

FILED

January 12, 2004

**NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD
OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS**

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STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF LAW & PUBLIC SAFETY
DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

IN THE MATTER OF THE SUSPENSION : Administrative Action
OR REVOCATION OF THE LICENSE OF :

CONSENT ORDER

NISRIN Q. DAHODWALA, M.D.
LICENSE #MA 57870

TO PRACTICE MEDICINE AND SURGERY :
IN THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY :

This matter was opened to the New Jersey State Board of Medical Examiners (the Board) upon receipt of an investigative report from the Enforcement Bureau, Division of Consumer Affairs, which disclosed that Nisrin Dahodwala, M.D., who has a solo practice in pediatric and adolescent medicine, had pre-signed two

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pads of prescription blanks for use by an advanced practice nurse (APN) who had been hired to cover Dr. Dahodwala's practice from March 3, 2000 to March 25, 2000 when the doctor took a three week vacation and again on April 13, 2000 to April 15, 2000. The Board reviewed the investigative report and supporting documentation and acquired further information on February 26, 2003 when Dr. Dahodwala appeared pro se before a Preliminary Evaluation Committee of the Board. She testified that this was the first time she had an APN work in her practice. Dr. Dahodwala further testified that she did not check the APN's credentials and did not establish a written joint protocol between herself and the APN. The doctor further indicated that in her absence she had arranged for another physician to serve as a collaborating physician to be available by telephone when the APN worked in Dr. Dahodwala's office. Dr. Dahodwala also testified that there was no written agreement between the collaborating physician and the APN at that time. Dr. Dahodwala admitted that she signed the prescription blanks before she left for vacation and that she did not know the requirements for APN's to write prescriptions in the physician's office setting. It appears to the Board that Dr. Dahodwala placed her patients in danger in that she had no established joint protocol with the APN, failed to check the APN's qualifications, did not inquire as to the requirements for the APN to prescribe in the office setting and failed to establish reasonable safeguards in her absence. The

Board has determined that Dr. Dahodwala's failure to establish and follow a joint protocol on the two occasions she hired the APM to work in her office as required by N.J.A.C. 13:45-6.6 is grounds for disciplinary action by the Board.

The parties being desirous of resolving this matter and the Board finding the within Order to be adequately protective of the public interest and for good cause shown,

IT IS **THEREFORE** on this *9th* day of ~~November~~, 2003,
December
HEREBY ORDERED AND AGREED THAT:

1. Nisrin Dahodwala, M.D. shall cease and desist from hiring an Advanced Practice Nurse' (APN) to work in her pediatric and adolescent practice without first establishing and following a joint protocol as required by N.J.A.C. 13:35-6.6.

2. Nisrin Dahodwala, M.D. shall pay a civil penalty in the amount of \$1,000.00 by submitting a certified check or money order made payable to the State Board of Medical Examiners at P.O. Box 183, Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0183 within thirty (30) days of the entry date of this Order.

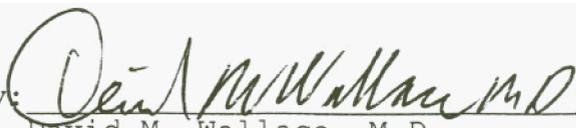
3. Nisrin Dahodwala, M.D. shall pay costs in the amount of \$2084.41 by submitting a certified check or money order made payable to the State Board of Medical Examiners at P.O. Box 183, Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0183 within thirty (30) days of the entry date of this Order.

4. Failure to remit any payment required by this Order will result in the filing of a certificate of debt.

5. Within six (6) months of the entry date of this Consent Order, Nisrin Dahodwala, M.D. shall enroll in and complete an ethics course that is satisfactory to the Board which involves an awareness of the regulations of this Board.

6. Failure to comply with any of the terms of this Consent Order may result in further disciplinary action.

NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

By: 
David M. Wallace, M.D.
Board President

I have read and understand the contents of this Order and agree to be bound by its terms. Consent is hereby given to the Board to enter this Order.


Nisrin Q. Dahodwala, M.D. 11/12/03