

# Med Board Newsletter

A publication of the Wisconsin Medical Examining Board

September 2012

## Question and Answer: Continuing Medical Education

**Can I keep an active license after I retire?**

Yes.

**How do I do that?**

In the same way as when you were actively practicing. Every two years – odd years for MDs and even years for DOs – you must file for renewal of your license. You must have earned 30 hours of CME over the previous biennium and pay a fee, which is currently \$141, in order to renew your license.

**What if I chose not to renew or missed the notification in the past?**

If the time period is less than five years, the requirement is the same: 30 hours of CME in the preceding two years and \$141, plus a \$25 late fee.

**How can I earn the 30 hours of CME credit?**

In the same way as in the past. You may attend and complete educational programs approved by

the Council on Medical Education of the American Medical Association, or the American Osteopathic Association, or the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education. The Board will accept attendance at and completion of programs accredited as the American Medical Association's or the American Osteopathic Association's "Category I" or equivalent. You should obtain a form issued by the CME provider verifying your enrollment. Many people also do their CME hours through an accredited organization on-line or through the mail. If you are disabled, CME can be done at home to obtain the 30 hours every two years. Assistance may be received in reading the material and/or marking the test form. There are often two forms – a pre-test and a post-test, which need to be returned to the provider for grading.

Voluntary, uncompensated

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## Chair's Corner

By **Sheldon A. Wasserman, MD**

In the three years since my Medical Examining Board (MEB) appointment, the major behavior that stands out from the review of numerous case files and complaints against physicians and other health care professionals is the abandonment of the basic principal of "do unto others as you would have them do unto you."

Physicians have demonstrated unprofessional behavior by referring to patients as animals such as an elephant or a cow because of the patient's obesity. This kind of communication has no role in medicine or health care.



**Dr. Sheldon  
Wasserman**

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## Medical Board Membership and Staff Assignments

The Medical Examining Board (MEB) consists of 13 members. The members are appointed by the Governor and approved by the Senate.

### MEB Members:

Sheldon Wasserman, MD, Chair (Milwaukee)  
Gene Musser, MD, Vice-Chair, (Madison)  
Jude Genereaux, Secretary, Public Member (Ellison Bay)  
James Barr, Public Member (Chetek)  
Carolyn Bronston, Public Member (Wausau)  
Mary Jo Capodice, MD (Sheboygan)  
Rodney Erickson, MD (Tomah)  
Suresh Misra, MD (Milwaukee)  
Sandra Osborn, MD (Madison)  
Kenneth Simons, MD (Milwaukee)  
Timothy Swam, MD (Marshfield)  
Sridhar Vasudevan, MD (Belgium)  
Timothy Westlake, MD (Hartland)

### Department of Safety and Professional Services (DSPS)

#### Administrative Staff:

Tom Ryan, Executive Director  
Yolanda McGowan, Legal Counsel  
Karen Rude-Evans, Bureau Assistant  
Shawn Leatherwood, Advanced Paralegal  
David Carlson, Communications Specialist

#### Executive Staff:

Dave Ross, Secretary  
Bill Wendle, Deputy Secretary  
Greg Gasper, Executive Assistant

The MEB meets monthly, usually the third Wednesday of the month. Dates and times are announced on the DSPS website at [www.dsps.wi.gov](http://www.dsps.wi.gov). Meeting agendas are posted about one week prior to the meeting and identify open and closed session agenda items.

## Wisconsin Volunteer Health Care Provider Program

Licensed physicians are eligible to participate in the State of Wisconsin's Volunteer Health Care Provider Program. The Volunteer Health Care Provider must submit a joint application with a non-profit agency, school board or governing body to the Department of Administration's Bureau of State Risk Management.

Upon approval of the application, the Volunteer Health Care Provider becomes an agent of the State of Wisconsin and is provided the broad liability protection of Wis. Stat. § 895.46. To apply, go to the Department of Administration website at [www.doa.state.wi.us](http://www.doa.state.wi.us) (Key Words – Volunteer Health).

## ARRA Grant

### Results:

#### Online License Verification System and Declaration of Cooperation

On March 1, 2010, DSPS staff began work on a two year, \$500,000 American Recovery and Reinvestment Act grant. The funding was used to improve portability of physician licensing in a two-part project.

The project resulted in a Wisconsin-based Online License Verification System (OVS). Prior to implementation of the OVS, Indiana was the only other state in the nation with its own electronic verification system. The new operation will result in same day license verification to other states, employers and insurers, better information sharing for physicians verifying a Wisconsin license, more efficient use of staff time, and it will save paper and postage costs.

