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

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<td>Accusations pending as of January 1 of each year</td>
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<td>94</td>
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<td>Licenses Revoked, Stayed, Probation</td>
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<td>Licenses Suspended, Stayed, Probation</td>
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<td>Dismissed</td>
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<td>9</td>
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<td>7</td>
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<td>Investigations Opened</td>
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<td>1373</td>
<td>1392</td>
<td>1455</td>
<td>1932</td>
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<td>Investigations Closed</td>
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<td>1134</td>
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<td>Investigations pending as of December 31 of each year</td>
<td>600</td>
<td>800</td>
<td>1512</td>
<td>1726</td>
<td>1692</td>
<td>1921</td>
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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 advances to patients while rendering professional 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 conditions.
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 licensed physician and surgeon. Income tax evasion.
Six month suspension, stayed, 3 years probation with terms and conditions.
October 22, 1976

Emery, Clyde, M.D., Los Angeles
2360, 2378.5, 2361 (b), 2393, 2372 B & P Code
Revoked.
December 27, 1976

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

Habenicht, James C., M.D., Oakdale
2360, 2417 B & P Code
Mental illness.
Revolved, 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 prescriptions.
Revolved, 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. Violation of California Health and Safety Code involving possession of misbranded and adulterated drug, receipt or delivery of adulterated drugs or commerce. Lae­triles for treatment of cancer, unlawful sale of drugs for alleviation of cancer. Gross negligence and incompetence.
Revolved.
November 29, 1976

Sachs, David, M.D., Malibu
2361, 2390, 2391.5 B & P Code
Self-administration of drugs, false prescriptions.
Revolved.
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 rendering professional services in physician's office. Prescribing drugs without a good faith prior medical examination.
Revolved.
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 Disciplinary 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:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tr>
<td>Apr. 14</td>
<td>7:00 PM</td>
<td>1020 N St., Sacramento, Room 601</td>
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<tr>
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<td>1020 N St., Sacramento, 102, 601, 602</td>
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<td>16</td>
<td>9:00 AM</td>
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<td>May 12</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 9</td>
<td>7:00 PM</td>
<td>107 So. Broadway, L.A., Room 1012</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>9:00 AM</td>
<td>107 So. Broadway, L.A., Aud., 1012, 1070</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>9:00 AM</td>
<td>107 So. Broadway, L.A., Auditorium</td>
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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 Ixx 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.