



Medical Board of California

Newsletter

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THE BOARD'S MISSION

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.

Hello,

My name is



Of Names and Licenses

Doctors wishing to use a name other than what is on their license must obtain a Fictitious Name Permit from the Medical Board of California

By Susan Wolbarst
Public Information Officer

A little honesty can go a long way in nurturing the patient-doctor relationship. Not only is this true when talking to patients about their health, but also true with the name that doctors use to practice medicine.

In fact, it is the law.

With limited exceptions (see [*Business and Professions Code section 2285*](#)), a physician and surgeon or podiatrist must practice using the name on his or her medical

license or get a Fictitious Name Permit, which allows them to practice medicine under a different name.

Laws relating to these topics are designed to protect the public by minimizing the likelihood that health care consumers get confused or misled about their treating physicians.

Name Changes

All name changes must be reported to the Medical Board of California (Board) within 30 days. The doctor must provide both the old and new names.

Continued on page 4

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Medical Board of California

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Editor's Spotlight

By Susan Wolbarst

In this edition of the Medical Board of California's
(Board) newsletter, newly elected Board President
Denise Pines outlines her vision for the Board and
how she hopes to achieve it. [Please see page 3.](#)

If you are a physician or a licensed midwife, please
be aware that you may be audited and asked
to prove that your required continuing medical
education (CME), or continuing education (CE) for
midwives, credits are acceptable and have been
completed on schedule. The Board audits of CME
and CE credits are increasing, effective immediately.
[Additional information is on page 11.](#)

Last year, about 80,000 Americans died and
some 900,000 were hospitalized due to influenza.
Uncountable others missed school and work and
suffered through prolonged misery. Yet fewer than
half of the population gets vaccinated annually
against influenza. What can you do to change this?
[Please see page 9.](#)

One of the oldest medical societies in California has
come up with a fresh new approach to heading off
physician burnout. Called Joy of Medicine, it offers
ways to find more joy in a profession characterized
by high stress and ever-increasing workload. [Learn
more on page 12.](#)

California physicians are required by law to report
pesticide-caused illnesses to state and local
agencies. Free online continuing medical education
courses provide information about these illnesses
and how to report them. [Please see page 16.](#)

Need A Speaker?

If you would like a speaker from the Medical Board
of California to address your organization, please
contact Public Affairs Manager Carlos Villatoro at
Carlos.Villatoro@mbc.ca.gov.

President's Message



Denise Pines

It is an honor to be elected as the president of the Medical Board of California (Board). Concurrently, I recognize what tremendous responsibility this role entails. The Board members and the Board's staff are often called upon to do things that are uncomfortable, and I think that is a good thing.

When we are uncomfortable, we must think outside the box and open ourselves to new perspectives, and ultimately, I believe, find our way to new solutions.

As the Board begins this new term, I will take a "Consumers First" approach and will challenge the Board's staff with the question: "If you are living the mission, what would you do better?"

I will challenge them to identify areas in which the Board can improve and, perhaps more important, come up with creative solutions.

We will shift our "Check Up on Your Doctor's License" from a campaign to an initiative. We will strive to include a broader range of partners in our outreach efforts and we will commit to transparency in all our interactions with legislators, licensees and consumers.

Five years ago, our team's targeted outreach efforts began with teleconferencing. We will continue to expand those efforts, utilizing technological enhancements in everything from our web platforms to the license alert app.

We will work with stakeholders to identify areas in which we can improve the Board's vital licensing and enforcement functions, including reducing enforcement timelines.

Earlier this year we celebrated the passing of the Patient Notification Bill and the mandatory consultation of CURES. We have achieved much, and we have more to do. I look forward to working alongside my fellow Board members to implement a physician's health program and explore more ways in which we can combat the opioid epidemic gripping the nation.

You have a very strong team working for you. Our commitment is demonstrated by the fact that 90 percent of our current Board members will remain on the Board for the next two years, and I look forward to working with my fellow Board members and the Board's staff to strengthen and enhance consumer protection in California.

Did you know...



Physicians with an email address are required to report it to the Medical Board? The email address shall be considered confidential and not subject to public disclosure.

Below are a few situations the Board is questioned about frequently. Please note that no names used in this article refer to actual doctors. The names were invented to illustrate the concepts.

- **Legal Name Change:** Dr. Anne Kathryn Anders (the name on her medical license) cannot practice as Kathryn Anders, even if that is the name she is known by and commonly uses. To do so, she must legally change her name and present evidence -- including a current government-issued photo identification like a driver's license, alien registration or passport and a certified court order, marriage certificate, or dissolution of marriage -- to the Board showing that her new legal name is Kathryn Anders. The Board would then change the name on her medical license to Kathryn Anders.
- **Nickname:** A physician cannot change his or her name by making it shorter or easier to spell or pronounce without going through the legal name change process.
- **Marriage Change:** A physician who legally changes his or her name upon marriage cannot continue practicing under the original name on his or her license. The physician must present evidence to the Board of the legal name change so the Board can change the name on the physician's license to match the newly-adopted legal name. The same is true for a couple adopting a hyphenated last name at marriage.

For example, if Dr. June Jones marries Ruth Wright, becoming June Jones-Wright, she must go through the legal name change process and present evidence of that change to the Board, which will change the name on her license.

There is no charge to change a physician's name on a license. However, a new wall certificate or wallet license will not automatically be issued following a name change. To receive a new wall certificate or wallet license reflecting the name change, a physician must fill out an [*Application for Duplicate Certificate*](#) and submit it with appropriate fees.

Fictitious Name Permits

A physician and surgeon or podiatrist practicing medicine under a name other than his or her own name must obtain a Fictitious Name Permit (FNP) from the Board. The FNP address must be in California.

On the form, applicants for an FNP are asked to supply three fictitious name choices, yet many supply only one. If that one name is not available because it has been taken by someone else or is too similar to one that is taken, it slows down the application process. Physicians are encouraged to submit three choices, and to avoid very common names.

How can you tell if a name has already been taken by someone else?

Use the Board's website to check if the name is available. Go to www.mbc.ca.gov, click on license search. Scroll down below the blue block until you



see several categories, then click on Fictitious Name Permit. Under Business Name, type in the business name you would like for your FNP, i.e. "XYZ Clinic." If no results match the search criteria, that name may be available. However, while paperwork is being processed, someone else could take that name, or the name could be deemed too similar to an existing FNP. Therefore, FNP applicants are encouraged to submit two alternate names.

Please note that you cannot use your FNP before it is approved by the Board. Applicants may practice, but cannot do any advertising, create any signage, or print business cards or other materials until the name on their FNP is approved by the Board. Please note that registering a corporation name with the Secretary of State's office does not in any way guarantee that an applicant will be able to use that name on an FNP. On a related issue, the FNP does not have to match the corporation name registered with the Secretary of State.

Other FNP facts:

- FNPs are not transferable. If Dr. Smith sells her business, the FNP does not transfer to the new owner. The FNP needs to be canceled and the new owner must submit a new application. For a smooth transition, the Board recommends submitting the cancellation form and the new application together.
- A licensed physician or group of licensed physicians must own the FNP and 51 percent of the professional medical corporation organized pursuant to the Moscone-Knox Professional Corporation Act (Corporations Code section 13400 et. seq.)

- A lay person cannot have an FNP for a medical practice; neither can a limited liability company (LLC). If the FNP is owned by more than one physician, and one of them wants to disassociate himself or herself from the practice, the physician must fill out and sign an ***FNP Notification of Partnership Change***. An ***FNP Notification of Shareholder Change*** must be used to add or delete shareholders.
- If one of the physician partners/shareholders dies, a death certificate must be presented to the Board to make necessary changes to the FNP.
- A change of address for an FNP must be filed with the Board within 30 days after the business moves and the address must be in California.
- It takes approximately four weeks to get an FNP approved, assuming that the application form is filled out correctly and includes all required documentation, such as an endorsed copy of the Articles of Incorporation from the Secretary of State's office and a check for the \$50 processing fee made out to Medical Board of California.
- When using your approved FNP, you must use it exactly as it appears on your approved application in advertising, on business cards and other materials that you issue.

All forms related to FNPs can be found on the Board's website, www.mbc.ca.gov and other useful information is available at www.mbc.ca.gov/Applicants/Fictitious_Name/.





Dr. Ahrin Koppel, her husband Artin, and daughters (from left) Mika, Zuki, Thea, and Raya relax in a field near Truckee, Nevada County. Photo by Michael Okimoto

Truckee Doctor Receives STLRP Award

By Susan Wolbarst
Public Information Officer

Ahrin Koppel had an idyllic childhood in the small San Bernardino-area town of Apple Valley. The youngest of three children, she was raised on a six-acre property with dogs, cats, horses, goats and chickens. Her mother was a judge and her father was a salesman.

"I grew up completely unaware of the gender inequality that exists in our culture. My parents told me I could be and do anything I wished, so I did," she said.

Her favorite subject in school was math. The idea of becoming a doctor came to her when she was asked to select a major on her University of California application form.

"My mother was helping me and she said, 'You should become a doctor. You can help other people and always have a job.' I said 'OK' and chose biology. It wasn't until much later that I realized that what I thought to be a flippant comment from my mother would slowly seep into my consciousness over the next several years and further define my path," she said.

She left for the University of California, Santa Barbara in September 1993. Two months later, while he was away from home on a business trip, her father suffered a sudden cardiac death.

With her father's death occupying her mind, the future Dr. Koppel's grades began to slip.

She decided to move closer to home, "and to a school where the culture was more heavily weighted

towards pre-medical studies.” She transferred to the University of California Los Angeles (UCLA) for her third and fourth years of college, and later earned a medical degree at Tel Aviv University in Israel. Dr. Koppel returned to Southern California, where she completed her internal medicine internship and residency at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center and her fellowship in hematology and oncology at UCLA.

Dr. Koppel works at Tahoe Forest Cancer Center in Truckee, a 25-bed critical access hospital located in rural Nevada County near ski areas such as Squaw Valley and Northstar California Resort. The facility serves a local population of about 35,000 and an additional 25,000 in outlying areas up to 100 miles distant. Tahoe Forest offers “the full complement of outpatient medical oncology and radiation oncology services that one would expect from any community program,” she says. The hospital’s technology and its association with the University of California Davis saves cancer patients from Truckee and five surrounding counties in California and Nevada from having to travel hundreds of miles for consultation and treatment.

Her day starts with a team huddle with two other physicians, three nurses, a nurse navigator, front office staff, a phlebotomist, a nutritionist, and members of the psychosocial team. “Anyone planning to come in contact with our patients that day joins in on this important discussion to share relevant information on each patient scheduled,” she said. Next, she sees patients in the exam room or the infusion room.

“Each day at noon, we participate in a virtual tumor board with UC Davis,” Dr. Koppel said. “This interactive meeting is broadcast to the network sites and, in turn, our video and audio is broadcast to them. I can present difficult cases to the group, get real time feedback, and carry out the plan as the patient’s treating physician within our local

community. This technology also gives the rural practitioner the chance to evaluate clinical trial opportunities and keep up to date on the latest advances in cancer treatment. The unifying goal is ensuring quality community-based care for cancer patients.”

Her favorite part of the job “is having the opportunity to offer the highest quality care, which translates into a superb patient experience. For some, cancer

has turned into a chronic condition. For most, cancer is the biggest challenge they have ever faced. Working with a fantastic team allows me the chance to provide the best possible care,” she said.

Asked if she has any advice for young people who want to be doctors, she said, “My message to anyone wanting to pursue a career in medicine is to persevere through all the roadblocks and naysayers.

