building
8939 So. Sepulveda Blvd., Suite 520
Los Angeles, CA. 90045
Telephone: (213) 641-8110
(Service area: Los Angeles, Santa Barbara and Ventura Counties.)
2. Santa Ana Regional Office
343 Brookhollow Drive
Santa Ana, CA. 92705
Telephone: (714) 558-4452
(Service area: Orange, San Diego, Imperial, Riverside, San Bernardino, Inyo and Mono Counties.)
3. Bay Area Regional Office
155 Bovet Road, Suite 660
San Mateo, CA. 94402
Telephone: (415) 574-8363
(Service area: Sonoma, Napa, Solano, Marin, Contra Costa, Alameda, San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, San Benito, Monterey, and San Luis Obispo Counties.)
4. Sacramento Regional Office
1430 Howe Avenue
Sacramento, CA. 95825
Telephone: (916) 322-5087
(Service area: Del Norte, Siskiyou, Modoc, Humboldt, Trinity, Shasta, Lassen, Tehama, Plumas, Butte, Glenn, Mendocino, Lake, Colusa, Sierra, Nevada, Placer, El Dorado, Yuba, Sutter, Sacramento, Yolo, Amador, Alpine, Calaveras, Tuolumne, Stanislaus, San Joaquin, Merced, Mariposa, Madera, Fresno, Kings, Tulare and Kern Counties.)

Allied Health Professions complaints will be channeled statewide into the Sacramento Office. All complaints referable to psychologists, hearing aid dispensers, speech pathology, physician assistants, podiatry, acupuncture, registered dispensing opticians, and physical therapists should be directed to:

Consumer Service Representative for
Allied Health Professions
1430 Howe Avenue
Sacramento, CA. 95825
Telephone: (916) 322-5817

SUMMARY OF DISCIPLINARY ACTIVITY

	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976
Accusations pending as of January 1 of each year	70	94	75	150	137	146
Accusations Filed	82	71	70	91	123	207
Licenses Revoked	14	20	15	18	28	28
Licenses Revoked, Stayed, Probation	21	40	45	47	60	51
Licenses Suspended, Stayed, Probation.....	4	9	3	7	10	13
Dismissed.....	7	8	12	6	25	13
Investigations Opened.....	1007	1373	1392	1455	1932	2006
Investigations Closed	1106	1129	1134	1125	1715	2181
Investigations pending as of December 31 of each year	600	800	1512	1726	1682	1521

DISCIPLINARY ACTION REPORT

10/1/76-12/30/76

Bell, Joseph Huxley, II, M.D., National City
2361, 2361 (d), 2361 (e), 2372 B & P Code
Gross immorality and the commission of
acts involving moral turpitude. Sexual ad-
vances to patients while rendering profes-
sional services in physician's office.
Probation revoked and license revoked.
October 22, 1976

Cameron, Robert Edwin, M.D., Kentfield
2361 (a), 2416 B & P Code
Mental illness
Revoked, stayed 1 year, suspension with
terms and conditions, upon compliance, 5
years probation with terms and condi-
tions.
October 22, 1976

Cooper, Irving, M.D., Corning
2360, 2361 (e), 490 B & P Code
Conviction of a crime related to the
qualifications, functions and duties of a li-
censed physician and surgeon. Income tax
evasion.
Six month suspension, stayed, 3 years pro-
bation with terms and conditions.
October 22, 1976

Emery, Clyde, M.D., Los Angeles
2360, 2378.5, 2361 (b), 2393, 2372 B & P
Code
Violation of Health and Safety Code by
using unapproved drug, gross negligence.
Revoked.
December 27, 1976

Gray, Richard, M.D., Berkeley
2360, 2361, 2391.5, 4390, 2390 B & P Code
Self-administration of drugs.
Revoked, stayed, 10 years probation with
terms and conditions.
October 22, 1976

Habenicht, James C., M.D., Oakdale
2360, 2417 B & P Code
Mental illness.
Revoked, stayed, 10 years probation with
terms and conditions.
December 27, 1976

Rice, Frances M., M.D., Bakersfield
2390, 2391.5, 2411, 2461 (a), B & P Code
Self-administration of drugs, false pre-
scriptions.
Revoked, stayed, 10 years probation with
terms and conditions.
December 15, 1976

Richardson, John A., M.D., Albany
2361, 2372, 2361 (a), 2378.5, 2392, 2361 (e),
2361 (b), 2391.5 B & P Code
Aiding or abetting unlicensed practice,
prescribing dangerous drugs without
good faith prior medical examination. Vi-
olation of California Health and Safety
Code involving possession of misbranded
and adulterated drug, receipt or delivery
of adulterated drugs or commerce. Lae-
triles for treatment of cancer, unlawful
sale of drugs for alleviation of cancer.
Gross negligence and incompetence.
Revoked.
November 29, 1976

Sachs, David, M.D., Malibu
2361, 2390, 2391.5 B & P Code
Self-administration of drugs, false pre-
scriptions.
Revoked.
October 22, 1976

Testa, Filmore, M.D., Los Angeles
2361, 2399.5, 4211 (a) (c) (k) B & P Code
Gross immorality and moral turpitude.
Sexual advances to patients while render-
ing professional services in physician's of-
fice. Prescribing drugs without a good
faith prior medical examination.
Revoked.
November 12, 1976

Thompson, Ben, M.D., Riverside
2361 (b), 2373 B & P Code
Gross negligence and incompetence.
Practicing medicine while license was
suspended.
Probation revoked. License revoked.
November 30, 1976

Correction on previous Action Report Disci-
plinary Action concerning Dunn, Frank,
M.D., should read:
Stay order granted October 20, 1976
pending a hearing on February 16, 1977.

