PRESS RELEASE
IOWA BOARD OF MEDICINE
(January 19, 2012)

PUBLIC DOCUMENTS: Please click on the physician’s name to access a link to a copy of the public documents for each physician.

Recently, the Iowa Board of Medicine took the following actions:

Sukhdarshan S. Bedi, M.D., a 57-year-old Iowa-licensed physician who formerly practiced internal medicine in Burlington, Iowa, entered into a Settlement Agreement with the Board on January 13, 2012. On April 2, 1991, the Board issued Dr. Bedi a public reprimand for falsifying a patient medical record. On October 18, 2001, the Board charged Dr. Bedi with engaging in unethical or unprofessional conduct, knowingly making false representations in the practice of medicine and being unable to practice medicine with reasonable skill and safety. On March 15, 2002, the Board issued Dr. Bedi a public reprimand and ordered him to pay a $2,500 fine. The Board also ordered Dr. Bedi to complete a psychiatric evaluation, a clinical competency evaluation, the Medical Knowledge Self-Assessment Program and a Board-approved practice monitoring plan. On September 9, 2009, Dr. Bedi was charged in the United States District Court, for the Southern District of Illinois with: obstruction of justice; tampering with witnesses; making false statements; illegal dispensation of controlled substances; and health care fraud against the Medicaid program. On January 5, 2010, Dr. Bedi’s Illinois medical license was indefinitely suspended. On April 6, 2010, Dr. Bedi pleaded guilty of: obstruction of justice; tampering with a witness; and illegal dispensation of a controlled substance. The remaining charges were dismissed. Dr. Bedi was sentenced to sixteen (16) months in prison and ordered to pay $49,414.82 in restitution and penalties. On July 28, 2011, the Board charged Dr. Bedi with: being convicted of a felony related to the practice of medicine; violating the laws and rules governing the practice of medicine; engaging in unethical or unprofessional conduct and having his Illinois medical license suspended. On January 13, 2012, Dr. Bedi surrendered his Iowa medical license to resolve the charges.

Thomas W. Fagg, D.O., a 53-year-old Iowa-licensed physician who formerly practiced family medicine in Jefferson, Iowa, entered into a Settlement Agreement with the Board on January 13, 2012. On April 8, 2011, the Board charged Dr. Fagg for failing to respond to emergency department pages in a timely manner, failing to dictate hospital notes in a timely manner, and failing to provide appropriate treatment to a sixteen-year-old patient who presented to the emergency department in 2006. On May 6-7, 2010, Dr. Fagg completed a comprehensive clinical competency evaluation and the evaluation program recommended that he participate in a supervised education program. Under the terms of the January 13, 2012, Settlement Agreement, the Board placed Dr. Fagg on probation for a period of three years subject to Board monitoring, including a supervised education program, issued him a public reprimand and ordered him to pay a $2,500 fine.

Ric E. Jensen, M.D., a 52-year-old Iowa-licensed physician who practices neurological surgery in Omaha, Nebraska, entered into a combined Statement of Charges and Settlement Agreement with the Board on January 13, 2012. The Board charged Dr. Jensen with violating appropriate professional boundaries when he engaged in an inappropriate relationship with, and provided financial assistance to, a female patient, during a period when she was under Dr. Jensen’s care in 2009, in Omaha, Nebraska, and for being disciplined by the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public Health. Under the terms of the Settlement Agreement, the Board placed Dr. Jensen on probation for a period of five years subject to Board monitoring, issued him a public reprimand and ordered him to pay a $7,500 fine.
Gary E. Lawrence, M.D., a 67-year-old physician who practiced family medicine in Ackley, Iowa, had formal disciplinary charges filed against him on January 13, 2012. The Board charged Dr. Lawrence with engaging in sexual misconduct and/or unethical or unprofessional conduct and failing to comply with a Board investigation in a timely manner. The Board alleged that Dr. Lawrence engaged in a sexual relationship with a female patient in 1993 and another female patient in 2010. The Board also alleged that Dr. Lawrence inappropriately prescribed controlled substances to the second female patient without maintaining appropriate medical records, performed an inappropriate physical examination on another female patient and made inappropriate sexual comments and sexual advances toward another female who was not a patient. Finally, the Board alleged that Dr. Lawrence failed to comply with a Board investigation and/or a Board subpoena in a timely manner. A hearing has been scheduled on March 16, 2012.

Steven H. Packard, M.D., a 63-year-old Iowa-licensed physician who practices orthopedic and hand surgery in Champaign, Illinois, entered into a combined Statement of Charges and Settlement Agreement on January 13, 2012. The Board charged Dr. Packard with being disciplined in Illinois. On April 14, 2011, Dr. Packard was disciplined by the Department of Financial and Professional Regulation of the State of Illinois. Dr. Packard was charged with failing to timely inform a patient that a pathology report was positive for cancer following hip replacement surgery, resulting in a delay in follow-up care. Dr. Packard was issued a public reprimand and ordered to pay a $2,500 fine. Under the January 13, 2012, combined Statement of Charges and Settlement Agreement, the Iowa Board issued Dr. Packard a public reprimand, ordered him to pay a $1,000 fine and required him to submit a written corrective action plan describing the steps he has taken to avoid similar concerns in the future.

Lafayette J. Twyner, M.D., a 52-year-old physician who formerly practiced family medicine in Newton, Iowa, had formal disciplinary charges filed against him on January 13, 2012. The Board charged Dr. Twyner with professional incompetency, inappropriate prescribing and engaging in unethical or unprofessional conduct. The Board alleged that Dr. Twyner prescribed excessive controlled substances to numerous patients, including patients with known drug abuse histories, for other than a lawful purpose, without establishing an appropriate physician-patient relationship, including appropriate examinations, monitoring and medical records. A hearing has been scheduled on April 5, 2012.

CONSUMER COMPLAINTS: Consumers can submit complaints against physicians through the Board’s Website at www.medicalboard.iowa.gov, by calling (515) 281-5847, or by mail at 400 SW 8th Street, Suite C, Des Moines, IA 50309-4686.