These obstacles are life themes in general. They are meant to be overcome. Don’t

let obstacles deter you from your goals.”

How did she feel when she learned she had won a Steven M. Thompson loan repayment grant?

“Winning the award made me feel very proud to be part of our rural medical community, where the opportunity to make a difference locally is tangible. The whole community is dedicated to improving access to medical care close to home, and being recognized for that commitment feels great,” she said.

Dr. Koppel and her husband have four daughters. The first was born in August of 2012, followed by triplets the following year.

“Today, our older daughter is six, and the triplets are four,” she said. “Some days it seems like we have four Tasmanian devils, but most days they are the light of our lives.”

In her spare time, Dr. Koppel enjoys camping, hiking, yoga, and meditation.

“Don’t let obstacles
deter you from your
goals.”

- Dr. Ahrin Koppel

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Protecting Yourself and Your Patients Against Influenza Begins with the Flu Vaccine

**By Susan Wolbarst,
Public Information Officer**

In 1918, a deadly influenza pandemic circled the globe, killing an estimated 675,000 Americans and more than 50 million people worldwide. Infection rates are highest among those over the age of 65, and children under the age of two years, and individuals of any age with medical conditions which confer increased risk.

Despite development of effective vaccines during the intervening 100 years, influenza is still killing people. During the 2017-2018 season, about 80,000 Americans died, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The California Department of Public Health (CDPH) has already reported the first California influenza death for the 2018-2019 flu season, which began October 1, 2018.

More than 900,000 Americans were hospitalized with influenza during the 2017-2018 season, the CDC estimates. Yet fewer than half of Americans were vaccinated against influenza last year.

This is where you come in. By encouraging your patients and your staff to get vaccinated, you can stop this potentially deadly disease from spreading.

Health Care Workers

California state law ([Health and Safety Code section 1288.7](#)) requires general acute care hospitals to offer free influenza vaccine to all employees and require them to get vaccinated or sign a statement declining the vaccine. Many county health officers have ordered all health care workers in their counties, including

office staff, to either get vaccinated or wear a mask during flu season.

Best Protection

"The best available protection is annual influenza vaccination for all patients age 6 months and older. Your strong influenza vaccine recommendation is one of the most important factors in patients accepting the vaccine," the CDC said on a website for health care providers.

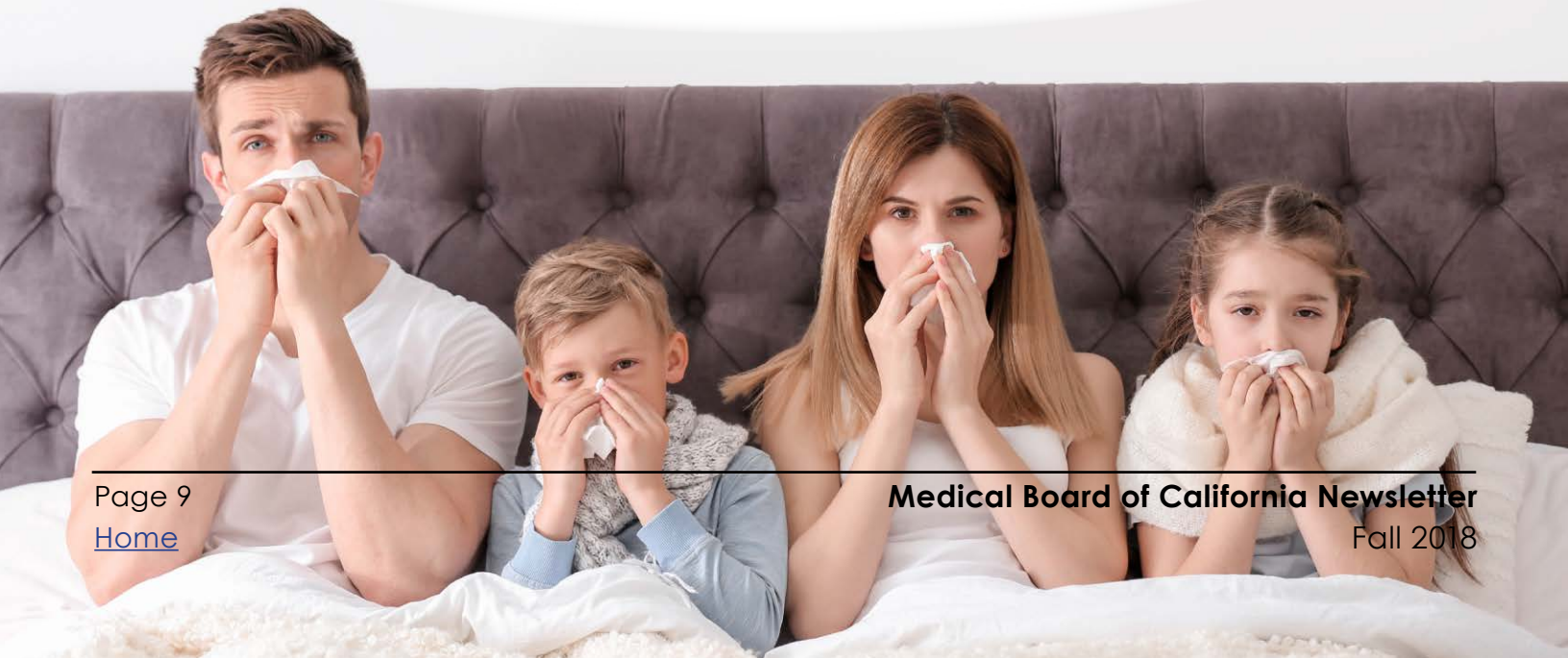
The flu season officially kicked off October 1, 2018. How long it lasts varies from year to year, but flu viruses sometimes circulate until May.

Children under 5 years old are at greatest risk for serious complications, according to the CDPH. Other high-risk groups include older adults, pregnant women, and people with weak immune systems and chronic disease.

"Most experts think that flu viruses spread mainly by droplets made when people with the flu cough, sneeze or talk," the CDC said. Those infected are contagious from one day before symptoms develop until about seven days after symptoms – cough, sore throat, runny or stuffy nose, headaches, body aches, fatigue, chills, and sometimes fever, vomiting and diarrhea – appear.

Frequent hand washing and coughing into a tissue or a sleeve can help prevent the spread of influenza.

It takes about two weeks after getting a flu shot to develop immune protection.



What is New this Year with the Flu Shot?

- Nasal spray flu vaccine (live attenuated influenza vaccine or LAIV) is approved for use in non-pregnant individuals age 2-49, if they do not have certain underlying medical conditions. All LAIV vaccines are quadrivalent (four component – protecting against four strains), as are most other vaccines available for the 2018-2019 flu season.
- Two standard dose flu shots (Afluria [a trivalent vaccine] and Afluria Quadrivalent) can be given to people aged 18-64 years with a jet injector instead of with a needle. A jet injector uses compressed gas or springs to penetrate the skin with a high pressure narrow stream of fluid rather than using a hypodermic needle.
- High-dose shots, containing four times the amount of antigen contained in regular flu shots, are available for adults 65 and older. “A higher dose of antigen in the vaccine is supposed to give older people a better immune response and, therefore, better protection against flu,” the CDC said.
- About 80 percent of vaccines used this season will be thimerosal-free (i.e. preservative free).



Everything You Need to Know About Medical Assistants



Medical assistants play an important role in medical offices throughout the state. The Medical Board of California (Board) often receives questions about what medical assistants can and can't do. For this reason, the Board has put together a video presentation designed to answer these questions and many more. You can find the video [here](#).

For more information about this year's flu shot, please visit the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's website by clicking the below link:

<https://www.cdc.gov/flu/protect/keyfacts.htm>



Medical Board Increasing CME and CE Compliance Audits

The Medical Board of California's (Board) Licensing Program has announced that the number of audits conducted for continuing medical education (CME) compliance by physicians and continuing education (CE) compliance by licensed midwives is increasing from 1 percent to 10 percent, effective immediately. Recent streamlining within the Licensing Program has allowed the Board to allocate staff resources for increased CME and CE auditing.

Under California law, physicians (including special faculty permit holders) must complete at least 50 hours of approved CME during each biennial renewal cycle. Licensed midwives must complete 36 hours of approved CE in each two-year renewal cycle.

The CME/CE requirements were put in place to ensure that licensees keep up with current medical knowledge.

In order to make sure licensees are complying with continuing education requirements, the Board is required by law to audit a randomly selected group of physicians who have certified that they have complied with CME requirements by signing the CME certification statement on their license renewal notice. The Board must also audit a randomly selected group of licensed midwives who have signed the statement attesting to CE completion on their license renewal notice. Such audits occur monthly.

In addition to fulfilling CME or CE requirements, physicians and licensed midwives must maintain documentation of the CME and CE for a minimum of four years. These records must include the name of the participating physician or licensed midwife, course or program title, dates of attendance, number of credit hours received, and sponsoring/accrediting agency. Such records will be needed if the physician's CME or the licensed midwife's CE compliance is audited by the Licensing Program.

A physician who passes a certifying or recertifying examination administered by a recognized specialty board is granted 100 CME hours for four consecutive years.

A physician or licensed midwife who teaches or presents a course or program that meets the CME or CE requirement can acquire a maximum of one-third of required CME or CE hours.

Physicians may apply for CME hours or licensed midwives may apply for CE hours to be waived in cases of undue hardship, illness, or various kinds of military service. [*Use this form to apply for a waiver.*](#)

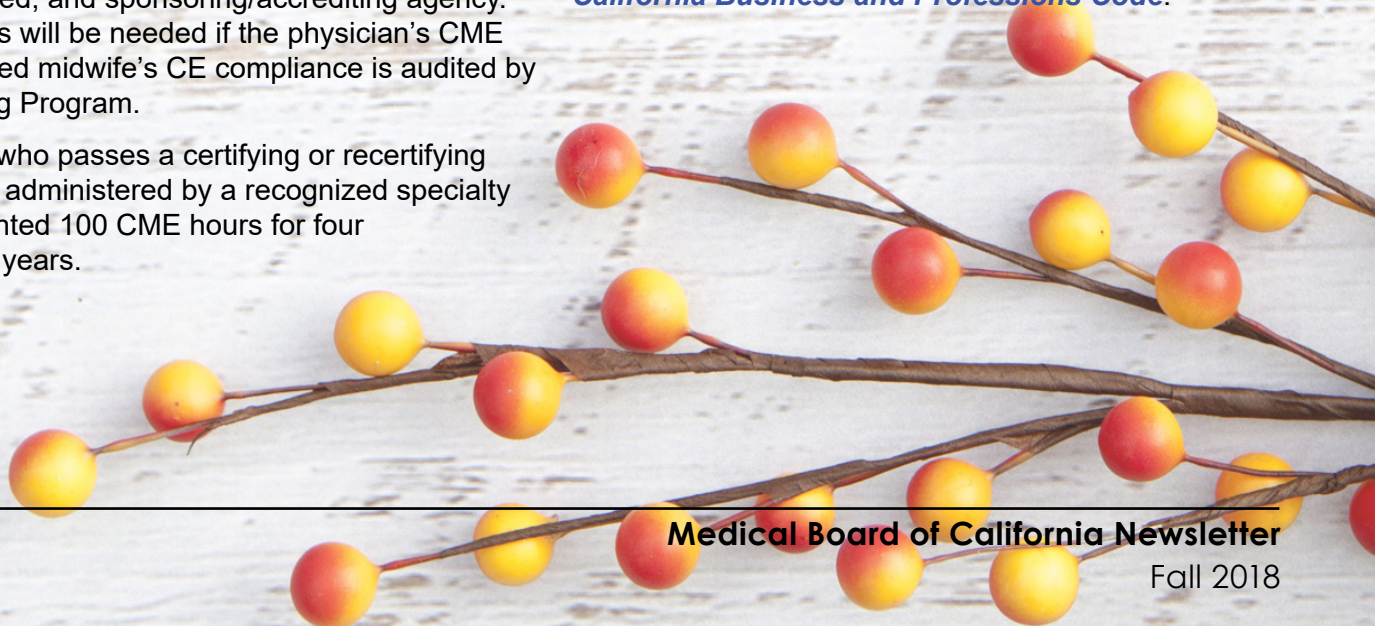
Physicians and licensed midwives do not need to provide the Board with CME or CE documentation when applying to renew a license unless they are audited.

