



July 22, 2020

Summary of the July 9-10, 2020, Board Meeting

Total Cases Reviewed: The Board reviewed 116 cases.

New Investigative Cases: The Board reviewed 95 new investigative cases.

Termination Order: If the Board determines that a physician has fully complied with a disciplinary order the Board may issue a Termination Order.

The Board approved 4 Termination Orders.

1. An Iowa-licensed physician who practices family medicine in Storm Lake, Iowa, had the terms of his disciplinary order terminated by the Board on July 9, 2020. On June 3, 2016, the physician entered into a combined Statement of Charges and Settlement Agreement with the Board. The Board alleged that the physician failed to provide appropriate pain management to multiple patients in Storm Lake, Iowa. Under the terms of the June 3, 2016, combined Statement of Charges and Settlement Agreement, the Board issued the physician a Citation and Warning and ordered him to pay a \$5,000 civil penalty and complete a Board-approved record keeping course. The Board also prohibited the physician from prescribing, administering or dispensing controlled substances for the treatment of chronic pain and placed him on probation for a period of five years subject to Board monitoring. On July 9, 2020, the Board determined that the physician has satisfied the terms of his order and voted to terminate the terms of the order. Therefore, the terms of the physician's order are terminated and his Iowa medical license is returned to its full privileges, free and clear of all restrictions.
2. An Iowa-licensed physician who practices psychiatry in Fairfield, Iowa, had the terms of his disciplinary order terminated by the Board on July 9, 2020. On June 8, 2018, the physician entered into a combined Statement of Charges and Settlement Agreement with the Board. The Board alleged that the physician engaged in improper prescribing and pain management to multiple patients, prescribed controlled substances to a patient and a colleague without performing appropriate evaluations and without maintaining appropriate medical records and prescribed controlled substances to himself and members of his immediate family. Under the terms of the June 8, 2018, combined Statement of Charges and Settlement Agreement, the Board issued the physician a Citation and Warning and ordered him to pay a \$5,000 civil penalty. The Board also prohibited the physician from prescribing, administering or dispensing controlled substances for the treatment of

chronic pain and placed him on probation for a period of three years subject to Board monitoring. On July 9, 2020, the Board determined that the physician has satisfied the terms of his order and voted to terminate the terms of the order. Therefore, the terms of the physician's order are terminated and his Iowa medical license is returned to its full privileges, free and clear of all restrictions.

3. An Iowa-licensed physician who formerly practiced obstetrics and gynecology in Round Rock, Texas, and currently practices in Nevada, Iowa, had the terms of his disciplinary order terminated by the Board on July 9, 2020. On December 8, 2017, the physician entered into an Agreed Order with the Texas Medical Board (Texas Board). The Texas Board alleged that the physician violated the standard of care when failed to exercise proper diligence in his treatment of a female patient who ultimately died of preeclampsia and that he engaged in unprofessional conduct by behaving in a disruptive manner towards hospital personnel, patients and other medical personnel in a manner that interfered or could reasonably be expected to adversely impact the quality of care rendered to patients, resulting in the revocation of his hospital privileges, in violation of the laws and rules governing the practice of medicine in Texas. Under the terms of the December 8, 2017, Agreed Order, the Texas Board ordered the physician to take and pass the Medical Jurisprudence Examination given by the Texas Board. The Texas Board also ordered the physician to complete continuing medical education in the areas of anger management, risk management and pregnancy complications. On July 27, 2018, the physician entered into a combined Statement of Charges and Settlement Agreement with the Iowa Board. Under the terms of the July 27, 2018, combined Statement of Charges and Settlement Agreement, the Iowa Board charged the physician with being disciplined by the Texas Board. The Iowa Board issued the physician a Citation and Warning and ordered him to pay a \$5,000 civil penalty. The Iowa Board also ordered the physician to complete a Board-approved comprehensive disruptive behavior evaluation and placed him on probation for a period of five years subject to Board monitoring. On July 9, 2020, the Board determined that the physician has satisfied the terms of his order and voted to terminate the terms of the order. Therefore, the terms of the physician's order are terminated and his Iowa medical license is returned to its full privileges, free and clear of all restrictions.