In addition, Board Executive Directors from Wisconsin and eight other Midwestern states, including Minnesota, Illinois, Iowa, Indiana, Michigan, Kansas, Missouri and South Dakota met several times to discuss standardization of differing state licensing requirements. The discussions produced a Declaration of Cooperation (DOC) and Common Expedited Endorsement Eligibility Requirements (CEEER), which together provide a set of recommendations and a voluntary pathway to expedite licensing. Wisconsin, Indiana, Iowa and Minnesota have signed on to the DOC.

## Q&A

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services provided by physicians specializing in psychiatry in assisting the Department of Health Services in the evaluation of community outpatient mental health programs, as defined in Wis. Stat. § 51.01 (3n) and approved by the Department of Health Services (DHS) according to rules promulgated under Wis. Stat. § 51.42 (7) (b), is considered an acceptable continuing medical education program. Four hours of assistance, including hours expended in necessary training by DHS shall be deemed equal to one hour of acceptable continuing medical education. Physicians wishing to apply for CME credit

must register in advance with the Medical Examining Board and notify the Board on forms provided by the Board of the dates and total number of hours in any biennium for which the applicant will be available to provide assistance.

For more information go to the Education pages of the DSPS website, here: [Physician Education](#)

### **What are the reentry requirements in other states?**

In many jurisdictions, a two-year continuous interruption in practice will trigger the need for the physician to demonstrate his or her continued competence prior to reentering practice. In most cases, this will involve, at a minimum, participation in some sort of CME activities or even participation in a

formal reentry plan approved by the state medical board. Frequently, reentry plans include activities such as completion of CME, the submission of a detailed description of future practice plans, participation in a mentorship, and assessments such as standardized testing, chart audits, “mini-residencies,” and other equivalent activities.

Engaging in re-entry activities can be financially burdensome as well. Additionally, there are costs associated with maintaining liability insurance, or negotiating a new policy altogether, and consequences to relinquishing specialty certification. To ease these burdens, the

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## Chair

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Another common complaint received by the Medical Examining Board involves patient billing disputes. When physicians argue over small amounts, patients often complain to the Board. This begins an inquiry that can be lengthy and costly to the State of Wisconsin and the physician. Numerous hours are spent responding to these allegations. Although discipline by the Medical Examining Board may not result from billing disputes, bickering about co-payments that are trivial, is not worth the erosion of a physician’s standing and reputation in the community.

Wisconsin Administrative Code Chapter MED 10, which deals with unprofessional conduct, is currently under revision for the first time in decades. Our goal is to update the regulations in order to provide modernized guidelines for appropriate professional behavior. Through the public process of rule-writing, standards of unprofessional conduct will be more clearly defined and more responsive to current practice. As the Board Chair, I believe we need to consider rules in order to protect the dignity of the profession in response to new methods of communication, such as Facebook, Twitter and the Internet. I have seen postings and inappropriate pictures on Facebook by physicians that violate professional

ethics and common decency. As the rule revisions progress, your insights are welcome.

Despite the loss of faith in government, the MEB stands as a regulatory body which continues to provide a safety net for the citizens of Wisconsin by setting standards and disciplining medical professionals to ensure that patients are protected from harm and provided with safe and appropriate medical services.

*Sheldon Wasserman, M.D.*

*Chair*

*Wisconsin Medical Examining Board*

## Q&A

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Federation of State Medical Boards (FSMB) encourages licensees seeking to take a temporary leave from active practice to remain clinically active in some, even if limited, capacity. Licensees may wish to provide volunteer medical services, continue participating in CME activities if available, and maintain specialty board certification, if possible. Licensees should also seek counsel from their insurance carriers prior to leaving practice and when they are ready to re-enter practice. For more information, see the FSMB's Report of the Special Committee on Reentry to Practice at

<http://www.fsmb.org/pdf/pub-sp-cmt-reentry.pdf>.

## Enforcement Actions of the Medical Examining Board

Disciplinary options available to the Board include:

**Reprimand** – A public warning of the licensee for a violation. This is reported to the National Practitioners Data Bank (NPDB).

**Limitation of License** – Imposes conditions and requirements upon the licensee, imposes restrictions on the scope of the practice, or both. This is reported to the NPDB.

**Suspension** – Completely and absolutely withdraws and withholds for a period of time all rights, privileges and authority previously conferred by the credential. This is reported to the NPDB.

**Revocation** - To completely and absolutely terminate the credential and all rights, privileges and authority previously conferred by the credential. This is reported to the NPDB.

Non-disciplinary options available to the Board include:

**Administrative Warning** – Issued if a violation is of a minor nature, a first occurrence and the warning will adequately protect the public. Not reported to the NPDB. The content of the warning is confidential.