If a physician or licensed midwife is audited by the Board and cannot document fulfillment of the CME or CE requirement, the Licensing Program will allow the physician or midwife to renew once and make up the deficient CME or CE hours. However, the Board will not renew a license a second time until all the required CME hours have been documented.

Under [*Section 1338\(c\)*](#) and [*1379.28\(c\)*](#) of Title 16 of the California Code of Regulations, it is considered unprofessional conduct for any licensee or permit holder to misrepresent compliance with CME or CE requirements on the renewal form. Such misrepresentation may result in a citation and fine from the Board.

For more information about CME requirements, please visit the Board's website at http://www.mbc.ca.gov/Licensees/Continuing_Education/.

For more information about CE requirements, please visit [*Section 1379.26 of Title 16 of the California Code of Regulations*](#) and [*Section 2518 of the California Business and Professions Code*](#).





Fifty physicians participated in a recent Joy of Medicine Paint & Sip night held in Folsom, Calif., on August 29. The physicians were given the opportunity to express themselves while enjoying collegiality, conversation and some wine. The Joy of Medicine Program assists physicians with combatting burnout by helping them find ways to return to the reasons they began practicing medicine in the first place. Courtesy photo.

Northern California Program Seeks the ‘Joy of Medicine’

**By Susan Wolbarst,
Public Information Officer**

Practicing medicine is not easy. In fact, according to a national survey by the American Medical Association and the Mayo Clinic, more than half of the physicians in the United States report experiencing the symptoms of burnout, characterized by exhaustion, feelings of cynicism and lack of efficacy.

To combat burnout, the 150-year-old Sierra Sacramento Valley Medical Society (SSVMS) has established a program designed to help physicians return to the very reasons they began practicing medicine in the first place.

New Approach

Called “The Joy of Medicine,” the program was created with input from leaders of the big health care providers in the region (Sacramento, Yolo, Placer, and El Dorado counties) to avoid duplication of services already available to help physicians cope with, or avoid, burnout.

“Everything we provide is unique,” said Aileen Wetzel, chief executive officer of SSVMS. “We are hoping to get to physicians before they burn out. Most of them went into medicine as good Samaritans. Our program is trying to get to the root of why they began practicing medicine in the first place.”

Tools to Fight Burnout

The Joy of Medicine program offers each doctor practicing in the Sacramento region up to six “resiliency consultations” with licensed psychologists and life coaches. Physicians contact vetted providers directly to make appointments. The visits are completely anonymous and free – paid for by SSVMS through a grant from The Physicians’ Foundation, donations from medical groups, and ongoing fundraising by SSVMS.

Physician Peer Groups meet in communities such as Carmichael, Elk Grove, El Dorado Hills and Newcastle. These popular groups meet monthly in a local physician’s home to discuss shared issues and to socialize. One group recently made French pastries, while another painted landscapes. Some attendees may live close enough to be neighbors, but because they work for competing providers, they never met before joining a peer group.

Through its SPIRIT nonprofit program (SPIRIT is an acronym for Sacramento Physician Initiative to Reach out, Innovate and Teach), SSVMS gives doctors an opportunity to volunteer their services to people who do not have the means to see a doctor otherwise. For some physicians, this volunteer work is extremely rewarding, Wetzel said, and helps combat physician burnout.

SPIRIT matches patients referred by various agencies to volunteer physicians who donate outpatient surgery (such as hernia repair and cataract surgery) and specialty consultations. SPIRIT works with local health systems to facilitate the donation of supporting services and facilities. In 2017, 1,007 patients were treated, 57 surgeries were performed and 862 hours were donated, for an estimated total of \$442,000 in donated medical care. SPIRIT is aimed at “people who have zero insurance coverage,” Wetzel said.

Finding the Joy

The second annual Joy of Medicine Summit, held recently, attracted over 200 physicians, each one eager to find more joy in a profession characterized by high stress and ever-increasing workload. The Summit featured a session called “Lightning

Grand Rounds,” where physicians and medical students spent five minutes apiece describing what brings them joy. “This helps physicians discover that there is joy, and to see all the things that can bring joy,” Wetzel said.

Data is being analyzed on a wellness survey taken across the entire medical community in SSVMS’s four county area. “We’re asking physicians what changes would help them improve patient care,” she

said. She was encouraged by a 12 percent survey response rate.

Not Copyrighted

Wetzel says she spends a lot of time working with medical societies in other parts of California, as well as other states, on how to start their own similar programs. She tells them to help themselves to any part of the SSVMS Joy of Medicine program. None of it is copyrighted and she is happy to share. For more information, visit www.joyofmedicine.org.



Physicians enjoying some paint, wine and fellowship.

Burnout Tied to Medical Errors

A **study** of 6,695 physicians found that 55 percent of them reported experiencing the symptoms of burnout, characterized by exhaustion, cynicism, and lack of efficacy, and 10.5 percent of them reported making at least one major medical error in the three months preceding the survey.

“We found that physicians with burnout had more than twice the odds of self-reported medical error, after adjusting for specialty, work hours, fatigue and work unit safety rating,” said Dr. Daniel Tawfik, M.D., lead author of the study, published in **Mayo Clinic Proceedings**. (**The Becker’s Hospital Review**, July 9, 2018)

Curbing Physician Suicide Rates by Changing the Culture of Medicine

By Peter Yellowlees, M.D., Professor of Psychiatry, University of California Davis

What do we know about physician suicide, and how can we prevent this tragedy?

Firstly, we know that physicians are at a higher risk for suicide than the general population. The Kaiser Family Foundation estimates that there are 968,000 active physicians in the U.S. in 2018. About 35-40 percent of them are female. The American Foundation for Suicide Prevention estimates that 300-400 U.S. physicians commit suicide each year, including about 150-200 of each gender. The total number is likely an underestimate as it is well known that some possible physician suicides end up not being recorded as such.

The suicide rate for female physicians in particular is markedly elevated, with a relative risk of 2.27 compared to U.S. women in general, while that of male physicians is also above the U.S. national average with a relative risk of 1.4. The fact that physicians are more likely to kill themselves than non-physician equivalent adults in the general population is hardly surprising, as physicians have the knowledge and skills to make sure that they are successful in a suicide attempt.

Secondly, we know that risk factors for suicide in the general population include major depression or other mood disorders, substance abuse, adverse life events, access to lethal means, medical illness, a family history of mental illness, age (50 or older), and gender (male more common overall). We also know that in their lifetime, approximately 15 percent of physicians will develop a substance use and/or a mental health-related condition (usually depression or anxiety) that could potentially impair their ability to practice medicine, and that 30-50 percent of physicians at some stage exhibit symptoms of burnout, which may lead to anxiety, depression or substance use disorders.

Thirdly, we know that physicians look after themselves inadequately. They rarely report depression or suicidal ideas, suffering in silence, or attempting to treat themselves, such is the stigma of psychiatric disorders, even among physicians. These behaviors are embedded in the medical subculture, which encourages denial and self-reliance, and are at least partly learned implicitly during training.

Why is this happening and what can we do? There are many possible interventions to reduce this tragedy. These range from the need for organizational and systemic work changes to reduce administrative requirements and tame electronic medical records to personal and lifestyle changes to aid resilience and reduce burnout, including learning how to better recognize at-risk colleagues. Some, like myself, argue that the Triple Aim of health care (improving the patient experience of care, including quality and satisfaction; improving the health of populations; and reducing the per capita cost of health care) should become the Quadruple Aim, with the fourth aim being improving the work life of health providers.

The National Academy of Medicine is very active in this field, and has set up an impressively well organized and resourced Action Collaborative on Clinician Wellbeing and Resilience (See <https://nam.edu/initiatives/clinician-resilience-and-well-being>). This is an excellent website to visit for all interested in this topic. The American Medical Association, like several other colleges and professional associations, is also committed to this issue and has created five excellent modules in their online “steps forward” program on physician health and wellbeing that are replete with good practical examples of how to reduce levels of burnout and improve organizational and individual responses to stress.



The thread that runs through all of these endeavors is the realization that the medical profession, in its entirety, is under significant stress, and it is no longer appropriate to deny or ignore these pressures, as has happened in the past, because they are now so well-linked to impaired patient care outcomes. The health of physicians has finally become a patient safety issue, and the loss of hundreds of physicians per year to suicide can no longer be tolerated or ignored.

The profession of medicine is one of the most meaningful and important careers that it is possible for any individual to embark on. It is also a profession that is under intense pressure as physicians try to provide high quality care, as they have been trained to do, in environments increasingly driven by adverse business requirements focused on administrative needs. Some have even suggested that instead of using the term “burnout” we should be “talking about “moral injury.”

Unfortunately, as a profession we are trained to ignore ill health and distress in ourselves, and in our colleagues. We tend not to reach out for help when we need it. We need to change this set of inappropriate attitudes and incorporate the notion of self-care as an important professionalism issue in all our training as medical students onwards, and

we need to keep focused on providing quality care despite business demands. After all, if we are not able to look after ourselves, how can we be expected to look after others?

As medical professionals, we need to take serious steps to change the culture and organization of our whole system of health care in order to improve physician health and wellbeing, and thereby reduce the number of our colleagues who kill themselves each year. (Editor’s note: Dr. Yellowlees is the author of “Physician Suicide: Cases and Commentaries,” published in June, 2018 by the American Psychiatric Association Publishing Inc.)

“The medical profession, in its entirety, is under significant stress, and it is no longer appropriate to deny or ignore these pressures.”

-Dr. Yellowlees

Pesticide Illness Reporting: Free, Online CME from Cal EPA

Over 200 million pounds of active ingredients in agricultural pesticides are applied annually in California. In 2015, 1,757 cases of pesticide illnesses and injuries were reported to local county health officials and state authorities. Since the 1970s, California physicians have been required by law to report pesticide illnesses to state and local agencies. It is important for physicians to know about pesticide illnesses and how to report them.

Timely and accurate reporting of pesticide illnesses helps regulators oversee state pesticide laws and regulations and identify the need for actions that might be needed to protect workers and the public.

The Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA) of the California Environmental Protection Agency is announcing the availability of its two recently revised free online one-hour courses that offer continuing medical education credits for physicians and other health care providers.

The courses are:

“Recognition, Management, and Reporting of Pesticide Illness”

This course informs physicians and other health care providers on how to diagnose and treat pesticide illnesses and California’s legal requirement to report pesticide illnesses.

“The California Medical Supervision Program”

The California Medical Supervision Program is a cholinesterase-monitoring surveillance program designed to protect certain pesticide handlers who work with the more toxic cholinesterase-inhibiting pesticides. This course is for physicians who currently are or would like to become medical supervisors in the Program.

