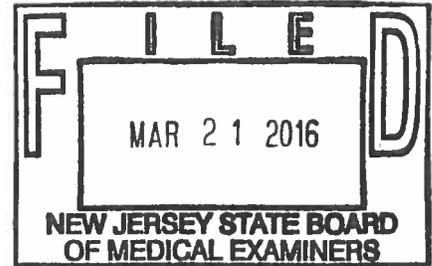


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STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF LAW & PUBLIC SAFETY
DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

IN THE MATTER OF THE LICENSE OF : Administrative Action
: :
Diptika Patel, M.D. : CONSENT ORDER
License No. MA03959700 :
: :
TO PRACTICE MEDICINE AND SURGERY :
IN THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY :

This matter was opened to the New Jersey State Board of Medical Examiners ("Board") upon receipt of information that Diptika Patel, M.D. ("Respondent") allegedly gave her office secretary, J.P., who is not a licensed health care provider, authorization to refill patient prescriptions for non-narcotic, non-antibiotic medications while Respondent was in India, from September 27, 2012 through October 7, 2012. The Board's investigation, including statements from J.P., establish Respondent's misconduct. In responding to the Board's request for information, Respondent admitted the misconduct and stated that she believed a non-licensed person could refill medication

for a patient if the patient was on the medication for a long time, as long as it was not an antibiotic or narcotic.

After considering the information before the Board, the Board finds that Respondent's conduct, described above, constitutes engagement in professional or occupational misconduct in violation of N.J.S.A 45:1-21(e); and the aiding and abetting of unlicensed practice of medicine in violation of N.J.S.A 45:1-21(n); Furthermore, Respondent failed to comply with Board regulations relating to the prescribing, administration and dispensing of drugs, specifically N.J.A.C. 13:35-7.1 et seq. These violations of Board regulations, in turn, constitute a violation or failure to comply with the provisions of acts and regulations administered by the Board in violation of N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(h). The parties being desirous of resolving this matter without the necessity of a hearing, and it appearing that Respondent has read the terms of the within Order and understands their meaning and effect and consents to be bound by same, and the Board finds that the within disposition is adequately protective of the public health, safety and welfare, and for good cause shown,

IT IS, therefore, on this 21st day of March, 2016,

ORDERED that:

1. Respondent, Diptika Patel, M.D., is hereby reprimanded for violating the Board statutes noted above.

2. Respondent shall pay a civil penalty of \$10,000 for the violations of Board statutes noted above. The penalty shall be paid no later than ten days after the entry of this Order. The total payment of \$10,000.00 shall be made by bank check, money order, or certified check made payable to the State of New Jersey and sent to William V. Roeder, Executive Director, New Jersey State Board of Medical Examiners, Post Office Box 183, Trenton, New Jersey 08608. Any payment in a form other than those noted above will be rejected and returned. Subsequent violations of Board statutes, regulations, or orders, including this Consent Order, will subject respondent to enhanced penalties pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:1-25.

3. Respondent must successfully complete a Board approved course in medical ethics within six (6) months of the filing of this Order. "Successful completion" means that you attended all sessions of the course, fully participated in the course, and received a final evaluation of unconditional pass.

4. Respondent shall comply with the applicable portions of the attached Directives Applicable to any Medical Board Licensee who is Disciplined or whose Surrender of Licensure has Been Accepted by the Board. The Directives are incorporated herein by reference.

5. The parties stipulate that entry of this Consent Order is without prejudice to further action, investigation or

restrictions upon any reinstatement by this Board, the Attorney General, the Drug Control Unit, the Director of the Division of Consumer Affairs, or other law enforcement entities resulting from Dr. Patel's conduct prior or subsequent to entry of this Consent Order.

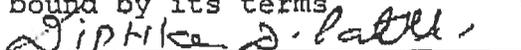
NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

By:



Stewart A. Berkowitz, M.D.
President

I have read and understood the within Order and agree to be bound by its terms.


Diptika Patel, M.D.

Date:

Consent is hereby given as to the form and entry of this Order.


Mohamed H. Nabulsi, Esq.
Attorney for Respondent

Date:

NOTICE OF REPORTING PRACTICES OF BOARD
REGARDING DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS

Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:14B-3(3), all orders of the New Jersey State Board of Medical Examiners are available for public inspection. Should any inquiry be made concerning the status of a licensee, the inquirer will be informed of the existence of the order and a copy will be provided if requested. All evidentiary hearings, proceedings on motions or other applications which are conducted as public hearings and the record, including the transcript and documents marked in evidence, are available for public inspection, upon request.

Pursuant to 45 CFR Subtitle A 60.8, the Board is obligated to report to the National Practitioners Data Bank any action relating to a physician which is based on reasons relating to professional competence or professional conduct:

- (1) Which revokes or suspends (or otherwise restricts) a license,
- (2) Which censures, reprimands or places on probation,
- (3) Under which a license is surrendered.

Pursuant to 45 CFR Section 61.7, the Board is obligated to report to the Healthcare Integrity and Protection (HIP) Data Bank, any formal or official actions, such as revocation or suspension of a license (and the length of any such suspension), reprimand, censure or probation or any other loss of license or the right to apply for, or renew, a license of the provider, supplier, or practitioner, whether by operation of law, voluntary surrender, non-renewability, or otherwise, or any other negative action or finding by such Federal or State agency that is publicly available information.

Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:9-19.13, if the Board refuses to issue, suspends, revokes or otherwise places conditions on a license or permit, it is obligated to notify each licensed health care facility and health maintenance organization with which a licensee is affiliated and every other board licensee in this state with whom he or she is directly associated in private medical practice.

In accordance with an agreement with the Federation of State Medical Boards of the United States, a list of all disciplinary orders are provided to that organization on a monthly basis.

Within the month following entry of an order, a summary of the order will appear on the public agenda for the next monthly Board meeting and is forwarded to those members of the public requesting

a copy. In addition, the same summary will appear in the minutes of that Board meeting, which are also made available to those requesting a copy.

Within the month following entry of an order, a summary of the order will appear in a Monthly Disciplinary Action Listing which is made available to those members of the public requesting a copy.

On a periodic basis the Board disseminates to its licensees a newsletter which includes a brief description of all of the orders entered by the Board.

From time to time, the Press Office of the Division of Consumer Affairs may issue releases including the summaries of the content of public orders.

Nothing herein is intended in any way to limit the Board, the Division or the Attorney General from disclosing any public document.