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Medical Board of California Revokes License of Menlo Park Oncologist for Gross Negligence and Repeated Negligent Acts

(Sacramento, California) – The Medical Board of California (Board) has revoked the license of Menlo Park oncologist Amara Taimur Malik for acts of gross negligence involving three patients. Malik's license revocation took effect on May 18, 2018. The Board's decision revoking Malik's license found that she was guilty of gross negligence, repeated negligent acts, and inadequate and inaccurate medical recordkeeping.

"Consumer protection is paramount to the Board's mission and this revocation demonstrates our commitment to that duty," said Kimberly Kirchmeyer, the Board's Executive Director.

According to the decision Malik, who is a breast cancer specialist, confirmed a mass in the breast of a woman through a physical examination and an ultrasound. Malik ordered diagnostic imaging but failed to provide a clear diagram or record of areas of concern on the requisition for the diagnostic imaging. When the results of the imaging showed no view of the breast mass, Malik failed to obtain further diagnostic imaging or to follow up with the patient to conduct a high-risk evaluation and consultation to discuss a diagnosis, findings and a plan for future screenings.

With another patient who presented herself with a breast lump that had been present for two weeks, Malik failed to diagnose the mass, did not obtain additional diagnostic exams, and failed to follow up with her patient. At the request of another physician, the woman obtained a mammogram and ultrasound and later underwent an ultrasound-guided core needle biopsy that revealed cancer.

Malik also incorrectly noted in a patient's medical record that a lump in the patient's breast had been present for one year, rather than one month according to the decision. In addition, Malik mistakenly documented the mass to be in the woman's right breast. After a biopsy was performed, Malik was notified of the results, but failed to promptly follow up with the patient regarding suspicious findings. To read the decision, visit Malik's physician profile page. For more information general about the Board or to file a complaint against a physician, visit the Board's website at www.mbc.ca.gov.

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The mission of the Medical Board of California is to protect health care consumers through the proper licensing and regulation of physicians and surgeons and certain allied health care professionals and through the vigorous, objective enforcement of the Medical Practice Act, and to promote access to quality medical care through the Board's licensing and regulatory functions. If you have a question or complaint about the health care you are receiving, the Board encourages you to visit its website at www.mbc.ca.gov or call (800) 633-2322. For up-to-date information on Board activities, please join our "Subscribers' List" at www.mbc.ca.gov/Subscribers.