These courses are available at <https://mededpesticide.org/>.

On-site, in-person presentations of these courses by OEHHA staff are also available and can be arranged by contacting the Pesticide and Environmental Toxicology Branch of OEHHA by phone at: (510) 622-3170 or by email at Pesticides@oehha.ca.gov.



You Asked For It

Questions Received from the Web

By Alexandria Schembra, Associate Governmental Program Analyst

Q: I have a patient I see every six months and have been prescribing a Schedule II-IV controlled substance. Do I still need to check CURES every four months?

A: Yes, unless there is another exemption as specified by law. [Health and Safety Code section 11165.4](#) states: A health care practitioner authorized to prescribe, order, administer, or furnish a controlled substance shall consult the CURES database to review a patient's controlled substance history before prescribing a Schedule II, Schedule III, or Schedule IV controlled substance to the patient for the first time and at least once every four months thereafter if the substance remains part of the patient's treatment plan.

Q: I checked CURES and prescribed a Schedule II-IV controlled substance for my patient two months ago. Now I am prescribing another Schedule II-IV controlled substance. Do I need to check CURES again?

A. No. [Health and Safety Code section 11165.4](#) defines the first time as the initial occurrence in which a health care practitioner, in his or her role as a health care practitioner, intends to prescribe, order, administer, or furnish a Schedule II, Schedule III, or Schedule IV controlled substance to a patient and has not previously prescribed a controlled substance to the patient. However, you may need to check CURES as part of the standard of care.

Q: I'm having problems logging into my CURES account. I can't remember my login or password. Who do I contact to get that information reset?

A: The California Department of Justice (DOJ) oversees all technical issues with CURES. Contact the DOJ Help Desk at (916) 210-3187 or email cures@doj.ca.gov. If you still have problems, contact the Board at (800) 633-2322.

Have a question?

If you have a question, write to Webmaster@mbc.ca.gov. Although only some questions may be featured here in "YOU ASKED FOR IT," all questions will receive an email response, so let us hear from you.

Wedding Bells in Your Future? Congratulations!

And remember, if your marriage involves a name change, please don't forget to report it to the Medical Board of California within 30 days.



Visit: http://www.mbc.ca.gov/licensees/name_change.aspx

Measles on the Move

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) reports that 220 people from 26 states, including California and the District of Columbia, reported getting measles as of November 3, 2018. In 2017, 120 U.S. measles cases were reported for the entire year. In 2015, a large measles outbreak was linked to Disneyland visitors.

California has confirmed 20 measles cases so far this year, according to the California Department of Public Health.

Symptoms of measles include a fever as high as 105 degrees, cough, runny nose, red eyes and a rash (usually starting on the face and spreading down the body). The rash occurs about 14 days after a person is exposed to measles. Patients are considered contagious from four days before to four days after the rash appears.

Measles is highly contagious. Unvaccinated travelers -- especially those returning from England, France, Germany, India, and the Philippines -- bring it back to the U.S. It is spread "by direct contact with infectious droplets or by airborne spread when an infected person breathes, coughs or sneezes. Measles virus can remain infectious in the air for up to two hours after an infected person leaves an area," according to the CDC.

Vaccination is the best way to prevent the spread of measles, which can cause serious complications to infants and young children, pregnant women, people with compromised immune systems, and others.

Increase in Young Adults Dying of Cirrhosis

The number of Americans dying of alcoholic cirrhosis is growing, with a notable increase in those aged 25-34, according to a study published in The BMJ journal. This age group experienced average annual increases in cirrhosis-related mortality of 10.5 percent from 2009 to 2016. "White Americans and Native Americans experienced the most rapid increase in this age group," according to the study. States showing the most rapid increases in annual percentage of deaths due to alcoholic cirrhosis included Louisiana, California, Kentucky, Delaware and New Mexico. The District of Columbia and Maryland showed improvements in alcoholic cirrhosis mortality.

Tech Med Corner

Finding Early-Stage Alzheimer's

A small study described in JAMA Ophthalmology used an eye exam to determine if subjects were at greater risk of developing Alzheimer's disease (AD) before they showed any symptoms. The noninvasive test examined each participant's retina and optic nerve using optical coherence tomographic angiography (OCTA), which shines light into an eye to measure retinal thickness. Researchers found that subjects who had biomarkers for AD had a larger-than-usual area in the center of their retinas without blood vessels and their retinas were much thinner than normal. Such a test for preclinical AD -- if proved effective in larger studies -- could provide a faster, cheaper, more immediate metric than current measurement of AD biomarkers using PET scans, cerebral fluid testing, or both. (TODAY, August 23, 2018)

Lower-cost Generic EpiPen®

A generic version of EpiPen® auto-injected epinephrine is being marketed for about \$110 for two pens. Called Adrenaclick®, the product reportedly has the same active ingredient as the much more expensive original, which costs \$600 for two pens. To prescribe the generic, health care providers can write "epinephrine auto-injector" to ensure receipt of the lowest-priced product. (Shots, NPR, August 16, 2018)

Administrative Actions

May 1, 2018 – July 31, 2018

PHYSICIANS AND SURGEONS

ADANTE, BEATRICE KUN-HOI (A 115045)

Loma Linda, CA

No admissions but charged with gross negligence, repeated negligent acts and incompetence in the care and treatment of one patient. Surrender of License. May 21, 2018

[View Document](#)

ADMIRE, ANTHONY ALLAN, M.D. (C 156690)

Scottsdale, AZ

Committed dishonest or corrupt acts for failing to disclose his conviction for driving under the influence on his application for licensure. Probationary license issued, placed on three years' probation with terms and conditions including, but not limited to, completing an ethics course. June 27, 2018

[View Document](#)

AL-SADEK, MOHAMED FEKRY, M.D. (A 89182)

Santa Ana, CA

No admissions but charged with gross negligence, repeated negligent acts, and failure to maintain adequate and accurate medical records in the care and treatment of one patient. Revoked, stayed, placed on three years' probation with terms and conditions including, but not limited to, completing an education course, a prescribing practices course, a medical record keeping course, an ethics course, and a clinical competence assessment program. June 1, 2018

[View Document](#)

ANDERSON, SCOTT VIRDEN (A 36233), Ashland, OR

Unable to satisfy the terms and conditions of his probation. Surrender of License. May 7, 2018

[View Document](#)

ANDREW, MADELINE, M.D. (A 51143), Fairfield, CA

No admissions but charged with being convicted of a misdemeanor for driving under the influence of alcohol; used alcohol in such a manner as to be dangerous or injurious to herself, another person, or to the public; and has a condition affecting her ability to practice medicine safely. Revoked, stayed, placed on three years' probation with terms and conditions including, but not limited to, abstaining from the use of controlled substances and

Explanation of disciplinary language and actions

"Effective date of decision" — Example: "March 14, 2012" at the bottom of the summary means the date the disciplinary decision goes into operation.

"Gross negligence" — An extreme deviation or departure from the standard of care.

"Incompetence" — Lack of knowledge or skills in discharging professional obligations.

"Judicial review pending" — The disciplinary decision is being challenged through the court system, i.e., Superior Court, Court of Appeal, or State Supreme Court. The discipline is currently in effect.

"Probationary License" — A conditional license issued to an applicant with probationary terms and conditions. This is done when cause exists to deny the license application, but limitations can be put in place to protect the public.

"Public Letter of Reprimand" — A lesser form of discipline that can be negotiated after or in lieu of the filing of formal charges. The reprimand may include educational and clinical training requirements.

"Revoked" — The right to practice is ended due to disciplinary action. The license is invalidated, voided, annulled, or rescinded.

"Revoked, stayed, 5 years' probation with terms and conditions, including 60 days suspension" — "Stayed" means the revocation is postponed. Professional practice may continue so long as the licensee complies with specified probationary terms and conditions which, in this example, includes 60 days of actual suspension from practice. Violation of any term of probation may result in the revocation that was postponed.

"Stipulated Decision or Settlement" — A form of plea bargaining. The case is formally negotiated and settled prior to hearing.

"Surrender" — To resolve a disciplinary action, the licensee has given up his or her license — subject to acceptance by the Board.

"Suspension from practice" — The licensee is prohibited from practicing for a specific period of time.

alcohol, completing a prescribing practices course and an ethics course, submitting to biological fluid testing, and obtaining a practice monitor. July 18, 2018

[View Document](#)

ARAKAKI, CHARLES MORI, M.D. (C 145133), Honolulu, HI

Public Letter of Reprimand issued pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 2233 for being disciplined by Hawaii for failing to report discipline taken by the Texas and Arizona medical boards.

June 6, 2018

[View Document](#)

ATIYA, WASEF YUSUF, M.D. (A 32839), Hemet, CA

Committed acts of gross negligence in the care and treatment of three patients; repeated negligence, prescribing without an appropriate prior examination and medical indication, and failed to maintain adequate and accurate medical records in the care and treatment of four patients; and excessive prescribing in the care and treatment of two patients. Revoked, stayed, placed on three years' probation with terms and conditions including, but not limited to, prohibited from ordering, prescribing, dispensing, administering, furnishing, or possessing any controlled substances except for Adderall, Ritalin and drugs listed in Schedules III, IV and V and from issuing an oral or written recommendation or approval to possess or cultivate marijuana; maintaining a record of all controlled substances ordered, prescribed, dispensed, administered, or possessed; completing an education course, a prescribing practices course, a medical record keeping course, and a clinical competence assessment program; and obtaining a practice monitor. June 15, 2018

[View Document](#)

BADII, ROOZBEH, M.D. (C 143701), San Diego, CA

Public Letter of Reprimand issued pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 2233 for being disciplined by Maryland for pre-signing prescription forms and authorizing a nurse to complete the prescription forms. June 8, 2018

[View Document](#)

BAKOS, JOHN THOMAS (A 67792), Sacramento, CA

Committed acts of gross negligence, repeated negligence, failure to maintain adequate and accurate medical records, prescribing without an appropriate prior examination and medical indication, and excessive prescribing in the care and treatment of four patients. Revoked. July 26, 2018

[View Document](#)

BAUTISTA, ARWINNAH, M.D. (C 51221), National City, CA

No admissions but charged with gross negligence, repeated negligent acts, and failure to maintain adequate and accurate medical records in the care and treatment of one patient; aiding and abetting the unlicensed practice of medicine; false advertising; and failing to obtain a fictitious name permit. Revoked, stayed, placed on three years' probation with terms and conditions including, but not limited to, completing an education course, a medical record keeping course, and an ethics course; obtaining a practice monitor; and prohibited from supervising and hiring estheticians. June 15, 2018

[View Document](#)

BHOOT, NILESH HARILAL, M.D. (A 94735), Montrose, CA

Public Letter of Reprimand issued pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 2233 for gross negligence in the care and treatment of one patient. May 11, 2018

[View Document](#)

BONSTEEL, ALAN (A 50164), Tiburon, CA

Physician has a condition affecting his ability to practice medicine safely and failed to comply with the terms of his Board-ordered probation. Revoked. July 20, 2018

[View Document](#)

BOSS, DONALD JEFFREY, M.D. (G 83220), Rolling Hills Estate, CA

Public Letter of Reprimand issued pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 2233 for being disciplined in Texas for failing to report a conviction on his license renewal application and disciplined in Nevada for failing to report his California disciplinary action. May 29, 2018

[View Document](#)

