

**NEW YORK**  
state department of  
**HEALTH**

Public

Nirav R. Shah, M.D., M.P.H.  
Commissioner

Sue Kelly  
Executive Deputy Commissioner

July 15, 2013

***CERTIFIED MAIL-RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED***

Danuta Teresa Derkatz, M.D.  
8875 Porter Road  
Niagara Falls, NY 14092

Re: License No. 195230

Dear Dr. Derkatz:

Enclosed is a copy of the New York State Board for Professional Medical Conduct (BPMC) Order No. 13-210. This order and any penalty provided therein goes into effect July 22, 2013 .

Please direct any questions to: Board for Professional Medical Conduct, 90 Church Street, 4th Floor, New York, NY 10007-2919, telephone # 212-417-4445.

Sincerely,

REDACTED

Katherine A. Hawkins, M.D., J.D.  
Executive Secretary  
Board for Professional Medical Conduct

Enclosure

cc: Sally J. Broad, Esq.  
Gibson, McAskill & Crosby, LLP  
69 Delaware Avenue, Suite 900  
Buffalo, NY 14202-3866

**IN THE MATTER  
OF  
DANUTA DERKATZ, M.D.**

CONSENT  
ORDER

Upon the application of (Respondent) DANUTA DERKATZ, M.D. in the attached Consent Agreement and Order, which is made a part of this Consent Order, it is

ORDERED, that the Consent Agreement, and its terms, are adopted and it is further

ORDERED, that this Consent Order shall be effective upon issuance by the Board, either

by mailing of a copy of this Consent Order, either by first class mail to Respondent at the address in the attached Consent Agreement or by certified mail to Respondent's attorney, OR

upon facsimile transmission to Respondent or Respondent's attorney,

whichever is first.

SO ORDERED.

DATE: 7/12/2013

REDACTED  
ARTHUR S. HENGERER, M.D.  
Chair  
State Board for Professional Medical Conduct

**IN THE MATTER  
OF  
DANUTA DERKATZ, M.D.**

CONSENT  
AGREEMENT

DANUTA DERKATZ, M.D., represents that all of the following statements are true:

That on or about March 23, 1994, I was licensed to practice as a physician in the State of New York, and issued License No. 195230 by the New York State Education Department.

My current address is 8875 Porter Road, Niagara Falls, New York 14092, and I will advise the Director of the Office of Professional Medical Conduct of any change of address.

I understand that the New York State Board for Professional Medical Conduct (Board) has charged me with one or more specifications of professional misconduct, as set forth in a Statement of Charges, marked as Exhibit "A", attached to and part of this Consent Agreement.

I do not contest the First Specification (negligence on more than one occasion) solely as it relates to allegations C and C.1, C and C.2, and C and C.3); and I do not also do not contest the Second Specification (failure to maintain accurate records) solely as it

relates to allegations C and C.1; in full satisfaction of the charges against me, and agree to the following penalty:

Pursuant to New York Pub. Health Law § 230-a(2), my license to practice medicine in New York State shall be suspended for twenty-four (24) months, with the period of actual suspension stayed.

Pursuant to New York Pub. Health Law § 230-a(9), I shall be placed on probation for twenty-four (24) months, subject to the terms set forth in attached Exhibit "B."

I further agree that the Consent Order shall impose the following conditions:

That Respondent shall remain in continuous compliance with all requirements of N.Y. Educ. Law § 6502 including but not limited to the requirements that a licensee shall register and continue to be registered with the New York State Education Department (except during periods of actual suspension) and that a licensee shall pay all registration fees. Respondent shall not exercise the option provided in N.Y. Educ. Law § 6502(4) to avoid registration and payment of fees. This condition shall take effect 120 days after the Consent Order's effective date and will continue so long as Respondent remains a licensee in New York State; and

That Respondent shall remain in continuous compliance with all requirements of N.Y. Pub. Health Law § 2995-a(4) and 10 NYCRR 1000.5, including but not limited to the requirements that a licensee shall : report to the department all information required by the Department to develop a public physician profile for the licensee; continue to notify the department of any change in profile information within 30 days of any change (or in the case of optional information, within 365 days of such change); and, in addition to such periodic reports and notification of any changes, update his or her profile information within six months prior to the expiration date of the licensee's registration period. Licensee shall submit changes to his or her physician profile information either electronically using the department's secure web site or on forms prescribed by the department, and licensee shall attest to the truthfulness, completeness and correctness of any changes licensee submits to the department. This condition shall take effect 30 days after the Order's effective date and shall continue so long as Respondent remains a licensee in New York State. Respondent's failure to comply with this condition, if proven and found at a hearing pursuant to N.Y. Pub. Health Law § 230, shall constitute professional misconduct as defined in N.Y. Educ. Law § 6530(21) and N.Y. Educ. Law § 6530(29). Potential penalties for failure to comply with this condition may include all penalties for professional misconduct set forth in N.Y. Pub. Health Law §230-a, including but not limited to: revocation or suspension of license, Censure and Reprimand,

probation, public service and/or fines of up to \$10,000 per specification of misconduct found; and