4. An Iowa-licensed physician who practices family medicine in Sioux City, Iowa, had the terms of his disciplinary order terminated by the Board on July 9, 2020. On July 29, 2016, Dr. Peterson entered into a combined Statement of Charges and Settlement Agreement with the Board. The Board alleged that Dr. Peterson failed to provide appropriate pain management to multiple patients in Sioux City, Iowa, in 2013 and 2014. The Board also alleged that Dr. Peterson failed to provide and/or document appropriate evaluation and treatment to a newborn child who was diagnosed with Group B Streptococcal Meningitis in Sioux City, Iowa, in 2010, and inappropriately prescribed phentermine to two female patients for weight loss when the patients did not meet the established criteria for the use of phentermine for weight loss in Sioux City, Iowa, in 2013 and 2014. Under the terms of the July 29, 2016, combined Statement of Charges and Settlement Agreement, the Board issued Dr. Peterson a Citation and Warning and ordered him to pay a \$5,000 civil penalty. The Board also ordered Dr. Peterson to complete a Board-approved record keeping course and Board-approved continuing medical education for the appropriate diagnosis and treatment of Group B Streptococcal Meningitis in newborn children and the established criteria and appropriate use of phentermine for weight loss. The Board also prohibited Dr. Peterson from prescribing, administering or dispensing controlled substances for the treatment of chronic pain and placed him on probation for a period of five years subject to Board monitoring.

On July 9, 2020, the Board determined that Dr. Peterson has satisfied the terms of his order and voted to terminate the terms of the order. Therefore, the terms of Dr. Peterson's order are terminated and his Iowa medical license is returned to its full privileges, free and clear of all restrictions.

Dismissal Order: The Board may issue a dismissal order if the Board determines that there is no longer sufficient cause to pursue formal disciplinary action against a licensee.

The Board issued 1 Dismissal Order due to the following reasons:

1. An Iowa-licensed physician who practiced family medicine in Winterset, Iowa, had a Statement of Charges dismissed by the Board on July 9, 2020. On July 27, 2018, the Board issued a Statement of Charges against the physician alleging that he failed to provide appropriate medical care to multiple patients in Winterset, Iowa, between 2013 and 2017, and the parties were involved in settlement negotiations. The Board received information which indicates the physician passed away on May 11, 2020. On May 27, 2020, the State filed a Motion to Dismiss the Statement of Charges. On July 9, 2020, the Board voted to dismiss the Statement of Charges pending in this matter.

Confidential Letters of Warning or Education: When the Board determines that probable cause does not exist to take formal disciplinary action against a licensee, the Board may send a confidential, non-disciplinary, letter to the licensee expressing concerns and requesting that the licensee take corrective action, including further education.

The Board voted to issue 7 confidential Letters of Warning or Education due to the following areas of concern:

1. Concerns that a physician failed to provide appropriate supervision to a physician assistant who prescribed excessive amounts of opioids to patients without appropriate evaluation and monitoring.
2. Concerns that a physician was charged with domestic violence.
3. Concerns about a physician performed a laparoscopic cholecystectomy on a patients that resulted serious complications.
4. Concerns that a physician failed to perform a biopsy on a patient who was suffering from bladder cancer.
5. Concerns that a physician failed to perform appropriate examinations and failed to provide appropriate medical care to multiple patients.
6. Concerns that a physician was disciplined in another state for engaging in substance abuse.
7. Concerns that a physician failed to report his academic probation on his application for an Iowa medical license

Licensure Committee: The Licensure Committee reviews initial applications, renewals, and reinstatements and licensure policies. Most applications are approved by staff without committee review. However, some concerns identified during the review process must be reviewed by the committee to determine whether a license should be granted, renewed or reinstated.

The committee reviewed 13 applications for Iowa medical licensure. The committee recommended the following actions:

1. Granted 3 permanent medical licenses.
2. Offered 1 applicant a permanent medical license subject to a public Consent Agreement.
3. Allowed 2 applicants to withdraw their application.
4. Issued 1 confidential letter due to concerns about the applicant.
5. Left 5 cases open to obtain further information.
6. Granted 1 Waiver of the requirement that applicants successfully complete all steps of the USMLE within ten years.

A Press Release describing public disciplinary action taken by the Board was distributed and posted on the Board's website on July 15, 2020. If you have any questions about this summary or the Press Release, please contact Kent M. Nebel, J.D., Executive Director, at (515) 281-7088 or kent.nebel@iowa.gov.