BOTZLER, TIN CHRISTOPHER, M.D. (A 112613), Trinidad, CA

No admissions but charged with gross negligence, repeated negligent acts, and incompetence in the care and treatment of two patients; convicted of two misdemeanors for driving while under the influence of alcohol in ten years; and used alcohol in such a manner as to be dangerous or injurious to himself, another person, or to the public. Revoked, stayed, placed on thirty-five months' probation with terms and conditions including, but not limited to, abstaining from the use of alcohol, submitting to biological fluid testing, and completing an education course and an ethics course. May 24, 2018

[View Document](#)

BOURNE, JONATHAN CORNELIUS, M.D. (G 48548), Mammoth Lakes, CA

No admissions but charged with being convicted of unauthorized transportation of archaeological resources and unauthorized excavation, removal, damage, or defacement of archaeological resources. Physician must complete an ethics course. Public Reprimand. June 15, 2018

[View Document](#)

BOWHAY, THOMAS ALAN, M.D. (A 45383), Jackson, CA

No admissions but charged with gross negligence, repeated negligent acts and failure to maintain adequate and accurate medical records in the care and treatment of six patients. Revoked, stayed, placed on five years' probation with terms and conditions including, but not limited to, maintaining a record of all controlled substances ordered, prescribed, dispensed, administered, or possessed, and any recommendation or approval to possess or cultivate marijuana; completing an education course, a prescribing practices course, a medical record keeping course, and a clinical competence assessment program; and obtaining a practice/billing monitor. July 20, 2018

[View Document](#)

BRANT, WILLIAM O., M.D. (A 91359), Salt Lake City, UT

Disciplined by Utah for engaging in sexual activity with a female medical assistant and exchanged text messages with another female medical assistant that contained sexual references. Revoked, stayed, placed on three years' probation with terms and conditions including, but not limited to, completing a professional boundaries program and an ethics course. May 18, 2018

[View Document](#)

CAMPBELL, MARK FLOYD (G 29648), San Jose, CA

No admissions but charged with gross negligence, repeated negligent acts, and failure to maintain adequate and accurate medical records in the care and treatment of one patient. Surrender of License. July 1, 2018

[View Document](#)

CARTER, ROBERT L. (C 30161), Carthage, MO

No admissions but charged with being disciplined by Missouri for being convicted of a misdemeanor for receiving misbranded prescription drugs in interstate commerce and dishonest or corrupt acts Surrender of License. July 20, 2018

[View Document](#)

CASTRO, SAM A. (C 15434), Fresno, CA

Committed acts of gross negligence, repeated negligence, incompetence, and failure to maintain adequate and accurate medical records in the care and treatment of one patient. Surrender of License. May 25, 2018

[View Document](#)

CHEN, ANGELA EN-TZU, M.D. (A 95612), San Jose, CA

No admissions but charged with gross negligence, repeated negligent acts, incompetence, and failure to maintain adequate and accurate medical records in the care and treatment of one patient. Revoked, stayed, placed on three years' probation with terms and conditions including, but not limited to, completing a medical record keeping course and a clinical competence assessment program, obtaining a practice monitor, and prohibited from performing vascular access surgeries until completion of the clinical competence assessment program. May 25, 2018

[View Document](#)

CLARIDAD, LETICIA F. (A 50529), Glenview, IL

Disciplined by Illinois for failing to report a patient's positive gonorrhea result to the Illinois Department of Public Health as required by law and failed to comply with the Illinois consent order. Surrender of License. May 14, 2018

[View Document](#)

COHEN, PHILLIP THOMAS, M.D. (G 31990), Laguna Hills, CA

Public Letter of Reprimand issued pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 2233 for acts of repeated negligence and failure to maintain adequate and accurate medical records in the care and treatment of one patient. May 31, 2018

[View Document](#)

CONOLLY, MATTHEW ELLIS, M.D. (A 34351), Los Angeles, CA

No admissions but charged with gross negligence, repeated negligence, excessive prescribing, and prescribing without an appropriate prior examination and medical indication in the care and treatment of one patient. Physician must complete a prescribing practices course. Public Reprimand. June 21, 2018

[View Document](#)

CONTRERAS, MAYRA, M.D. (A 94540), Long Beach, CA

No admissions but charged with gross negligence in the care and treatment of one patient. Physician must complete an education course. Public Reprimand. July 6, 2018

[View Document](#)

DAVIS, SCOTT MITCHELL (G 75950), Woodland Hills, CA

Failed to comply with the terms of his Board-ordered probation due to non-practice exceeding two years and failing to maintain a current and renewed license. Revoked. July 5, 2018

[View Document](#)

DAWSON, ROBERT EARL (A 45313), Kenner, LA

Unable to satisfy the terms and conditions of his Board-ordered probation. Surrender of License. May 2, 2018

[View Document](#)

DIZON, MARIA FELICITAS MESA, M.D. (A 101526), Stockton, CA

No admissions but charged with gross negligence, repeated negligent acts, and failure to maintain adequate and accurate medical records in the care and treatment of one patient. Physician must complete an education course and a medical record keeping course. Public Reprimand. May 18, 2018

[View Document](#)

DOWDELL, BRIAN CHRISTOPHER, M.D. (A 55004), Melbourne, FL

Public Letter of Reprimand issued pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 2233 for being disciplined by Florida for failing to meet the minimum standard of care for office surgeries. June 7, 2018

[View Document](#)

DYER, EVERETT BRANTLEY, III, M.D. (G 65725), El Dorado Hills, CA

No admissions but charged with gross negligence and repeated negligent acts in the care and treatment of one patient. Physician must complete an education course. Public Reprimand. May 23, 2018

[View Document](#)

ERDLE, BRANDON JAMES, M.D. (A 112365), Irvine, CA

Violated statutes regulating dangerous drugs or controlled substances by being in possession of cocaine. Publically Reprimed. June 12, 2018

[View Document](#)

EL-GASIM, MOHAMED H., M.D. (A 90853), Gilbert, AZ

Public Letter of Reprimand issued pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 2233 for being disciplined by Arizona for failing or refusing to maintain adequate medical records and for conduct and practice that is or might be harmful or dangerous to the health of a patient or the public. July 16, 2018

[View Document](#)

FAJERMAN, LEON (A 33156), El Cajon, CA

No admissions but charged with sexual abuse, misconduct or relations with a patient in the care and treatment of eight patients. Surrender of License. May 15, 2018

[View Document](#)

FORD, LOGAN VINCENT (A 126751), Oakland, CA

Committed acts of sexual abuse, exploitation, misconduct or relations with a patient in the care and treatment of three patients; convicted of a felony for rape and sexual penetration by foreign object, and a misdemeanor for sexual exploitation of patient by physician; and must register as a sex offender. Revoked. May 18, 2018

[View Document](#)

FULLER, SAMUEL EDWARD, M.D. (A 72891), Fort Collins, CO

No admissions but charged with being disciplined by Colorado for being impaired at work and having a condition affecting his ability to practice medicine safely. Revoked, stayed, placed on five years' probation with terms and conditions including, but not limited to, abstaining from the use of controlled substances and alcohol, completing an ethics course, notification of employer, submitting to biological fluid testing, attending substance abuse support group meetings, and obtaining a worksite monitor. May 18, 2018

[View Document](#)

GAIDRY, JOHN EDWARD, M.D. (A 44411), San Diego, CA

Public Letter of Reprimand issued pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 2233 for acts of repeated negligence and failing to maintain adequate and accurate medical records. May 18, 2018

[View Document](#)

GAVRIKOV, VITALIY DZHORIZHEVICH (A 102533), Atlanta, GA

Disciplined by Georgia for entering into a paid contract to be the supervising physician for an advanced practice registered nurse in violation of a prohibition against physicians being employed by an advanced practice registered nurse and not materially supervising the nursing practice during the supervisory paid relationship. Surrender of license. July 13, 2018

[View Document](#)

GIRI, SATYENDRA (A 82529), North Bend, OR

No admissions but charged with being disciplined by Oregon for unprofessional or dishonorable conduct, misrepresentation in applying for a license to practice medicine, gross or repeated negligence, and willful violation of any rule adopted by the Board. Surrender of License. May 18, 2018

[View Document](#)

GRAY, WILLIAM EDWIN, III (G 22076), Los Gatos, CA

Committed acts of gross negligence and repeated negligence for failing to register sound signals he manufactured and sold on his website with the FDA and engaged in the practice of medicine when his license was delinquent. Revoked. July 27, 2018

[View Document](#)

GUPTA, AMITABHA, M.D. (G 85190), Toronto, ON

Public Letter of Reprimand issued pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 2233 for being disciplined by the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario for having an inappropriate business relationship with a patient. July 2, 2018

[View Document](#)

GUPTA, ARUNA, M.D. (A 88415), Riverside, CA

No admissions but charged with repeated negligent acts and failure to maintain adequate and accurate medical records in the care and treatment of one patient. Physician must complete a clinical competence assessment program. Public Reprimand. July 25, 2018

[View Document](#)

GUTHRIE, TODD BRUCE, M.D. (G 60880), Mt. Shasta, CA

Public Letter of Reprimand issued pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 2233 for acts of repeated negligence and failure to maintain adequate and accurate medical records in the care and treatment of one patient. May 18, 2018

[View Document](#)

HAGHIGHI, KAMBIZ (A 68934), Beverly Hills, CA

No admissions but charged with being convicted of a misdemeanor for having cocaine in his possession; violating statutes regulating dangerous drugs; and repeated negligent acts and failure to maintain adequate and accurate medical records in the care and treatment of one patient. Revoked, stayed, placed on seven years' probation with terms and conditions including, but not limited to, prohibited from ordering, prescribing, dispensing, administering, furnishing, or possessing any controlled substances, and from issuing an oral or written recommendation or approval to possess or cultivate marijuana; surrendering his DEA permit; abstaining from the use of controlled substances and alcohol; completing an education course, a medical record keeping course, an ethics course, and a clinical diagnostic evaluation; notification of employer; submitting to biological fluid testing; attending substance abuse support group meetings; and obtaining a worksite monitor. May 18, 2018 [View Document](#)

Unable to satisfy the terms and conditions of his Board-ordered probation. Surrender of License. July 23, 2018. [View Document](#)

HALBRECHT, JOANNE, M.D. (G 137274), Boulder, CO

Public Letter of Reprimand issued pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 2233 for being disciplined by Colorado for failing to ensure a guide pin was removed from a patient's knee following a surgical procedure. July 30, 2018

[View Document](#)

HALL, EDWIN B. (G 26762), Albuquerque, NM

No admissions but charged with being disciplined by New Mexico for allowing an unlicensed individual to treat patients in his practice and billed the services of the unlicensed individual under his Medicaid ID. Surrender of License. July 19, 2018

[View Document](#)

HOHL, JOSEPH C., M.D. (G 10358), Upland, CA

Disciplined by Michigan for failing to complete his mandatory continuing education hours as required for license renewal. Physician must complete an education course. Public Reprimand. June 15, 2018

[View Document](#)

HOSSAIN, MOHAMMAD MOAZZAM, M.D. (A 34101), Redlands, CA

No admissions but charged with gross negligence, repeated negligent acts, violating statutes regulating controlled substances, and failure to maintain adequate and accurate medical records in the care and treatment of three patients. Revoked, stayed, placed on three years' probation with terms and conditions including, but not limited to, completing a prescribing practices course and a medical record keeping course, and obtaining a practice monitor. May 24, 2018

[View Document](#)

HTIN, KYAW (C 52551), Prospect, KY

No admissions but charged with being disciplined by Kentucky for failing to conform to the acceptable and prevailing standard of care in the diagnosis, treatment and records of patients; and representing a safety hazard to his patients due to his prescribing of high dose combinations of multiple opioids to patients. Surrender of License. June 22, 2018