That Respondent shall cooperate fully with the Office of Professional Medical Conduct (OPMC) in its administration and enforcement of this Consent Order and in its investigations of matters concerning Respondent. Respondent shall respond in a timely manner to all OPMC requests for written periodic verification of Respondent's compliance with this Consent Order.

Respondent shall meet with a person designated by the Director of OPMC, as directed. Respondent shall respond promptly and provide all documents and information within Respondent's control, as directed. This condition shall take effect upon the Board's issuance of the Consent Order and will continue so long as Respondent remains licensed in New York State.

I stipulate that my failure to comply with any conditions of this Consent Order shall constitute misconduct as defined by N.Y. Educ. Law § 6530(29).

I agree that, if I am charged with professional misconduct in future, this Consent Agreement and Order **shall** be admitted into evidence in that proceeding.

I ask the Board to adopt this Consent Agreement.

I understand that if the Board does not adopt this Consent Agreement, none of its terms shall bind me or constitute an admission of any of the acts of alleged misconduct; this Consent Agreement shall not be used against me in any way and shall be kept in strict confidence; and the Board's denial shall be without prejudice to the pending disciplinary proceeding and the Board's final determination pursuant to N.Y. Pub. Health Law.

I agree that, if the Board adopts this Consent Agreement, the Chair of the Board shall issue a Consent Order in accordance with its terms. I agree that this Consent Order shall take effect upon its issuance by the Board, either by mailing of a copy of the Consent Order by first class mail to me at the address in this Consent Agreement, or to my attorney by certified mail, OR upon facsimile transmission to me or my attorney, whichever is first. The Consent Order, this agreement, and all attached Exhibits shall be public documents, with only patient identities, if any, redacted. As public documents, they may be posted on the Department's website. OPMC shall report this action to the National Practitioner Data Bank and the Federation of State Medical Boards, and any other entities that the Director of OPMC shall deem appropriate.

I stipulate that the proposed sanction and Consent Order are authorized by N.Y. Pub. Health Law §§ 230 and 230-a, and that the Board and OPMC have the requisite powers to carry out all included terms. I ask the Board to adopt this Consent Agreement of my own free will and not under duress, compulsion or restraint. In consideration of the value to me of the Board's adoption of this Consent Agreement, allowing me to resolve this matter without the various risks and burdens of a hearing on the merits, I knowingly waive my right to contest the Consent Order for which I apply, whether administratively or judicially, I agree to be bound by the Consent Order, and I ask that the Board adopt this Consent Agreement.

I understand and agree that the attorney for the Department, the Director of OPMC and the Chair of the Board each retain complete discretion either to enter into the proposed agreement and Consent Order, based upon my application, or to decline to do so. I further understand and agree that no prior or separate written or oral communication can limit that discretion.

DATE 6/21/13

REDACTED

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DANUTA DERKATZ, M.D.  
RESPONDENT



The undersigned agree to Respondent's attached Consent Agreement and to its proposed penalty, terms and conditions.

DATE: 7/1/2013

REDACTED

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SALLY J. BROAD, ESQ.  
Attorney for Respondent


DATE: 7/3/13

REDACTED

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MICHAEL A. HISER, ESQ.  
Associate Counsel  
Bureau of Professional Medical Conduct

DATE: 7/12/13

REDACTED

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KEITH W. SERVIS  
Director  
Office of Professional Medical Conduct

NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
STATE BOARD FOR PROFESSIONAL MEDICAL CONDUCT

IN THE MATTER

OF

DANUTA DERKATZ, M.D.

STATEMENT  
OF  
CHARGES

DANUTA DERKATZ, M.D., the Respondent, was authorized to practice medicine in New York State on or about March 23, 1994, by the issuance of license number 195230 by the New York State Education Department.

**FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS**

- A. Respondent provided medical care to Patient A (patients are identified in the attached Appendix), a female approximately 55 years old when treatment began, at various times between 2002 and 2010 at Respondent's office at 8875 Porter Road, Niagara Falls, N.Y. 14301 ("Respondent's office"). Respondent also treated the patient at the Mount St. Mary's Hospital, 5300 Military Road, Lewiston, New York 14092 ["Mount St. Mary's Hospital"] from on or about January 22-24, 2008 (for, among others, severe anemia) and at Mount St. Mary's Hospital from on or about February 20-24, 2009 (for, among others, acute anemia and hypertension). Respondent's care of Patient A failed to meet minimum standards of care, in that:
1. Respondent, immediately after Patient A's discharge from Mount St. Mary's Hospital in January 2008, failed to perform an adequate physical examination, and also failed to discuss the patient's ongoing abuse of

alcohol, and/or failed to document the performance of a proper physical examination and discussion of the patient's alcohol dependence.

2. Respondent, when seeing Patient A during an office visit in May 2008, one month after the patient's gastroenterology consult had suggested a hematology consultation be pursued, failed to order or suggest such a hematology consultation, failed to discuss the patient's abnormal hemoglobin lab studies, and failed to address the patient's ongoing anemia and thrombocytopenia; and/or failed to document that she took the steps listed above.
3. Respondent, during Patient A's hospitalization at the Mount St. Mary's Hospital in January 2009, failed to perform an adequate physical examination of the patient, and/or failed to document the performance of an adequate physical exam.
4. Respondent, during Patient A's hospitalization at the Mount St. Mary's Hospital in January 2009, failed to adequately evaluate the patient's anemia or thrombocytopenia, and/or failed to document that she did such an adequate evaluation.

B. Respondent provided medical care to Patient B, a female approximately 73 years old when treatment began, at various times between 2005 and 2011 at Respondent's office and at the Mount St. Mary's Hospital. Respondent's care of Patient B failed to meet minimum standards of care, in that:

1. Respondent, in or about July 2007, despite Patient B's complaints of new onset foot dragging, left sided weakness, and problems of hand grasping, failed to evaluate the patient for possible stroke, and or document such an evaluation.
2. Respondent, between June and August 2007, saw Patient B on multiple occasions for complaints of coronary artery disease, congestive heart failure, with symptoms of exertional shortness of breath and fatigue. During that time, Respondent failed to order or perform a chest x ray, EKG, or do

an adequate evaluation of the symptoms during pulmonary or cardiac etiology, and/or document that she took such actions.

C. Respondent provided medical care to Patient C, a female approximately 45 years old when treatment began, at various times between 1995 and 2010 at Respondent's office. Respondent's care of Patient C failed to meet minimum standards of care, in that:

1. Respondent, in or about July 2000, prescribed multiple non-steroidal anti-inflammatory medications ("NSAIDs") to Patient C, including Vioxx, Aleve, Naprosyn, and Ultram, despite the patient's history of gastric ulcer.
2. Respondent, in or about December 2002, prescribed Voltaren for Patient C despite her history of gastric ulcer and the risk of gastric ulceration.
3. Respondent, in September 2003, failed to properly evaluate Patient C's chief complaint of pain under the left breast, and/or failed to document a proper evaluation of the patient's chest pain.

**SPECIFICATION OF CHARGES**

**FIRST SPECIFICATION**

**NEGLIGENCE ON MORE THAN ONE OCCASION**

Respondent is charged with committing professional misconduct as defined in N.Y. Educ. Law § 6530(3) by practicing the profession of medicine with negligence on more than one occasion as alleged in the facts of:

1. The facts in Paragraphs A and A.1, A and A.2, A and A.3, A and A.4, B and B.1, B and B.2, C and C.1, C and C.2, and/or C and C.3.

**SECOND SPECIFICATION**

**FAILURE TO MAINTAIN RECORDS**

Respondent is charged with committing professional misconduct as defined in N.Y. Educ. Law § 6530(32) by failing to maintain a record for each patient which accurately reflects the care and treatment of the patient, as alleged in the facts of:

2. The facts in Paragraphs A and A.1, A and A.2, A and A.3, A and A.4, B and B.1, B and B.2, and/or C and C.1.

DATE: July 3, 2013  
Albany, New York

REDACTED

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MICHAEL A. HISER  
Acting Deputy Counsel  
Bureau of Professional Medical Conduct

