

PRESS RELEASE
IOWA BOARD OF MEDICINE
(December 13, 2013)

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

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

Andrzej Szczepanek, M.D., a 41-year-old Iowa-licensed physician who formerly practiced pain management in Des Moines, Iowa, had a Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, Decision and Order issued by the Board on December 12, 2013. On January 11, 2013, the Board charged Dr. Szczepanek with professional incompetency, inappropriate prescribing, improper pain management and unprofessional conduct. The Board alleged that Dr. Szczepanek failed to provide appropriate pain management to numerous patients in Des Moines, Iowa, in 2011 and 2012. The Board alleged that Dr. Szczepanek prescribed large quantities of medications to numerous patients; failed to perform and/or document appropriate physical examinations; failed to assess and/or document appropriate assessment of patients' need for opioid therapy; failed to establish and/or document appropriate treatment plans; failed to perform and/or document appropriate monitoring; failed to address and/or document appropriate efforts to address patients who demonstrated evidence of abuse, misuse or diversion; failed to appropriately supervise and/or document his supervision of mid-level providers who provided opioid therapy to patients; failed to appropriately utilize the Iowa Prescription Monitoring Program; and failed to maintain appropriate medical records. A hearing was held before a panel of the Board on October 10-11, 2013. On December 12, 2013, the Board issued a Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, Decision and Order. The Board concluded that the preponderance of the evidence established that Dr. Szczepanek engaged in professional incompetency and violated the Board's rules governing the standards of practice for appropriate pain management when he failed to provide appropriate monitoring and documentation for three patients. The Board issued Dr. Szczepanek a Citation and Warning for violating the standards of practice for appropriate pain management with respect to his opioid prescribing, placing patients at risk of serious harm when he failed to properly monitor and document the care of multiple patients in 2011 and 2012 in Des Moines, Iowa. The Board ordered Dr. Szczepanek to pay a \$2,500 Civil Penalty and complete a Board-approved medical recordkeeping course. Dr. Szczepanek is required to practice medicine in a Board-approved practice setting with respect to his opioid prescribing. Finally, the Board placed Dr. Szczepanek on probation for a period of three years subject to Board monitoring and a Board-approved practice monitor.

When appropriate, disciplinary actions are reported to the National Practitioner Data Bank, an electronic repository administered by the U.S. Health Resources and Services Administration to track adverse license actions.

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.