

Public

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

IN THE MATTER

OF

PAUL C. DRAGO, M.D.  
CO-09-03-1469-A

COMMISSIONER'S  
SUMMARY  
ORDER

TO: PAUL C. DRAGO, M.D.  
14835 John J. Delaney Drive  
Charlotte, NC 28277

PAUL C. DRAGO, M.D.  
14444 W.S. Lee Court  
Charlotte, NC 28277

The undersigned, Richard F. Daines, M.D., Commissioner of Health, pursuant to New York Public Health Law §230, upon the recommendation of a Committee on Professional Medical Conduct of the State Board for Professional Medical Conduct, has determined that the duly authorized professional disciplinary agency of another jurisdiction, the North Carolina Medical Board (hereinafter "North Carolina Board"), has made a finding substantially equivalent to a finding that the practice of medicine by **PAUL C. DRAGO, M.D.**, Respondent, New York license number 207446, in that jurisdiction, constitutes an imminent danger to the health of its people, as is more fully set forth in the Order of Summary Suspension of License, dated March 5, 2009, attached hereto as Appendix "A," and made a part, hereof.

It is, therefore:

ORDERED, pursuant to New York Public Health Law §230(12)(b), that effective immediately, **PAUL C. DRAGO, M.D.** shall not practice medicine in the State of New York or in any other jurisdiction where that practice is predicated on a valid New York State license to practice medicine.

ANY PRACTICE OF MEDICINE IN THE STATE OF NEW YORK IN VIOLATION OF THIS ORDER SHALL CONSTITUTE PROFESSIONAL MISCONDUCT WITHIN THE MEANING OF NEW YORK EDUCATION LAW §6530(29) AND MAY CONSTITUTE UNAUTHORIZED MEDICAL PRACTICE, A FELONY DEFINED BY NEW YORK EDUCATION LAW §6512.

This Order shall remain in effect until the final conclusion of a hearing which shall commence within thirty (30) days after the final conclusion of the disciplinary proceeding in North Carolina.

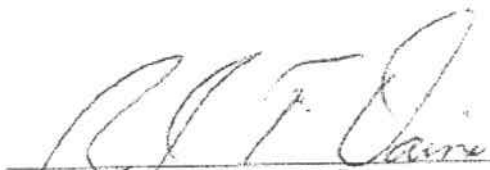
The hearing will be held pursuant to the provisions of New York Public Health Law §230, and New York State Administrative Procedure Act §§301-307 and 401. The hearing will be conducted before a committee on professional conduct of the State Board for Professional Medical Conduct on a date and at a location to be set forth in a written Notice of Referral Proceeding to be provided to Respondent after the final conclusion of the North Carolina proceeding. Said written Notice may be provided in person, by mail or by other means. If Respondent wishes to be provided said written notice at an address other than that set forth above, Respondent shall so notify, in writing, both the attorney whose name is set forth in this Order, and the Director of the Office of Professional Medical Conduct, at the addresses set forth below.

RESPONDENT SHALL NOTIFY THE DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL MEDICAL CONDUCT, NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, 433 RIVER STREET, SUITE 303, TROY, NY 12180-2299, VIA CERTIFIED MAIL, RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED, OF THE FINAL CONCLUSION OF THE PROCEEDING IMMEDIATELY UPON SUCH CONCLUSION.

THESE PROCEEDINGS MAY RESULT IN A DETERMINATION THAT YOUR LICENSE TO PRACTICE MEDICINE IN NEW YORK STATE BE REVOKED OR SUSPENDED AND/OR THAT YOU BE FINED OR SUBJECT TO OTHER SANCTIONS SET FORTH IN NEW YORK PUBLIC HEALTH LAW §230-A. YOU ARE URGED TO OBTAIN AN ATTORNEY TO REPRESENT YOU IN THIS MATTER.