## EXHIBIT "B"

### **Terms of Probation**

- 1) Respondent's conduct shall conform to moral and professional standards of conduct and governing law. Any act of professional misconduct by Respondent as defined by N.Y. Educ. Law §§ 6530 or 6531 shall constitute a violation of probation and may subject Respondent to an action pursuant to N.Y. Pub. Health Law § 230(19).
- 2) Respondent shall maintain active registration of Respondent's license (except during periods of actual suspension) with the New York State Education Department Division of Professional Licensing Services, and shall pay all registration fees.
- 3) Respondent shall provide the Director, Office of Professional Medical Conduct (OPMC), Riverview Center, 150 Broadway, Suite 355, Albany, New York 12204-2719, with the following information, in writing, and ensure that this information is kept current: a full description of Respondent's employment and practice; all professional and residential addresses and telephone numbers within and outside New York State; and all investigations, arrests, charges, convictions or disciplinary actions by any local, state or federal agency, institution or facility. Respondent shall notify OPMC, in writing, within 30 days of any additions to or changes in the required information.
- 4) Respondent shall cooperate fully with, and respond in a timely manner to, OPMC requests to provide written periodic verification of Respondent's compliance with the terms of this Consent Order. Upon the Director of OPMC's request, Respondent shall meet in person with the Director's designee.
- 5) Respondent's failure to pay any monetary penalty by the prescribed date shall subject Respondent to all provisions of law relating to debt collection by New York State, including but not limited to: the imposition of interest, late payment charges and collection fees; referral to the New York State Department of Taxation and Finance for collection; and non-renewal of permits or licenses [Tax Law § 171(27); State Finance Law § 18; CPLR § 5001; Executive Law § 32].
- 6) The probation period shall toll when Respondent is not engaged in active medical practice in New York State for a period of 30 consecutive days or more. Respondent shall notify the Director of OPMC, in writing, if Respondent is not currently engaged in, or intends to leave, active medical practice in New York State for a consecutive 30 day period. Respondent shall then notify the Director again at least 14 days before returning to active practice. Upon Respondent's return to active practice in New York State, the probation period shall resume and Respondent shall fulfill any unfulfilled probation terms and such additional

requirements as the Director may impose as reasonably relate to the matters set forth in Exhibit "A" or as are necessary to protect the public health.

- 7) The Director of OPMC may review Respondent's professional performance. This review may include but shall not be limited to: a review of office records, patient records, hospital charts, and/or electronic records; and interviews with or periodic visits with Respondent and staff at practice locations or OPMC offices.
- 8) Within thirty days of the Consent Order's effective date, Respondent shall practice medicine only when monitored by a licensed physician, board certified in an appropriate specialty, ("practice monitor") proposed by Respondent and subject to the written approval of the Director of OPMC. Any medical practice in violation of this term shall constitute the unauthorized practice of medicine.
  - a) Respondent shall make available to the monitor any and all records or access to the practice requested by the monitor, including on-site observation. The practice monitor shall visit Respondent's medical practice at each and every location, on a random unannounced basis at least monthly and shall examine a selection (no fewer than 20) of records maintained by Respondent, including patient records, prescribing information and office records. The review will determine whether the Respondent's medical practice is conducted in accordance with the generally accepted standards of professional medical care. Any perceived deviation of accepted standards of medical care or refusal to cooperate with the monitor shall be reported within 24 hours to OPMC.
  - b) Respondent shall be solely responsible for all expenses associated with monitoring, including fees, if any, to the monitoring physician.
  - c) Respondent shall cause the practice monitor to report quarterly, in writing, to the Director of OPMC.
  - d) Respondent shall maintain medical malpractice insurance coverage with limits no less than \$2 million per occurrence and \$6 million per policy year, in accordance with Section 230(18)(b) of the Public Health Law. Proof of coverage shall be submitted to the Director of OPMC prior to Respondent's practice after the effective date of this Order.
- 9) Respondent shall adhere to federal and state guidelines and professional standards of care with respect to infection control practices. Respondent shall ensure education, training and oversight of all office personnel involved in medical care, with respect to these practices.

- 10) Respondent shall maintain complete and legible medical records that accurately reflect the evaluation and treatment of patients and contain all information required by State rules and regulations concerning controlled substances.
- 11) Respondent shall enroll in and successfully complete a continuing education program in the area of maintenance of accurate and complete medical records. This continuing education program is subject to the Director of OPMC's prior written approval and shall be successfully completed within the first 90 days of the probation period.
- 12) Respondent shall comply with this Consent Order and all its terms, and shall bear all associated compliance costs. Upon receiving evidence of noncompliance with, or a violation of, these terms, the Director of OPMC and/or the Board may initiate a violation of probation proceeding, and/or any other such proceeding authorized by law, against Respondent.