**Remedial Education Order** - Issued when there is reason to believe that the deficiency can be corrected with remedial education, while sufficiently protecting the public. This is not reported to the NPDB.

### Why would I want a license after I retire?

Many physicians enjoy practicing a few hours a week, some like to practice in free clinics, and others make regular mission trips to areas without physicians, both in the US and in other countries. Some physicians choose to do something else for a time, such as administrative work, and eventually want to return to active practice at a later time. As physicians, we are proud of the careers we have had. However, it is critical to be mentally and physically able to re-enter practice if that is desired.

### Administrative Warnings

#### January-June 2011

During the first six months of 2012, the Board issued 12 administrative warnings. In the past three years, the conduct most often underlying administrative warnings has included record-keeping violations and minor issues in prescriptive practices. Health care professionals are advised to insure timely, accurate and complete patient health care records are created for every patient contact, and particularly where a prescription order is issued.

### Board Orders

#### January 2012

#### Jon M. Burch, Physician, Denver, CO

The Medical Examining Board ordered conditions on the re-registration of Dr. Jon Burch's license to practice medicine and surgery due to Dr. Burch being disciplined by the Colorado State Board of Medical Examiners. Colorado placed Dr. Burch's license on probation for 5 years based on his admission that he has health conditions that require ongoing treatment and monitoring. Dr. Burch's registration to practice medicine and surgery in Wisconsin expired on October 31, 2007. He may not re-register for a license to practice medicine until he appears before the Board and provides proof that he does not suffer from any drug and alcohol or psychological condition which impairs his ability

to function as a physician, and that he is in compliance with the terms and conditions of the February 18, 2009 Colorado State Board of Medical Examiners' Order.

Dated: January 18, 2012

<http://online.drl.wi.gov/decisions/2012/ORDER0001308-00006758.pdf>

**J. Gregory Hoffmann**, Physician, Waupaca, WI

The Medical Examining Board issued an interim order continuing the summary suspension of Dr. John Gregory Hoffmann's license to practice medicine and surgery but allowing a stay of the suspension based on the following conditions. Dr. Hoffmann may practice only after either obtaining a professional mentor approved by the Board or in a work setting pre-approved by the Board. Dr. Hoffmann may not accept new patients while this matter is pending. He must undertake a self-study CME program similar to the core content review of family medicine and an in-person comprehensive review of family medicine. Dr. Hoffmann must also pass the special purpose examination (SPEX) within four months of the Board's Order. The Board summarily suspended Dr. Hoffmann's license for practicing medicine and surgery while having significant deficiencies in his medical knowledge and his clinical approach to patients.

Dated: January 18, 2012

<http://online.drl.wi.gov/decisions/2012/ORDER0001203-00006759.pdf>

**Blair L. Lewis**, Physician Assistant, Dallas, TX

The Medical Examining Board ordered that Blair L. Lewis will not reapply for registration to practice as a physician assistant in WI at any time in the future and the Department of Safety and Professional Services will not process any application for renewal of Mr. Lewis' credential after January 18, 2012 in order to resolve a pending investigation of allegations that Mr. Lewis engaged in inappropriate sexual conduct with his patient. Mr. Lewis' certificate to practice as a physician assistant expired on October 31, 2009.

Dated: January 18, 2012

<http://online.drl.wi.gov/decisions/2012/ORDER0001309-00006760.pdf>

**Roger Pinc**, Physician, Pittsburg, IL

The Medical Examining Board accepted the voluntary surrender of the license to practice medicine and surgery of Dr. Roger Pinc, M.D., and ordered that Dr. Pinc may not practice in Wisconsin when not currently licensed and registered. The Board found that Dr. Pinc had committed unprofessional conduct by failing to report his pending criminal charge to the Medical Licensing Board of Indiana.

Dated: January 18, 2012

<http://online.drl.wi.gov/decisions/2012/ORDER0001304-00006753.pdf>

## February 2012

**Naglaa Abdel-AL**, Physician, Windermere, FL

The Medical Examining Board accepted Dr. Abdel-Al's voluntary surrender of her license to practice medicine and surgery as a result of having been disciplined by the Arizona Medical Board. Dr. Abdel-Al was disciplined by the Arizona Medical Board for taking Diprivan and patient abandonment.

Dated: February 15, 2012

<http://online.drl.wi.gov/decisions/2012/ORDER0001359-00006864.pdf>

**Richard Banchs**, Physician, Chicago, IL

The Medical Examining Board reprimanded Dr. Richard Banchs for being disciplined by the Minnesota Board of Medical Practice. Dr. Banchs was disciplined by the Minnesota Board for writing prescriptions under another physician's name.