[View Document](#)

HUANG, REGINA LINROL, M.D. (A 75382), Irvine, CA

No admissions but charged with repeated negligent acts in the care and treatment of one patient. Physician must complete an education course. Public Reprimand. May 23, 2018

[View Document](#)

HUQ, NISAR MIKAIL (C 51732), London, ON

Failed to comply with the terms of his Board-ordered probation due to non-practice exceeding two years. Revoked. May 4, 2018

[View Document](#)

ISKAROUS, RAGAA ZAKHER, M.D. (A 45155), Downey, CA

No admissions but charged with repeated negligent acts, prescribing without an appropriate prior medical examination or indication, and failure to maintain adequate and accurate medical records in the care and treatment of three patients. Physician must complete a medical record keeping course. Public Reprimand. July 26, 2018

[View Document](#)

JACOBSON, ERIC MICHAEL, M.D. (G 36315), Monterey, CA

No admissions but charged with repeated negligent acts and failure to maintain adequate and accurate medical records in the care and treatment of one patient. Physician must complete an education course and a medical record keeping course. Public Reprimand. May 9, 2018

[View Document](#)

JAVED, KHURRAM, M.D. (A 125992), Tampa, FL

Public Letter of Reprimand issued pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 2233 for being disciplined by Florida for performing an ultrasound-guided core biopsy with aspiration on a patient's right breast instead of on the patient's left breast. June 4, 2018

[View Document](#)

JOHNSON, KURT EUGENE, M.D. (G 59768), Chico, CA

No admissions but charged with gross negligence, repeated negligent acts, prescribing without an appropriate prior medical examination or indication, and failure to maintain adequate and accurate medical records in the care and treatment of seven patients. Revoked, stayed, placed on five years' probation with terms and conditions including, but not limited to, prohibited from ordering, prescribing, dispensing, administering, furnishing, or possessing any controlled substances except for those listed in Schedules III, IV, and V, and non-opioid drugs listed in Schedule II that are used to treat Attention Deficit Disorder and from issuing an oral or written recommendation or approval to possess or cultivate marijuana for the first two years of probation; maintaining a record of all controlled substances ordered, prescribed, dispensed, administered, or possessed, and any recommendation or approval to possess or cultivate marijuana; completing a prescribing practices course and a medical record keeping course; obtaining a practice monitor; and prohibited from engaging in the solo practice of medicine. July 20, 2018

[View Document](#)

KABIRI, HAMED, M.D. (A 103205), Vienna, VA

Public Letter of Reprimand issued pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 2233 for being disciplined by Virginia for failing to order spinal imaging and discharged a patient with a diagnosis of shoulder contusion, when the patient exhibited paracervical tenderness upon examination. May 10, 2018

[View Document](#)

KAYE, VLADIMIR, M.D. (A 64244), Fullerton, CA

Public Letter of Reprimand issued pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 2233 for acts of repeated negligence in the care and treatment of three patients. June 19, 2018

[View Document](#)

KELLY, WAYNE JOHN (C 43073), Menifee, CA

Failed to comply with the terms of his Board-ordered probation by failing to enroll in a prescribing practices course, an ethics course, and a clinical competence assessment program; failing to obtain a practice monitor; failing to provide proof of compliance of the notification condition; failing to submit quarterly declarations; and failing to be available in person upon request for interviews. Revoked. July 3, 2018

[View Document](#)

KIRWAN, LAURENCE ANTHONY, M.D. (A 38639), Norwalk, CT

Disciplined by Connecticut for failing to maintain adequate treatment records and/or adequate documentation of one or more surgical procedures for one patient. Physician must complete a medical record keeping course. Public Reprimand. May 18, 2018

[View Document](#)

KOHAN, PEDRAM JOSEPH, M.D. (A 156402), Palm Desert, CA

Committed acts of unprofessional conduct and incompetence during postgraduate training. Probationary license issued, placed on three years' probation with terms and conditions including, but not limited to, completing a professional enhancement program and a clinician-patient communication course and prohibited from engaging in the solo practice of medicine. April 10, 2018

[View Document](#)

KOHUT, JAMES J. (G 84723), Santa Cruz, CA

Arrested for and charged with engaging in multiple sexual acts with children under the age of 10. Revoked. June 1, 2018

[View Document](#)

LA MERS, JULIET, M.D. (A 52640), Camino, CA

Public Letter of Reprimand issued pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 2233 for acts of repeated negligence and failure to maintain adequate and accurate medical records in the care and treatment of one patient. May 21, 2018

[View Document](#)

LAIRD, ASHLEY ROSANNA (A 106422), Medford, OR

Disciplined by Oregon for violating the Medical Practice Act. Surrender of License. July 12, 2018

[View Document](#)

LAMBERTY, NORMAN LUIS, M.D. (C 146076), Tracy, CA

Public Letter of Reprimand issued pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 2233 for being disciplined by Florida for failing to report the action taken by California and failing to update his practitioner profile to reflect the action. May 17, 2018

[View Document](#)

LARSON, CHRISTOPHER ARTHUR (G 83358), Fresno, CA

No admissions but charged with being convicted of a misdemeanor for driving with a .08 percent or higher blood alcohol level and used alcohol in such a manner as to be dangerous or injurious to himself, another person, or to the public. Surrender of License. May 18, 2018

[View Document](#)

LEWIS, MOSHE MILLER, M.D. (A 90204), San Carlos, CA

No admissions but charged with gross negligence in the care and treatment of two patients, and repeated negligent acts and failure to maintain adequate and accurate medical records in the care and treatment of three patients. Physician must complete a prescribing practices course and a medical record keeping course. Public Reprimand. May 18, 2018

[View Document](#)

LIFSON, ROBERT I., M.D. (G 45355), Beverly Hills, CA

No admissions but charged with unlawful corporate practice of medicine; repeated negligent acts; and failing to obtain a fictitious name permit. Revoked, stayed, placed on four additional years probation with terms and conditions including, but not limited to, prohibited from ordering, prescribing, dispensing, administering, furnishing or possessing any controlled substances listed in Schedules II and III for the first three years of probation; prohibited from issuing an oral or written recommendation or approval to possess or cultivate marijuana; maintaining a record of all controlled substances ordered, prescribed, dispensed, administered, or possessed; completing an education course, a prescribing practices course, a medical record keeping course, an ethics course, and a clinical competence assessment program; and prohibited from owning or co-owning any weight loss facility. July 27, 2018. [View Document](#)

LIN, TOM Y., M.D. (C 146460), Riverside, CA

No admissions but charged with being disciplined by Washington for unprofessional conduct involving his unauthorized access of over 500 patient files in violation of hospital policy. Physician must complete an ethics course. Public Reprimand. May 18, 2018

[View Document](#)

LINZEY, EDWARD MICHAEL (A 25389), Irvine, CA

No admissions but charged with gross negligence and incompetence in the care and treatment of one patient and has a condition affecting his ability to practice medicine safely. Surrender of License. June 7, 2018

[View Document](#)

LU, DAVID SHIN-CHU, M.D. (G 66695), Rancho Palos Verdes, CA

No admissions but charged with gross negligence, repeated negligent acts, and incompetence in the care and treatment of one patient. Revoked, stayed, placed on three years' probation with terms and conditions including, but not limited to, completing an education course, a prescribing practices course, a medical record keeping course, and a clinical competence assessment program; and obtaining a practice monitor. May 18, 2018

[View Document](#)

MALIK, AMARA TAIMUR (A 108724), Menlo Park, CA

Committed acts of gross negligence, repeated negligence, and failure to maintain adequate and accurate medical records in the care and treatment of three patients. Revoked. May 18, 2018

[View Document](#)

MANOOKIAN, PATRICK, M.D. (A 115468), Stockton, CA

Convicted of a misdemeanor for wet and reckless driving and used alcohol in such a manner as to be dangerous or injurious to himself, another person, or to the public. Revoked, stayed, placed on five years' probation with terms and conditions including, but not limited to, abstaining from the use of controlled substances and alcohol, submitting to biological fluid testing, completing an ethics course and a clinical diagnostic evaluation, attending substance abuse support group meetings, and prohibited from engaging in the solo practice of medicine. July 27, 2018

[View Document](#)

MCGEE, JOHN R., M.D. (G 128410), Jersey City, NJ

Failed to comply with the terms of his Board-ordered probation by failing to enroll in the clinical training program and ethics course and failed to submit educational programs or courses for approval. Revoked, stayed, placed on five years' probation with terms and conditions including, but not limited to, prohibited from ordering, prescribing, dispensing, administering, furnishing or possessing any controlled substances and from issuing an oral or written recommendation or approval to possess or cultivate marijuana; completing an education course, a prescribing practices course, a medical record keeping course, an ethics course, and a clinical competence assessment program; obtaining a practice monitor; and prohibited from engaging in the solo practice of medicine. May 31, 2018

[View Document](#)

MCGEE, RONALD KEITH, M.D. (G 26491), Ladera Ranch, CA

Convicted of aiding and abetting the unlicensed practice of medicine. Revoked, stayed, placed on five years' probation with terms and conditions including, but not limited to, providing 50 hours of free community service, completing an ethics course, obtaining a billing monitor, and prohibited from hiring and/or working with and/or associating with any aestheticians. May 11, 2018

[View Document](#)

MCNAUGHTON, TIMOTHY GRANT, M.D. (A 78159), Redlands, CA

No admissions but charged with gross negligence and repeated negligent acts in the care and treatment of one patient. Physician must complete an education course and a clinical competence assessment program. Public Reprimand. June 29, 2018

[View Document](#)

MENONI, ROSALINDA MARIA, M.D. (G 59780), Huntington Beach, CA

No admissions but charged with gross negligence, repeated negligent acts, and failure to maintain adequate and accurate medical records in the care and treatment of one patient. Physician must complete a medical record keeping course. Public Reprimand. May 2, 2018

[View Document](#)

MISRA, MUKESH, M.D. (A 95774), Lancaster, CA

No admissions but charged with gross negligence, repeated negligent acts and failure to maintain adequate and accurate medical records in the care and treatment of one patient. Revoked, stayed, placed on three years' probation with terms and conditions including, but not limited to, completing an education course and a clinical competence assessment program and obtaining a practice monitor. May 3, 2018

[View Document](#)

MOHR, VICTORIA HELEN, M.D. (A 105977), Vail, CO

Public Letter of Reprimand issued pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 2233 for being disciplined by Colorado for conduct that fell below the generally accepted standards of practice. June 8, 2018

[View Document](#)

MONTONDO, DIANE DARLENE WONG, M.D. (A 83166), San Diego, CA

No admissions but charged with gross negligence and repeated negligent acts in the care and treatment of one patient. Physician must complete a clinician-patient communication program and a clinical competence assessment program. Public Reprimand. June 7, 2018

[View Document](#)

MORETZ, MCCOY LEE, M.D. (G 87291), Beverly Hills, CA

Committed acts of repeated negligence and failure to maintain adequate and accurate medical records in the care and treatment of one patient. Revoked, stayed, placed on thirty-five months' probation with terms and conditions including, but not limited to, completing an education course and a medical record keeping course and obtaining a practice monitor. May 17, 2018

[View Document](#)

MURPHY, ALLISON ANN, M.D. (A 69320), Santa Rosa, CA

Committed acts of practicing medicine while under the influence of alcohol and having a condition affecting her ability to practice medicine safely. Revoked, stayed, placed on five years' probation with terms and conditions including, but not limited to, notification of employer, submitting to biological fluid testing, attending substance abuse support group meetings, obtaining a worksite monitor, and abstaining from the use of alcohol and controlled substances. July 26, 2018

