

PRESS RELEASE
IOWA BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS
(August 5, 2005)

Recently, the Iowa Board of Medical Examiners took the following action:

Basavalinga S. Ajaikumar, M.D., a 53 year-old physician formerly practicing oncology in West Burlington, Iowa, had formal disciplinary charges filed against his Iowa medical license. The Board charged Dr. Ajaikumar with engaging in a pattern of professional incompetency and practice harmful or detrimental to the public in his treatment of numerous cancer patients. The charges allege that Dr. Ajaikumar performed excessively aggressive cancer treatment; chose inappropriate cancer treatments; prescribed dangerously high doses of chemo therapy and radiation therapy with life threatening toxicity for prolonged periods of time despite significant risk of serious complications; continued cancer treatment with a failed regimen long after it was indicated; treated cancer patients that were in such poor health that treatment was not indicated; and inappropriate use of supportive care, including inappropriate vascular access management. A hearing is scheduled for September 28, 2005.

Stephen B. Gruba, M.D., a 52 year-old physician practicing medicine in Corning, Iowa, entered into a combined Statement of Charges and Settlement Agreement with the Board to resolve a pending disciplinary matter. The Board charged Dr. Gruba with inappropriately prescribing controlled substances in the treatment of chronic pain patients in violation of the Iowa Chronic Pain Rules. Dr. Gruba was also charged with inappropriately using post-dated prescriptions for controlled substances. Under the terms of the Settlement Agreement, Dr. Gruba was issued a Citation and Warning for inappropriate prescribing and using post-dated prescriptions, ordered to pay a \$2,500 civil penalty and required to complete Board-approved continuing medical education for the appropriate treatment of chronic pain within sixty days.

Syam P. Kilaru, M.D., a 55 year-old physician practicing medicine in Burlington, Iowa, entered into a combined Statement of Charges and Settlement Agreement with the Board to resolve a pending disciplinary matter. The Board charged Dr. Kilaru with failing to provide appropriate care to two patients treated in the emergency room. The Board charged that Dr. Kilaru inappropriately initiated cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), including chest compressions, on a patient without verifying that the patient was experiencing cardiac arrest, resulting in a fractured sternum. The Board also charged Dr. Kilaru with failing to provide appropriate care to a patient who suffered first and second degree burns. Under the terms of the Settlement Agreement, Dr. Kilaru was issued a Citation and Warning for failing to provide appropriate treatment to the two patients, ordered to pay a \$2,500 civil penalty and required to complete Board-approved continuing medical education in advanced cardiac life support and the diagnosis and treatment of burn injuries within sixty days.

Reddy S. Reganti, M.D., a 59 year-old physician practicing oncology in West Burlington, Iowa, had formal disciplinary charges filed against his Iowa medical license. The Board charged Dr. Reganti with engaging in a pattern of professional incompetency and practice harmful or detrimental to the public in his treatment of numerous cancer patients. The charges allege that Dr. Reganti performed excessively aggressive cancer treatment; chose inappropriate cancer treatments; prescribed dangerously high doses of and radiation therapy for prolonged periods of time despite significant risk of serious complications; continued cancer treatment with a failed regimen long after it was indicated; and treated cancer patients that were in such poor health that treatment was not indicated. A hearing is scheduled for September 28, 2005.

Rohini Reganti, M.D., a 58 year-old physician practicing oncology in West Burlington, Iowa, had formal disciplinary charges filed against her Iowa medical license. The Board charged Dr. Reganti with engaging in a pattern of professional incompetency and practice harmful or detrimental to the public in his treatment of numerous cancer patients. The charges allege that Dr. Reganti performed excessively aggressive cancer treatment; chose inappropriate cancer treatments; prescribed dangerously high doses of and radiation therapy for prolonged periods of time despite significant risk of serious complications; continued cancer treatment with a failed regimen long after it was indicated; treated cancer patients that were in such poor health that treatment was not indicated and inappropriate use of supportive care, including inappropriate vascular access management. A hearing is scheduled for August 3, 2005.

Dennis C. Ridgway, D.O., a 50 year-old family practice physician from West Des Moines, Iowa, entered into a Stipulated Order with the Board. On April 15, 2003, the Board suspended Dr. Ridgway's Iowa medical license due to substance abuse. On May 29, 2003, Dr. Ridgway entered into a Settlement Agreement with the Board which indefinitely suspended his license pending substance abuse evaluation treatment and a recommendation that he was safe to return to the practice of medicine. On January 9, 2004, the Board received a substance abuse evaluation report indicating that Dr. Ridgway as safe to return to the practice of medicine under certain monitoring requirements. Dr. Ridgway entered into a Reinstatement Order with the Board and his Iowa medical license was placed on five years probation subject to certain monitoring requirements. Under the terms of the Stipulated Order, Dr. Ridgway's Iowa medical license was placed on inactive status and he agreed not to engage in any aspect of the practice of medicine under his Iowa license until his license is reinstated by the Board.