Dated: February 15, 2012

<http://online.drl.wi.gov/decisions/2012/ORDER0001363-00006869.pdf>

**Clifford T. Bowe**, Physician, Cadott, WI

The Medical Examining Board reprimanded Dr. Clifford Bowe for improperly prescribing medications to his patients without adequate documentation and conducting physical exams that did not support the documented

diagnosis. The Board also imposed a continuing education limitation requiring Dr. Bowe to complete CME within 9 months of the date of the Board's Order.

Dated: February 15, 2012

<http://online.drl.wi.gov/decisions/2012/ORDER0001360-00006865.pdf>

**Michael A. Dehner**, Physician, Storm Lake, IA

The Medical Examining Board limited Dr. Michael Dehner's license to practice medicine and surgery for failing to consider diagnostic possibilities, other than constipation, while treating a patient complaining of upper abdominal pain, and failing to obtain additional blood work, an ultrasound or CT as a follow-up on his diagnosis. The Board placed the following limitations Dr. Dehner's license: no later than December 31, 2012, Dr. Dehner must complete no less than 17.5 category 1 credits in medical recordkeeping pre-approved by the Board, and a comprehensive review in family medicine given or approved by the AAFP. After completing the CE requirements, including post-review, Dr. Dehner must submit to a follow up review of 5 charts twice in the year every 6 months and again every 12 months. The review shall be conducted by a physician certified by the American Board of Family Practice and approved by the Board.

Dated: February 15, 2012

<http://online.drl.wi.gov/decisions/2012/ORDER0000213-00006867.pdf>

**Brian Fox**, Physician, Elko, NV

The Medical Examining Board reprimanded Dr. Brian Fox for being disciplined by the Nevada State Board of Medical Examiners. The Nevada Board found Dr. Fox failed to properly interpret fetal heart-tracing tests and failed to timely initiate a caesarean section for his patient. Dr. Fox was also disciplined by the Michigan Board of Medicine for failing to notify the Board of a lapsed controlled substance license.

Dated: February 15, 2012

<http://online.drl.wi.gov/decisions/2012/ORDER0001364-00006870.pdf>

**Susan J. Frazier**, Physician, Rib Lake, WI

The Medical Examining Board reprimanded Dr. Susan Frazier for conduct that constituted a danger to the health, welfare, or safety of her patient or the public. While caring for her patient, who was 39 weeks pregnant, Dr. Frazier failed to recognize a medical emergency during the delivery and failed to properly assess the fetal monitoring strip while in the operating room.

Dated: February 15, 2012

<http://online.drl.wi.gov/decisions/2012/ORDER0001365-00006871.pdf>

**James A. Shapiro**, Physician, Kenosha, WI

The Medical Examining Board reprimanded Dr. James Shapiro for failing to order a Doppler study or a vascular consult regarding his patient despite the fact that the patient's neurological symptoms were worsening after having undergone a total knee arthroplasty.

Dated: February 15, 2012

<http://online.drl.wi.gov/decisions/2012/ORDER0001366-00006872.pdf>

## **March 2012**

**Nicholas C. Caro**, Physician, Chicago, IL

The Medical Examining Board accepted the voluntary surrender of Dr. Caro's license to practice medicine and surgery in Wisconsin due to his prior discipline in Illinois. The Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulations, Division of Regulation, disciplined Dr. Caro for negligent treatment of patients with refractive surgery. The Board further ordered that Dr. Caro may not petition the Medical Examining Board for any credential sooner than 6 months from the date of the Order.

Dated: March 21, 2012

<http://online.drl.wi.gov/decisions/2012/ORDER0001436-00006978.pdf>

**Raju Fatehchand**, Physician, Plain City, OH

The Medical Examining Board reprimanded Dr. Raju Fatehchand for having disciplinary action taken against his New York medical license. The New York Board for Professional Medical Conduct disciplined Dr. Fatehchand for failure to take his patient's temperature and review the patient's recent medical history in his evaluation of the patient and allowing another patient to proceed to surgery without informing the patient that his pre-operative evaluation demonstrated an elevated white blood cell count.

Dated: March 21, 2012

<http://online.drl.wi.gov/decisions/2012/ORDER0001433-00006975.pdf>

**Cindy Gile**, Physician Assistant, Holmen, WI

The Medical Examining Board reprimanded Ms. Gile for conducting correspondence via email with her patient between August 2009 and November 2009. The emails violated the ethical boundaries that should be maintained by mental health professionals by containing inappropriate content including personal information.