For additional information about matters that are public record such as accusations, decisions, disciplinary actions, and stipulations, contact the BOARD OF MEDICAL QUALITY ASSURANCE, 1430 Howe Avenue, Sacramento, California 95825.

MEETING DATES

Scheduled meeting dates for the Board and its Divisions are open to the public and are set forth below:

Date	Time	Location	Board and/or Division	
Apr.	14	7:00 PM	1020 N St., Sacramento, Room 601	Div. Med. Qual.
	15	9:00 AM	1020 N St., Sacramento, 102, 601, 602	All Divisions
	16	9:00 AM	1020 N St., Sacramento, 102	Board
May	12	7:00 PM	Fresno	Div. Med. Qual.
	13	9:00 AM	Fresno	All Divisions
	14	9:00 AM	Fresno	Board
June	9	7:00 PM	107 So. Broadway, L.A., Room 1012	Div. Med. Qual.
	10	9:00 AM	107 So. Broadway, L.A., Aud., 1012, 1070	All Divisions
	11	9:00 AM	107 So. Broadway, L.A., Auditorium	Board

RESIGNATION OF BOARD IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

Sherwin L. Memel, a Los Angeles attorney, the first non-physician President of the Medical Board, resigned on February 7, 1977. He was appointed to the Board on May 14, 1973. Mr. Memel directed the Board during the reorganization after enactment of AB 1xx and served on the Division of Allied Health Professions during this period.

PESTICIDE POISONING— RECOGNITION, REPORTING, TREATMENT

The capricious nature of the symptoms of pesticide poisoning, similar to flu symptoms, make its diagnosis difficult, and a high degree of suspicion is necessary to take the proper steps to protect the patient and others who may have been exposed. Section 2950 of the California Health and Safety Code orders that physicians who suspect that a condition may be caused by a pesticide shall report it to the local health officer. An immediate phone call is the most effective way of complying with this requirement. Of course in cases of work related injury or illness, a "Doctor's First Report of Occupational Injury or Illness" must also be reported to the State Department of Industrial Relations; failure to file such a report is a misdemeanor and punishable by a fine.

A brief manual, "The Diagnosis and Treatment of Poisoning by Pesticides" is available from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Pesticide Programs, Washington, D.C. 20460. A limited supply is also available from the Board office. "Pesticide Illness Report" forms are available from local health departments.

CHILD ABUSE REPORTING

The California Medical Association and California Hospital Association have distributed to their members explicit instructions regarding the legal reporting requirements in child abuse cases, together with the proper medical reporting forms required of suspected non-accidental injury to children. All physicians should be aware of their responsibilities in the management of child abuse problems. The Division of Medical Quality of the Board of Medical Quality Assurance wishes to re-emphasize the high priority it places on the violations of this reporting requirement.

PHYSICIAN AND SURGEON OFFICE LABORATORY PROFICIENCY TESTING QUESTIONNAIRE

Section 1241.1 of the Business and Professions Code requires all California physicians who perform or have employees perform laboratory work in their office, to participate in a State approved proficiency testing program. A questionnaire has been sent to all California physicians in order to collect data pursuant to this code section. It is important that this questionnaire be completed and returned to the Board of Medical Quality Assurance as soon as possible.

Should you have any questions on completing the questionnaire, please contact:

LABORATORY FIELD SERVICES
2151 Berkeley Way, Room 600
Berkeley, California 94704
(415) 843-7900, ext. 681

All California physicians who did not receive a questionnaire should obtain one from:

VERIFICATIONS SECTION
Board of Medical Quality Assurance
1430 Howe Avenue
Sacramento, California 95825
(916) 322-2831

FDA RULES DISODIUM EDETATE (CHELATION THERAPY) AS A "NEW DRUG"

The Department of Health and the Board of Medical Quality Assurance (have) (mailed) a letter to you dealing with chelation therapy. In summary, injections of disodium edetate dispensed for the cure, mitigation, or treatment of arteriosclerosis is not generally recognized by qualified experts. Legally, the Food and Drug Administration of the Department of Health has defined disodium edetate for this purpose as a "new drug". The sale, delivery or dispensing of a "new drug" without an Exemption for Investigation is contrary to State law.

KEEPING YOUR LICENSE CURRENT

Our records show that many physicians have not yet renewed their licenses. Please be aware that California law prohibits anyone who does not have a *valid* California license from holding themselves out as a physician and practicing medicine. Although you may have been licensed and may be practicing safe, competent medicine, you may be in legal jeopardy if you have not renewed your license. To find out, check your card in your wallet or call our offices at (916) 322-2831.

Photoelectronic composition by
CALIFORNIA OFFICE OF STATE PRINTING

VC 75563-656 2-77 50M



DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
BOARD OF MEDICAL QUALITY ASSURANCE
1430 HOWE AVE.
SACRAMENTO, CA 95825

ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONS (916) 322-5043
APPLICATIONS AND EXAMINATIONS (916) 322-5040
COMPLAINTS (916) 322-5087
DISCIPLINARY INFORMATION (916) 322-2341
FICTITIOUS NAMES AND CORPORATIONS (916) 322-5040
VERIFICATIONS OF LICENSES (916) 322-2831
CONTINUING EDUCATION (916) 322-5030