[View Document](#)

NASON, DANIEL THOMAS, M.D. (G 81821), Reno, NV

No admissions but charged with being disciplined by Nevada for engaging in conduct, that caused other physicians, staff, and patients of his practice to be disrupted. Revoked, stayed, placed on five years' probation with terms and conditions including, but not limited to, abstaining from the use of controlled substances and alcohol, completing an ethics course and a clinical diagnostic evaluation, notification of employer, submitting to biological fluid testing, attending substance abuse support group meetings, and obtaining a worksite monitor. July 27, 2018

[View Document](#)

NEWMAN, ERIN GREGG, M.D. (A 110997), Kapaa, HI

No admissions but charged with being disciplined by Hawaii for failing to accurately and completely document treatment of a minor patient in the patient's electronic medical record. Public Reprimand. May 31, 2018

[View Document](#)

NGUYEN, BACH KIM, M.D. (A 92027), Murrieta, CA

No admissions but charged with gross negligence, repeated negligent acts, and failure to maintain adequate and accurate medical records in the care and treatment of one patient. Revoked, stayed, placed on three years' probation with terms and conditions including, but not limited to, maintaining a record of all controlled substances ordered, prescribed, dispensed, administered, or possessed, and any recommendation or approval to possess or cultivate marijuana; completing an education course, a prescribing practices course, and a medical record keeping course; and obtaining a practice monitor. May 30, 2018

[View Document](#)

OSSOWSKI, MACIEJ GERARD, M.D. (A 38380), Merced, CA

No admissions but charged with gross negligence, repeated negligent acts, and failure to maintain adequate and accurate medical records in the care and treatment of one patient. Revoked, stayed, placed on three years' probation with terms and conditions including, but not limited to, completing an education course, a prescribing practices course, and a medical record keeping course; and obtaining a practice monitor. July 27, 2018

[View Document](#)

PANNU, GURNAM SINGH, M.D. (A 32856), San Martin, CA

No admissions but charged with gross negligence, repeated negligent acts, and failure to maintain adequate and accurate medical records in the care and treatment of one patient. Revoked, stayed, placed on three years' probation with terms and conditions including, but not limited to, completing an education course and a medical record keeping course, and obtaining a practice monitor. July 13, 2018

[View Document](#)

PARAYNO, MAXIMO ALANO, JR. (A 33871), Fresno, CA

Physician has a condition affecting his ability to practice medicine safely. Surrender of License. May 9, 2018

[View Document](#)

PATEL, SHIL KIRITKUMAR, M.D. (A 119305), Temecula, CA

Public Letter of Reprimand issued pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 2233 for being disciplined by North Carolina for failing to comply with the standard of care when making a decision to utilize intra-ocular diathermy to manage the macular hemorrhage near the patient's optic nerve, and the patient was inadvertently provided copies of another patient's records post-operatively. May 15, 2018

[View Document](#)

PAYNE, WILLIAM BARRETT, M.D. (A 126143), Seattle, WA

Failed to comply with the terms of his probation due to non-practice exceeding two years. Current probation order extended one year with the same terms and conditions. June 15, 2018

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PEREZ-CARDONA, JORGE HERNAN, M.D. (C 52554), Carson City, NV

Public Letter of Reprimand issued pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 2233 for being disciplined by Nevada for failing to adequately supervise a medical assistant. July 3, 2018

[View Document](#)

PERRY, FRANKLIN, M.D. (G 75288), San Mateo, CA

No admissions but charged with repeated negligent acts and failure to maintain adequate and accurate medical records in the care and treatment of two patients. Revoked, stayed, placed on thirty-five months' probation with terms and conditions including, but not limited to, completing a prescribing practices course and a medical record keeping course. May 18, 2018

[View Document](#)

PIROUZIAN, AMIR (A 60792), San Diego, CA

Failed to comply with the terms of his Board-ordered probation by failing to enroll in an ethics course, failing to undergo and complete a Board evaluation, failing to obtain a practice and/or billing monitor, failing to enroll in a clinical competence program, failing to provide proof of compliance of the notification condition, failing to comply with general probation requirements, failing to be available in person upon request for interviews, and failing to notify the Board of any periods of non-practice. Revoked. July 6, 2018. Judicial review pending.

[View Document](#)

POOMMIPANIT, SOMCHIT TEPARAK, M.D. (A 33789), Perris, CA

Public Letter of Reprimand issued pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 2233 for acts of repeated negligence and failure to maintain adequate and accurate medical records in the care and treatment of one patient. June 8, 2018

[View Document](#)

POWERS, THOMAS S., M.D. (G 15640), Santa Ana, CA

Failed to comply with the terms of his Board-ordered probation by failing to comply with biological fluid testing on multiple occasions. Revoked, stayed, placed on one additional year of probation with terms and conditions including, but not limited to, 30 days' suspension; prohibited from ordering, prescribing, dispensing, administering, furnishing, or possessing any Schedules II or III controlled substances except for anabolic steroids; maintaining a record of all controlled substances ordered, prescribed, dispensed, administered, or possessed, and any recommendation or approval to possess or cultivate marijuana; abstaining from the use of controlled substances; completing an education course, a prescribing practices course, a medical record keeping course, an ethics course, and a clinical competence assessment program; completing a medical evaluation; obtaining a practice monitor; and submitting to biological fluid testing. May 2, 2018

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PRYDE, JERRY JUDD, JR. (A 60849), Los Angeles, CA

Used dangerous drugs in such a manner as to be dangerous or injurious to himself, another person, or to the public, and has a condition affecting his ability to practice medicine safely. Revoked. May 11, 2018

[View Document](#)

RAHULAN, VIJIL K., M.D. (C 55933), Grandville, MI

Public Letter of Reprimand issued pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 2233 for being disciplined by Wisconsin for failing to report disciplinary actions taken by other states. July 26, 2018

[View Document](#)

REINERSMAN, EUGENE JOSEPH (A 116685), Fort Collins, CO

Unable to satisfy the terms and conditions of his Board-ordered probation. Surrender of License. June 11, 2018

[View Document](#)

RILEY, ANTHONY BRUCE (G 62098), San Leandro, CA

Committed acts of gross negligence, repeated negligent acts, and prescribing without an appropriate prior examination and medical indication in the care and treatment of four patients, and violated the terms of his Board-ordered probation. Revoked. May 11, 2018. Judicial Review Pending.

[View Document](#)

RODRIGUEZ, HECTOR FERNANDO, M.D. (A 92346), Playa Del Rey, CA

Committed acts of dishonesty when applying for medical privileges by not disclosing a suspension at another medical facility and Nevada and California disciplinary action. Revoked, stayed, placed on an additional two years' probation with terms and conditions including, but not limited to, 15 days' suspension and completing an education course and an ethics course. May 11, 2018

[View Document](#)

Public Letter of Reprimand issued pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 2233 for being disciplined by Nevada for failing to report California discipline to Nevada and for submitting a false answer on a license renewal application. July 16, 2018

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RODRIGUEZ, MICHAEL ANTHONY, M.D. (G 68505), Los Angeles, CA

Convicted of two misdemeanors for driving under the influence and used alcohol in such a manner as to be dangerous or injurious to himself, another person, or to the public. Revoked, stayed, placed on four years' probation with terms and conditions including, but not limited to, prohibited from engaging in the solo practice of medicine, completing an ethics course, abstaining from the use of alcohol and controlled substances, notification of employer, obtaining a worksite monitor, submitting to biological fluid testing, and attending substance abuse support group meetings. June 22, 2018

[View Document](#)

SALERNO, EGISTO (A 37903), San Diego, CA

No admissions but charged with gross negligence in the care and treatment of one patient, and repeated negligent acts and failure to maintain adequate and accurate medical records in the care and treatment of three patients. Surrender of License. May 25, 2018

[View Document](#)

SAUER, RICHARD NEILL, M.D. (A 29403), Roseville, CA

Committed acts of gross negligence, repeated negligence, and failure to maintain adequate and accurate medical records in the care and treatment of two patients. Revoked, stayed, placed on five years' probation with terms and conditions including, but not limited to, completing an education course, a medical record keeping course, and an ethics course; obtaining a practice monitor; and prohibited from engaging in the solo practice of medicine. May 25, 2018. Judicial Review Pending.

[View Document](#)

SAXTON, ERNESTINA MARIA HOWELL, M.D. (G 52068), Fresno, CA

No admissions but charged with gross negligence in the care and treatment of seven patients, repeated negligent acts in the care and treatment of six patients, and failure to maintain adequate and accurate medical records in the care and treatment of eight patients. Revoked, stayed, placed on five years' probation with terms and conditions including, but not limited to, prohibited from ordering, prescribing, dispensing, administering, furnishing, or possessing any controlled substances except for those listed in Schedules III, IV, and V and from issuing an oral or written recommendation or approval to possess or cultivate marijuana until completion of a prescribing practices course; maintaining a record of all controlled substances ordered, prescribed, dispensed, administered, or possessed and any recommendation or approval to possess or cultivate marijuana; completing an education course, a prescribing practices course, and a medical record keeping course; and obtaining a practice monitor. June 22, 2018

[View Document](#)

SCHAPER, ANTHONY (A 41838), Bishop, CA

Convicted of two misdemeanors for manufacturing or possessing a firearm not immediately recognizable as a firearm and possession of firearm or ammunition with knowledge of a restraining order and has a condition affecting his ability to practice medicine safely. Revoked. June 22, 2018

[View Document](#)

SCHILLING, RONALD MICHAEL, M.D. (G 60661), Huntington Beach, CA

Convicted of a misdemeanor for driving under the influence of drugs, violated statutes regulating dangerous drugs or controlled substances by being in possession of cocaine, and used controlled substances in such a manner as to be dangerous or injurious to himself, another person, or to the public. Revoked, stayed, placed on six years' probation with terms and conditions including, but not limited to, abstaining from the use of controlled substances and alcohol, completing an ethics course and a clinical diagnostic evaluation, notification of employer, submitting to biological fluid testing, attending substance abuse support group meetings, and obtaining a worksite monitor. May 18, 2018

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SEARS, ROBERT WILLIAM, M.D. (A 60936), Capistrano Beach, CA

No admissions but charged with gross negligence, repeated negligent acts, and failure to maintain adequate and accurate medical records in the care and treatment of one patient. Revoked, stayed, placed on thirty-five months' probation with terms and conditions including, but not limited to, completing an education course and an ethics course, and obtaining a practice monitor. July 27, 2018

[View Document](#)

SERAG, AHMED ABO-ELKHIER, M.D. (A 91166), Anaheim, CA

No admissions but charged with being convicted of a misdemeanor for cruelty to animals and committed dishonest or corrupt acts. Revoked, stayed, placed on four years' probation with terms and conditions including, but not limited to, providing 120 hours of free community service, completing an education course and an ethics course, and prohibited from engaging in the solo practice of medicine. May 18, 2018

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SHETTELL, BENJAMIN (A 106932), Redding, CA

Convicted of 24 felonies for oral copulation of a person under 18 years of age, one felony for commission of a lewd act upon a child, and two felonies for use of a minor as a model for creation of child pornography; and must register as a sex offender. Revoked. June 13, 2018

[View Document](#)

SINCAVAGE, DAVID LOUIS, JR. (G 54537), Brentwood, TN

No admissions but charged with being disciplined by Kentucky for his care and treatment of three patients, and has a condition affecting his ability to practice medicine safely. Surrender of License. May 11, 2018