Dated: March 21, 2012

<http://online.drl.wi.gov/decisions/2012/ORDER0001434-00006976.pdf>

**Gregory Goetz**, Physician, Milwaukee, WI

The Medical Examining Board indefinitely suspended Dr. Goetz's license to practice medicine and surgery for prescribing pain medications without adequate medical justification such as requiring patients to provide proof of preexisting conditions or having patients undergo medical testing. The Board further ordered that Dr. Goetz may petition the Board for a stay of the suspension upon providing proof that he is in compliance with specified conditions.

Dated: March 21, 2012

<http://online.drl.wi.gov/decisions/2012/ORDER0001156-00006969.pdf>

**Gurcharran S. Randhawa**, Physician, Marshalltown, IA

The Medical Examining Board accepted the surrender of

Dr. Randhawa's license to practice medicine and surgery in Wisconsin due to his having been disciplined by the Iowa Board of Medical Examiners, as well as the Illinois and Indiana Boards. The Iowa Board issued a statement of charges against Dr. Randhawa for professional incompetency such that he suffered from a physical or mental condition which impaired his ability to practice medicine and surgery with reasonable skill and safety. A competency evaluation of Dr. Randhawa revealed deficiencies in medical practice, medical knowledge and clinical judgment and medical record keeping. As a result of the Iowa settlement agreement, reciprocal disciplinary action was imposed by the Illinois Division of Professional Regulation and the Medical Licensing Board of Indiana.

Dated: March 21, 2012

<http://online.drl.wi.gov/decisions/2012/ORDER0001427-00006968.pdf>

**Eugene C. Rigstad**, Physician, Appleton, WI

The Medical Examining Board reprimanded Dr. Rigstad for engaging in inappropriate sexual contact with patients in a clinical setting. The inappropriate conduct included hugging, kissing and expressing terms of affection toward patients while in a clinical setting. The Board imposed the following restrictions on Dr. Rigstad's license to practice medicine and surgery: he must provide a copy of the Boards' Order to his current supervisor; if he changes his practice setting he must provide a copy of the Order to his new supervisor; he is required to have a professional mentor who must submit quarterly reports to the Board's Monitor; he must engage in treatment with a psychotherapist or counselor to address appropriate patient-physician boundary issues. Dr. Rigstad is not allowed to see female patients in a clinical setting without the presence of a chaperone, nurse, or nursing assistant.

Dated: March 21, 2012

<http://online.drl.wi.gov/decisions/2012/ORDER0001428-00006970.pdf>

**William H. Shuler**, Physician, Bemidji, MN

The Wisconsin Medical Examining Board reprimanded Dr. Shuler for receiving a public reprimand from the Utah Department of Commerce Division of Occupational and Professional Licensing. The Utah Board reprimanded

Dr. Shuler for issuing online prescriptions to Utah residents while his license to practice medicine in Utah was expired.

Dated: March 21, 2012

<http://online.drl.wi.gov/decisions/2012/ORDER0001438-00006980.pdf>

**Kenneth E. Sparr**, Physician, New Glarus, WI

The Medical Examining Board reprimanded Dr. Sparr's license to practice medicine and surgery for prescribing narcotics to a family member without documenting it in the patient's record, without conducting a follow-up evaluation and without supporting diagnostic studies. The Board imposed a one-year limitation with conditions including but not limited to the following: he must provide a copy of the Order to his current supervisor; he must continue treatment with his current health care provider; he must submit quarterly healthcare reports; he must take part in weekly random drug screens; and he must meet with his professional mentor or a weekly basis.

Dated: March 21, 2012

<http://online.drl.wi.gov/decisions/2012/ORDER0001432-00006974.pdf>

**Mark Szmada**, Physician, Antigo, WI

The Medical Examining Board suspended Dr. Szmada's license to practice medicine and surgery for engaging in sexual contact with his patient. The Board imposed an immediate stay of the suspension as long as Dr. Szmada complies with certain restrictions and limitations including but not limited to the following: providing a copy of the Board's Order to his supervisor; submitting monthly reports to the Board's Monitor; and continuing treatment with his psychotherapist.

Dated: April 18, 2012

<http://online.drl.wi.gov/decisions/2011/ORDER0000716-00005797.pdf>

**William J. Washington**, Physician, Seattle, WA

The Medical Examining Board reprimanded Dr. Washington for having his license to practice medicine disciplined by the State of Washington, Department of

Health, and Medical Quality Assurance Commission. Dr. Washington entered into an agreed order with the Washington Board requiring drug and alcohol screening. He must remain in compliance with the limitations and conditions of the agreement with the State of Washington and he must file with the Wisconsin Medical Examining Board any documents he files with the State of Washington Board.

