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VETERINARY MEDICAL EXAMINERS
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STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF LAW & PUBLIC SAFETY
DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICAL EXAMINERS
Docket No.

IN THE MATTER OF THE SUSPENSION :
OR REVOCATION OF THE LICENSE : Administrative Action
OF :
 : **COMPLAINT**
 :
ADAM SNIDERMAN, V.M.D. :
LICENSE NO. 29VI00480900 :
 :
TO PRACTICE VETERINARY MEDICINE :
IN THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY :
 :
_____ :

Anne Milgram, Attorney General of the State of New Jersey,
by Carla M. Silva, Deputy Attorney General, with offices located
at 124 Halsey Street, Fifth Floor, Newark, New Jersey 07101, by
way of Complaint says:

GENERAL ALLEGATIONS

1. Complainant, Attorney General of New Jersey, is charged with enforcing the laws in the State of New Jersey pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:17A-4(h) and is empowered to initiate administrative disciplinary proceedings against persons licensed by the Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners (the "Board") pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:1-14, et seq.

2. The Board is charged with the duty and responsibility of regulating the practice of veterinary medicine in the State of New Jersey pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:16-1, et seq.

3. Respondent, Adam Sniderman, V.M.D., is licensed to practice veterinary medicine in the State of New Jersey and is the holder of License No. 29VI00480900.

4. At all times relevant hereto Respondent maintained an office for the practice of veterinary medicine at Veterinary MRI and Radiotherapy Center of New Jersey, 1071 Paulison Avenue, Clifton, New Jersey.

5. Respondent currently maintains an office for the practice of veterinary medicine at Adams Animal Care, P.C., 133 E. Palisades Avenue, Unit H, Englewood, New Jersey.

COUNT I

(Gross Negligence)

1. The general allegations are repeated and realleged as if set forth at length herein.

2. On May 2, 2003, Cathy Leck brought her cat Tetley, a thirteen year old male Persian, to Respondent at the Veterinary MRI and Radiotherapy Center of New Jersey (hereinafter the "Center") for sedation and a CT scan.

3. Dr. Greg Leck, D.V.M., Mrs. Leck's husband, had previously informed Respondent that Tetley had a history of multiple diseases and prior airway problems thereby making anesthetic management of the cat difficult. He had provided the respondent with documents indicating, among other things, that Tetley had an underlying cardiac disease.

4. Prior to the imaging procedure on May 2, 2003 and during the intubation procedure, Mrs. Leck again expressed her concerns to Respondent and the technicians that Tetley was prone to breathing problems.

5. Respondent advised Mrs. Leck that he would be monitoring the anesthesia while another veterinarian at the Center would be performing the scan.

6. Anesthesia was commenced by technicians in the Center and multiple attempts at intubation were made by the technicians.

7. Respondent and the technicians did not appropriately monitor Tetley's vital signs throughout the procedure.

8. Respondent, who had been entering and exiting the room where the procedure was performed, later retrieved another anesthetic drug and held Tetley while the technician made several additional unsuccessful attempts to intubate the cat.

9. Respondent then attempted to intubate Tetley himself. Once respondent was satisfied that the cat was intubated, the imaging procedure was finally begun after approximately forty (40) minutes of intubation attempts.

10. Shortly thereafter, the procedure was halted. Respondent examined Tetley and determined he had gone into cardiac arrest.

11. Respondent did not have the necessary emergency equipment and medications available in the room.

12. Resuscitation attempts were unsuccessful and Tetley died.

13. Respondent's failure to properly undertake and/ or supervise the management and induction of Tetley's anesthesia, failure to respond to Tetley's compromised condition by

continuing the attempts at intubation, failure to anticipate and be prepared for an emergency complication for a known high risk patient and failure to respond appropriately to an emergency in an effective manner thereby damaging or endangering the life, health, welfare, safety or property of his patient constitutes gross negligence and malpractice in violation of N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(c); and

WHEREFORE, the Attorney General of New Jersey demands the entry of an Order against the Respondent:

1. For the suspension or revocation of Respondent's license to practice veterinary medicine, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:1-21;

2. Imposing penalties upon the Respondent for each separate offense set forth herein, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:1-25;

3. Directing the payment of appropriate restitution;

4. Imposing costs upon the Respondent, including investigative costs, fees for expert witnesses, attorney's fees and costs of hearing, such as transcript costs, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:1-25(d); and

5. For such other and further relief as the Board shall deem just and appropriate.

ANNE MILGRAM
ATTORNEY GENERAL OF NEW JERSEY

By: 
Carla M. Silva
Deputy Attorney General .

Date: November 2, 2007