[View Document](#)

SINGLETON, RASHEED AMIR, M.D. (A 86753), Englewood, CO

Public Letter of Reprimand issued pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 2233 for being disciplined by Colorado for conducting in-office urine drug screens and subsequent confirmatory testing on a patient that were not medically necessary, failed to adequately document the indication for ordering drug screens and confirmatory testing, and failed to document informed consent. May 14, 2018

[View Document](#)

SIVAK, DENIS MORRIS, M.D. (C 32493), Green Farms, CT

Public Letter of Reprimand issued pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 2233 for being disciplined by Connecticut for failing to review a pap smear laboratory report and failing to inform the patient of the abnormal results. June 26, 2018

[View Document](#)

SMIDA, KAROL ANDREW (A 67155), Petaluma, CA

No admissions but charged with being convicted of a felony for driving under the influence of alcohol with an admission to causing bodily harm and used alcohol in such a manner as to be dangerous or injurious to himself, another person, or to the public. Surrender of License. July 6, 2018

[View Document](#)

SPIRTOS, GARY NICHOLAS (A 62521), Scottsdale, AZ

Disciplined by Arizona for committing malpractice and boundary violations. Revoked. July 27, 2018

[View Document](#)

STOLPNER, DENNIS, M.D. (A 156847), Studio City, CA

Convicted of misdemeanors for driving under the influence of alcohol, driving with a blood alcohol level of .08% or more, and a special enhancement for driving with a blood alcohol level above .15%; used alcohol in such a manner as to be dangerous or injurious to himself, another person, or to the public; and disciplined by New York for the conviction. License issued, revoked, stayed, placed on five years' probation with terms and conditions including, but not limited to, completing an ethics course, an education course, and a clinical competence assessment program; prohibited from engaging in the solo practice of medicine; and obtaining a practice monitor. July 5, 2018

[View Document](#)

SU, DAVID HUANG KWA, M.D. (G 59360), Orange, CA

No admissions but charged with gross negligence in the care and treatment of five patients; and repeated negligent acts, dishonesty, knowingly making or signing a document related to the practice of medicine that falsely represented the existence or nonexistence of a state of facts, and failure to maintain adequate and accurate medical records in the care and treatment of eight patients. Revoked, stayed, placed on seven years' probation with terms and conditions including, but not limited to, 30 days' suspension, completing an education course, a medical record keeping course, an ethics course, a clinical competence assessment program, and a physician enhancement program; prohibited from engaging in the solo practice of medicine; prohibited from performing more than ten operative deliveries per month and must have a co-surgeon during any operative deliveries, surgeries, or procedures; and shall have a proctor for the first twenty-five deliveries that he performs in which he is the primary physician and surgeon. May 18, 2018

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SUN, RUTH L., M.D. (A 108760), Los Angeles, CA

No admissions but charged with repeated negligent acts and failure to maintain adequate and accurate medical records in the care and treatment of one patient. Revoked, stayed, placed on thirty-five months' probation with terms and conditions including, but not limited to, completing an education course and a medical record keeping course and obtaining a practice monitor. June 29, 2018

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SUSSER, MURRAY RICHARD (G 22316), Los Angeles, CA

Unable to satisfy the terms and conditions of his Board-ordered probation. Surrender of License.

May 18, 2018

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SUTHERLAND, ELIZABETH ANNE (G 40463), Danville, CA

Failed to comply with the terms of her Board-ordered probation by failing to complete the ethics course, failing to comply with biological fluid testing, failing to participate in substance abuse support group meetings, failing to file quarterly declarations, and failing to renew her license; used controlled substances in such a manner as to be dangerous or injurious to herself, another person, or to the public; and has a condition affecting her ability to practice medicine safely. Revoked. July 27, 2018

[View Document](#)

VANCE, DONALD ALTON, M.D. (C 34997), Bonita, CA

Public Letter of Reprimand issued pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 2233 for acts of repeated negligence and failure to maintain adequate and accurate medical records in the care and treatment of one patient. June 20, 2018

[View Document](#)

VIRDEN, CHARLES PATRICK, M.D. (G 65828), Truckee, CA

Public Letter of Reprimand issued pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 2233 for being disciplined by Nevada for failing to maintain proper medical records and four counts of malpractice relating to the treatment of two patients. June 7, 2018

[View Document](#)

WILSON, MARCELLA MARIA, M.D. (G 59275), San Diego, CA

Committed acts of dishonesty for forging the signature of another physician on a prescription pad. Physician must complete an ethics course. Public Reprimand. May 4, 2018

[View Document](#)

WU, NORA WIE (G 51193), Carmichael, CA

No admissions but charged with gross negligence, repeated negligent acts and failure to maintain adequate and accurate medical records in the care and treatment of six patients; and has a condition affecting her ability to practice medicine safely. Surrender of License. July 24, 2018

[View Document](#)

YUTUC, DAVID R., M.D. (A 81938), Buena Park, CA

No admissions but charged with gross negligence in the care and treatment of 17 patients; and repeated negligent acts and failure to maintain adequate and accurate medical records in the care and treatment of 20 patients. Revoked, stayed, placed on five years' probation with terms and conditions including, but not limited to, completing an education course, a prescribing practices course, a medical record keeping course, and a clinical competence assessment program; and obtaining a practice monitor. July 27, 2018

[View Document](#)

ZAIDI, SYED K., M.D. (A 104652), Orangevale, CA

Committed acts of repeated negligence and dishonesty in the care and treatment of two patients. Revoked, stayed, placed on three years' probation with terms and conditions including, but not limited to, completing an education course, an ethics course, and a clinical competence assessment program; obtaining a practice monitor; prohibited from engaging in the solo practice of medicine; and required to have a third party chaperone present when consulting, examining or treating female patients. July 9, 2018

[View Document](#)

PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS

BERTRAMS, DANIEL THOMAS, P.A. (PA 55534), Marina Del Rey, CA

Convicted of a misdemeanor for driving while impaired in 2016. Probationary license issued, placed on five years' probation or until he is successfully discharged from the Diversion Program plus one year, whichever is longer, with terms and conditions including, but not limited to, completing a clinical diagnostic evaluation, abstaining from the use of alcohol and controlled substances, enrolling and participating in a drug and alcohol recovery monitoring program, submitting to biological fluid testing, attending facilitated group support meetings, obtaining a work site monitor, and obtaining approval of a supervising physician. May 3, 2018

[View Document](#)

CLARK, MARY KAY (PA 19550), San Diego, CA

Failed to comply with the terms of her Board-ordered probation due to non-practice exceeding 30 calendar days. License Cancelled. July 18, 2018

[View Document](#)

GALVIN, COLLEEN MARIE, P.A. (PA 12889), Oakland, CA

No admissions but charged with gross negligence, prescribing without an appropriate prior medical examination or indication, excessive prescribing and failure to maintain adequate and accurate medical records in the care and treatment of four patients. Revoked, stayed, placed on five years' probation with terms and conditions including, but not limited to, 60 days' suspension, prohibited from administering, issuing a drug order, or handing to a patient or possessing any controlled substances except for those drugs listed in Schedule IV; maintaining a record of all controlled substances administered, transmitted orally or in writing on a patient's record or handed to a patient; providing 80 hours of free community service; completing a medical record keeping course, an education course, and a prescribing practices course; maintaining written medical records for each patient and make them available for inspection; having a supervising physician on site at all times respondent is practicing; obtaining a work site monitor; and obtaining approval of a supervising physician. June 20, 2018

[View Document](#)

HARRIS, LEONARD RUSSELL (PA 16521), Roseville, CA

Convicted of a misdemeanor for lewd and lascivious act upon a child between fourteen and fifteen years of age by an adult at least ten years older than the child and must register as a sex offender. Revoked. June 15, 2018

[View Document](#)

JARMAN, BRIAN K., P.A. (PA 51473), Highland, CA

Failed to comply with the terms of his Board-ordered probation by failing to abstain from the use of alcohol. Revoked, stayed, placed on two additional years' probation with terms and conditions including, but not limited to, completing a clinical diagnostic evaluation, abstaining from the use of alcohol and controlled substances, enrolling in a drug and alcohol recovery monitoring program, submitting to biological fluid testing, attending facilitated group meetings, obtaining a worksite monitor, completing an ethics course, obtaining approval of a supervising physician, and notification of employer. July 9, 2018. [View Document](#)

THROMBLEY, EDWARD GEORGE, P.A. (PA 55700), San Diego, CA

Convicted of a misdemeanor for disturbing the peace. Probationary license issued, placed on five years' probation with terms and conditions including, but not limited to, completing an ethics course, obtaining approval of a supervising physician, having a supervising physician on site at all times respondent is practicing, and notification of employer. June 21, 2018

[View Document](#)

TODD, GERALD ANDREW, P.A. (PA 13916), Los Angeles, CA

No admissions but charged with gross negligence in the care and treatment of one patient, and repeated negligent acts and failure to maintain adequate and accurate medical records in the care and treatment of two patients. Revoked, stayed, placed on three years' probation with terms and conditions including, but not limited to, prohibited from administering, issuing a drug order, or handing to a patient or possessing any controlled substances except for those drugs listed in Schedules IV and V; completing a medical record keeping course and a prescribing practices course; maintaining medical records for each patient and make them available for immediate inspection; and obtaining approval of a supervising physician. June 15, 2018

[View Document](#)

WARREN, ROBERT COLIN (PA 11746), Novato, CA

Failed to comply with the terms of his Board-ordered probation due to due to non-practice exceeding 30 calendar days. License Cancelled. July 17, 2018

[View Document](#)

PODIATRIC MEDICINE

PROEHL, DARRICK WILLIAM (E 5140), Mountain View, CA

Convicted of misdemeanors for driving under the influence with a blood alcohol higher than .08 and for hit and run, and has a condition affecting his ability to practice medicine safely. Revoked. June 29, 2018

[View Document](#)

SHOCK, THOMAS GRANT (E 3241), Lodi, CA

Committed acts of gross negligence and repeated negligence in the care and treatment of one patient. Surrender of License. June 4, 2018

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MBC Meetings

January 31 - February 1, 2019: Northern California Area
May 9-10, 2019: Southern California Area
August 8-9, 2019: San Francisco Area
November 7-8, 2019: Southern California Area

All meetings of the Medical Board of California are open to the public. To the extent possible, meetings will be webcast and offered via teleconference. To watch the meetings streamed live and/or to find the telephone number to phone in a question, visit the Board's website at www.mbc.ca.gov.

Contact Us:

Medical Board of California

For questions or assistance with the following: **(800) 633-2322**
or (916) 263-2382

Consumer Complaints/Information
Applications
Health Facility Discipline Reports
Fictitious Name Permits
License Renewals
BrEZe Assistance

For questions or assistance with the following:

Continuing Education (916) 263-2645
Expert Reviewer Program (818) 551-2129
Publications/Outreach (916) 263-2466

Affiliated Healing Arts Professions

Midwives - all inquiries (916) 263-2393
Physician Assistants (916) 561-8780

Department of Consumer Affairs

Healing Arts Board and Bureau Complaints (800) 952-5210

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Business and Professions Code § 2021(b) and (c) require physicians to inform the Medical Board in writing of any name or address change. Go to: www.mbc.ca.gov/Licensees/Address_of_Record.aspx.

Medical Board of California, Executive Director — Kimberly Kirchmeyer

Fall 2018 — Medical Board of California Newsletter — Susan Wolbarst, Editor (916) 263-2480

Contact us by email: webmaster@mbc.ca.gov