Dated: March 21, 2012

<http://online.drl.wi.gov/decisions/2012/ORDER0001431-00006973.pdf>

## April 2012

**Donald J. Baccus**, Physician, Brookfield, WI

The Medical Examining Board reprimanded Dr. Donald Baccus for using Tucker's forceps and the Kiwi vacuum instead of performing a timely cesarean section during the delivery of his patient's baby.

Dated: April 18, 2012

<http://online.drl.wi.gov/decisions/2012/ORDER0001487-00007058.pdf>

**Karen Butler**, Physician, Sturgeon Bay, WI

The Medical Examining Board reprimanded Dr. Karen Butler for making false statements on her application for a license to practice medicine and surgery in Wisconsin when she answered "No" on her application to the following questions: have you ever failed to pass any state board examination, national board examination or USMLE, or FLEX Examination and have you ever been convicted of a misdemeanor or a felony. Dr. Butler had in fact failed USMLE Step 1 and Step 2 before passing the exams and had been found guilty of aiding and abetting the preparation of a false corporate income tax return for fiscal year 1984.

Dated: April 18, 2012

<http://online.drl.wi.gov/decisions/2012/ORDER0001493-00007064.pdf>

**Penny Cornelius**, Physician Assistant, Green Bay, WI

The Medical Examining Board reprimanded Penny

Cornelius' license to practice as a physician assistant for engaging in conduct that created a danger to the health, welfare, and safety of her patient who presented with symptoms indicating pneumonia. Ms. Cornelius failed to document in the patient's chart that she recommended a chest x-ray and complete blood count, but the patient refused the tests. She also failed to recommend admitting her patient, consulting with her supervising physician or requesting a pulmonary consult before discharging the patient. The Board imposed a continuing education limitation on Ms. Cornelius' license requiring her to obtain 4 hours of CE.

Dated: April 18, 2012

<http://online.drl.wi.gov/decisions/2012/ORDER0001488-00007059.pdf>

**James D. Hanna**, Physician, La Crosse, WI

The Medical Examining Board summarily suspended Dr. James Hanna's license to practice medicine and surgery for reporting to work at the Avera Marshall Regional Medical Center, in Marshall, Minnesota, under the influence of alcohol. A blood test revealed his blood alcohol level was .212% by weight. The summary suspension is effective immediately and remains effective until a final decision and order is issued regarding the underlying disciplinary proceeding against Dr. Hanna or until the Board discontinues it pursuant to a show cause hearing.

Dated: April 18, 2012

<http://online.drl.wi.gov/decisions/2012/ORDER0001486-00007057.pdf>

**William G. Sybesma**, Physician, Moline, IL

The Medical Examining Board reprimanded and limited Dr. Sybesma's license to practice medicine due to his care of a patient while performing an endoscopic sinus surgery. During the surgery Dr. Sybesma introduced a 75 degree sinus shaver into the right maxillary sinus and removed thickened mucous membrane contents. Towards the end of the procedure he noticed sudden bleeding from the maxillary antrostomy site and bleeding from the patient's right eye. Dr Sybesma had inadvertently injured the right lateral rectus muscle and caused a fracture of the floor of the orbit resulting in a cerebral spinal fluid leak. A Vaseline pack controlled the bleeding and an ophthalmologist was consulted

immediately. The Board placed the following limitation on Dr. Sybesma's license. He shall not perform any endoscopic surgeries using the 75 degree sinus shaver until further order of the Board and after he petitions the Board that he is able to do so within the minimum standards of competence established in the profession.

Dated: April 18, 2012

<http://online.drl.wi.gov/decisions/2012/ORDER0001494-00007065.pdf>

**Michael West**, Physician, Appleton, WI

The Medical Examining Board reprimanded and limited Dr. West's license to practice medicine and surgery for failing to recognize his patient's foreshortened vagina in a timely manner after his patient had undergone a total vaginal hysterectomy and continued to complain of severe pain with intercourse, pain to the upper part of the vagina, and bleeding. Dr. West engaged in conduct that created a danger to the health, welfare, and safety of his patient when he: failed to recognize the foreshortened vagina in a timely manner; failed to utilize vaginal dilators and pelvic floor exercises prior to proceeding to surgery, and failure to utilize vaginal dilators and pelvic floor exercises post surgically to maintain the vaginal extension; and failure to advise the patient of the possibility of referral to a pelvic floor specialist or urogynecologist. The Board imposed the continuing education limitation requiring Dr. West to obtain 4 hours of CME concerning the diagnosis and treatment of post surgical complications of total vaginal hysterectomy with an emphasis on the recognition and treatment, including referral of a foreshortened vagina.

