

PHYSICIAN IMPAIRMENT



External Resources for Physicians

- Wellness Committees
- Physician Health Programs
- Substance Abuse Treatment Centers
- Individual Therapy



Voluntary License Status Modifications

- **Disabled License**

Any licensee who demonstrates to the satisfaction of the Board that he or she is unable to practice medicine due to a disability may request a waiver of the license renewal fee. The Board requires that an application be filed which contains a certification from the attending physician attesting to the fact that the individual is unable to practice medicine along with an estimate as to whether the disability is permanent or temporary. While the physician's license is in "disabled" status, he or she cannot practice medicine. The license status can be returned to "active" status by submitting another application with a certification from the attending physician that the physician is able to return to practice with no restrictions.

- **Voluntary Limitations on Practice**

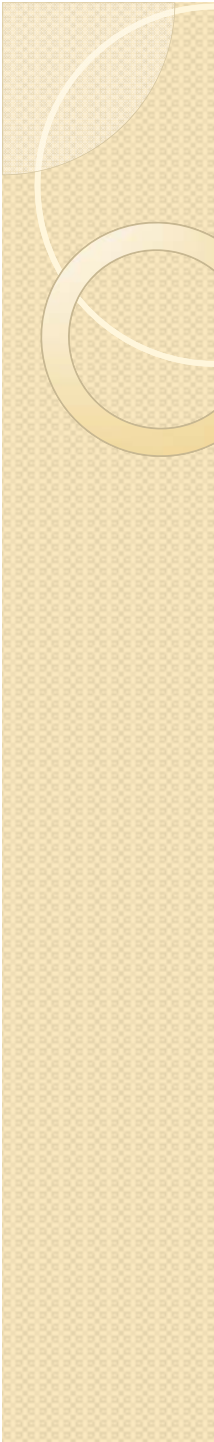
A licensee may also apply to restore his or her license from a disabled "no practice allowed" status to an active status with limitations on practice. To apply for this status, the licensee must sign an agreement on a form prescribed by the Board in which the licensee agrees to limit his or her practice in the manner as prescribed by the reviewing physician and pays the current (active license) renewal fee.

Complaint Statistics – Complaints received in FY 2012/2013

Complaint Allegations	Substance Abuse	Mental Illness
Total Number Received	45 (7 from out-of-state cases)	57
Closed in CCU	8	14
Referred to Investigation	30	43

Administrative actions of cases involving substance abuse or mental illness

Fiscal Year	Self Use/Substance Abuse	Mental Illness
2012-2013	46	25
2011-2012	41	26
2010-2011	19	10
2009-2010	30	18
*2008-2009	32	11
2007-2008	34	20
2006-2007	37	20
2005-2006	25	7
2004-2005	33	24
2003-2004	29	26
2002-2003	27	25
*Diversion Program eliminated in July 2008		



Current Disciplinary Guidelines recommend the following conditions for substance abuse violations:

- Suspension of 60 days or more
- Controlled Substances-Abstain From Use
- Alcohol-Abstain from Use
- Biological Fluid Testing
- Ethics Course
- Psychiatric Evaluation
- Psychotherapy
- Medical Evaluation and Treatment
- Monitoring-Practice/Billing



Additional Conditions for Substance Abusing Licensees

- Clinical Diagnostic Evaluation
- Notice of Employer/Supervisor Information
- Biological Fluid Testing
- Group Support Meetings (if recommended by evaluator)
- Worksite Monitors



Current Disciplinary Guidelines recommend the following conditions for mental/physical illness violations:

- Psychiatric Evaluation
- Psychotherapy
- Medical Evaluation and Treatment
- Monitoring-Practice/Billing
- Solo Practice Prohibition
- Prohibited Practice (i.e., practice restrictions)



Conditions focused on ensuring the physician is “safe to practice”

- Controlled Substances-Abstain From Use
- Alcohol-Abstain from Use
- Biological Fluid Testing
- Psychiatric Evaluation
- Psychotherapy
- Medical Evaluation and Treatment