Dated: April 18, 2012

<http://online.drl.wi.gov/decisions/2012/ORDER0001492-00007063.pdf>

**May 2012**

**Bradley T. Bodner**, Physician Assistant, Wausau, WI

The Medical Examining Board reprimanded Mr. Bodner for failing to notify his supervising physician of a change in his patient's subjective description of condition from a previous evaluation and failure to document his examination of the patient in the patient's chart. The patient was presenting with lumbar disc herniation with

severe central canal stenosis. The Board also placed a continuing education limitation on Mr. Bodner's license requiring him to obtain 9 hours of CE for neurosurgical emergencies and 3 hours of CE in documentation.

Dated: May 16, 2012

<http://online.drl.wi.gov/decisions/2012/ORDER0001560-00007157.pdf>

**Michael G. O'Mara**, Physician, Oconomowoc, WI

The Medical Examining Board accepted the voluntary surrender of Dr. Michael O'Mara's license to practice medicine and surgery due to allegations that he touched a patient in an inappropriate manner during the course of a physical examination. The Board also ordered that Dr. O'Mara may not reapply for registration to practice medicine and surgery in the future and that the Department will not process any application for registration from the date of the order.

Dated: May 16, 2012

<http://online.drl.wi.gov/decisions/2012/ORDER0001558-00007155.pdf>

**Guy R. Powell**, Physician, New Berlin, WI

The Medical Examining Board reprimanded Dr. Guy Powell for renewing prescription opioids for patients but failing to review the patient's old medical records in order to support the diagnoses or justify the prescriptions; and for failing to include in his patient's records prescribing agreements, lab tests, or radiology reports to support his diagnoses. The Board also imposed the following limitation, Dr. Powell must complete a course on the appropriate prescribing of controlled substances which has been preapproved by the Board. Until the course is completed, Dr. Powell may not prescribe, order, dispense, or administer any opioid or opiate which is a controlled substance for more than 10 consecutive days at a time without seeing and re-evaluating the patient, nor for more than 30 days in any 12 month period for any patient.

Dated: May 16, 2012

<http://online.drl.wi.gov/decisions/2012/ORDER0001562-00007159.pdf>

**Jesse O. Vegafria**, Physician, West Bend, WI

The Medical Examining Board accepted the surrender of Dr. Jesse Vegafria's registration and ordered that he shall not practice medicine and surgery in Wisconsin without being currently registered. The Board concluded that Dr. Vegafria committed acts of unprofessional conduct when he made inappropriate comments of a sexual nature to two female patients and during the time period of 2009 to 2011 failed to consistently chart progress notes for a patient he was treating with chronic back pain.

Dated May 16, 2012

<http://online.drl.wi.gov/decisions/2012/ORDER0001561-00007158.pdf>

**June 2012**

**Jerome E. Hutchens**, Physician, Houston, TX

The Medical Examining Board indefinitely suspended Dr. Jerome Hutchens' license to practice medicine and surgery in Wisconsin after his license was limited by the Texas Medical Board. The Texas Medical Board limited Dr. Hutchens' license as a result of his prescribing a controlled substance without federal authority to do so under his DEA certificate. The Board will allow Dr. Hutchens to reinstate his license if he complies with the following conditions: undergo an assessment by a mental health care provider; undergo a complete medical evaluation; and within 15 days of the completion of the medical exams submit a report to the Board regarding the results of the examinations and provide proof to the Board that he is able to practice with reasonable skill and safety.

Dated: June 20, 2012

<http://online.drl.wi.gov/decisions/2012/ORDER0001889-00007535.pdf>

**Naiyer Imam**, Physician, Farmingdale, NY

The Medical Examining Board reprimanded and limited Dr. Naiyer Imam's license to practice medicine and surgery for being disciplined by the Texas Medical Board. By having disciplinary action imposed upon his license to practice medicine in Texas, Dr. Imam has committed an act of unprofessional conduct in violation

of Wis. Admin. Code § Med 10.02(2) (q). The Board limited Dr. Imam's license by requiring him to fully comply with all conditions and limitations placed on his Texas license. He must notify the Board within 10 days of any changes to his Texas Agreed Order. Upon proof that he has successfully complied with all of the terms and conditions of the Texas Agreed Order the Board will issue and order removing the limitation.

Dated: June 20, 2012

<http://online.drl.wi.gov/decisions/2012/ORDER0001890-00007537.pdf>

**Christina D. Jackson**, R.C.P., Milwaukee, WI

The Medical Examining Board reprimanded Ms. Christina Jackson for having disciplinary action taken against her North Carolina respiratory care practitioner license. The North Carolina Board disciplined Ms. Jackson for making a change in ventilator settings without a physician order or an approved facility protocol.

Dated: June 20, 2012

<http://online.drl.wi.gov/decisions/2012/ORDER0001893-00007540.pdf>

**George H. Pfaltzgraff**, Physician, St. Croix Falls, WI

The Medical Examining Board accepted the voluntary surrender of Dr. Pfaltzgraff's license as a result of having a disciplinary action taken against his medical license in Iowa. The Iowa Board of Medicine disciplined Dr. Pfaltzgraff's license for performing a tubal ligation on a patient without obtaining proper consent.

Dated: June 20, 2012

<http://online.drl.wi.gov/decisions/2012/ORDER0001891-00007538.pdf>

**Leon Cass Terry**, Physician, Rock Island, IL

The Medical Examining Board reprimanded and limited Dr. Leon Terry's license to practice medicine and surgery for engaging in the practice of medicine between 2004 and 2006 via a company known as Nexos Therapeutics. The company's website offered prospective patients questionnaires. The company transmitted the completed transcripts to its office in Florida. There a nurse reviewed the questionnaire and compiled additional

information. Physical examinations were conducted by a practitioner of the patient's choice. After the information was compiled Dr. Terry would review the information and approve of the prescribing of various hormones including testosterone without ever seeing, examining, or speaking to the patient. The Board limited Dr. Terry's license in that he may not engage in the clinical practice of medicine until he has demonstrated satisfactory completion of a course designed for persons preparing to take the certification examination in neurology to become certified by the American Board of Psychiatry and neurology.

Dated: June 20, 2012

<http://online.drl.wi.gov/decisions/2012/ORDER0001894-00007541.pdf>

**Robert C. Turner**, Physician, Reedsburg, WI

The Medical Examining Board reprimanded and limited Dr. Robert Turner's license to practice medicine and surgery for improper prescribing as it related to three of his patients between January 2009 and October 2011. Dr. Turner failed to conduct frequent urine drug screens of his patients, failed to require his patients to bring their medication for pill counts at every visit, and failed to insist that a compliant patient attempt to reduce or stop medication which was effective. The Board limited his license by not allowing him to prescribe opioids or opiates for more than 10 consecutive days at a time without seeing and reevaluating the patient, for more than 30 days in any 12 month period for any patient, and only under the oversight of a professional mentor. The professional mentor must provide quarterly reports to the Board.

Dated: June 20, 2012

<http://online.drl.wi.gov/decisions/2012/ORDER0001892-00007539.pdf>



A wealth of useful information is available on the Department of Safety and Professional Services website at: [www.dsps.wi.gov](http://www.dsps.wi.gov)

**Do you have a change of name or address?**

Please send changes to the Department. Confirmation of change is not automatically provided. Legal notices will be sent to a licensee's address of record with the Department.

**Med Board Newsletter distribution:**

If you know someone who would like to receive a copy of the Med Board Newsletter, send their e-mail address(es) to: [web@dsps.state.wi.us](mailto:web@dsps.state.wi.us)

**Telephone Directory:**

Call the Department of Safety and Professional Services toll-free (877) 617-1565 or (608) 266-2112 if you are in Madison, then follow the instructions for the service you need:

For renewal questions, say **renewal**.

For a new license including exam and education requirements, say **licensing**.

For complaint information, say **complaint**.

For legal questions or interpretations, say **legal**.

For exam administration, say **exam**.

For continuing education, say **education**.

For your pin #, say **pin**.

For license verifications, say **verify**.

For the agency staff directory, say **directory**.

For all other questions, say **operator**.

**On-line Verifications:**

The Wisconsin Medical Examining Board is now able to officially verify licenses and exam scores electronically. By completing a [Verification Request online](#), a licensee can request official verifications of his or her license and exam scores to be sent to state boards, employers, insurance companies and other interested parties. Upon receiving a request, the Wisconsin Medical Examining Board will send a secured link to the verification website to the recipient that the licensee designates.

The real-time information displayed on the verification website is primary source information of the Wisconsin Medical Examining Board. Further, it is consistent with JCAHO and NCQA standards for primary source verification and is as it appears in the database of the Wisconsin Medical Examining Board as of the moment it is viewed.

The fee for licensure verifications has not changed. It is still \$10.00 per verification.

The verification website constitutes official certification of licensure information and should be accepted just like a paper verification. However, should a recipient of an online licensure verification question its authenticity, please contact the Wisconsin Medical Examining Board directly.