DATE: Albany, New York

6/11/2009



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RICHARD F. DAINES, M.D.  
Commissioner of Health  
New York State Department of Health

Inquires should be directed to:

Robert Bogan  
Associate Counsel  
N.Y. S. Department of Health  
Division of Legal Affairs  
433 River Street  
Suite 303  
Troy, New York 12180  
Telephone (518) 402-0828

BEFORE THE  
NORTH CAROLINA MEDICAL BOARD

In re: )  
 )  
Paul Carl Drago, M.D., ) ORDER OF SUMMARY SUSPENSION  
 ) OF LICENSE  
Respondent. ) (Pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. § 150B-3(c))

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This matter is before the North Carolina Medical Board ("Board") pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. § 150B-3(c) and upon information that Paul Carl Drago, M.D. ("Dr. Drago") repeatedly committed unprofessional conduct, by his departure from, or the failure to conform to, the standards of acceptable and prevailing medical practice, or the ethics of the medical profession and that he is unable to practice medicine safely because of a physical or mental abnormality. In support of this Order of Summary Suspension of License, the Board finds the following:

1. The Board has received complaints from at least ten patients of Dr. Drago regarding cosmetic and plastic surgical procedures and pre- and post-operative care provided by Dr. Drago. The Board has submitted the medical records of three of those patients, (denominated as Patients A, B, and C) for outside expert review. The outside expert concluded that Dr. Drago's treatment and care of all three patients failed to conform to the applicable standard of care.

conform to the standards of acceptable and prevailing medical practice in the following respects: (1) the choice of procedure Dr. Drago chose to utilize; (2) Dr. Drago's consent process; (3) Dr. Drago's lack of discussion with Patient C of alternative effective treatments; and (4) Dr. Drago's lack of proper documentation.

5. Dr. Drago's treatment, care, and medical record documentation pertaining to the seven remaining patients are currently under review by an outside expert. The Board is currently awaiting the results of that expert review. In order to satisfy its duty and obligation "to regulate the practice of medicine and surgery for the benefit and protection of the people of North Carolina," the Board cannot hesitate. The circumstances pertaining to Dr. Drago's competence and fitness to practice, as described herein, dictate that the Board take immediate action.

6. Dr. Drago's treatment of Patients A, B, and C, and potentially of seven additional patients, constitutes unprofessional conduct, including, but not limited to, departure from, or the failure to conform to, the standards of acceptable and prevailing medical practice, or the ethics of the medical profession within the meaning of N.C. Gen. Stat. § 90-14(a)(6), which is grounds for the Board to annul, suspend, revoke, condition, or limit Dr. Drago's license to practice medicine and surgery issued by the Board.

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10. Dr. Drago admitted to a Board investigator that he has self-prescribed and self-administered injectable testosterone and anastrozole (HGH) probably once per week from late 2007 through June of 2008. Dr. Drago further admitted that he acquired the testosterone and anastrozole by submitting orders in the names of his patients and then diverting them for his own personal use. Dr. Drago's self-administering of prescription drugs and diversion of prescription drug orders constitutes unprofessional conduct, including, but not limited to, departure from, or the failure to conform to, the standards of acceptable and prevailing medical practice, or the ethics of the medical profession, or the committing of any act contrary to honesty, justice, or good morals within the meaning of N.C. Gen. Stat. § 90-14(a)(6), which is grounds for the Board to annul, suspend, revoke, condition, or limit Dr. Drago's license to practice medicine and surgery issued by the Board.

For the foregoing reasons, the North Carolina Medical Board finds that the public health, safety, or welfare requires emergency action. The Board therefore ORDERS, pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. § 150B-3(c), that Dr. Drago's license to practice be **SUSPENDED** effective upon service of a certified copy of this Order.

BEFORE THE  
NORTH CAROLINA MEDICAL BOARD

In re: )

Paul Carl Drago, M.D., )

Respondent. )

RETURN OF SERVICE

I certify that a copy of the foregoing Order of Summary  
Suspension of license in the above-captioned matter was received on

March 5, 2009, and served as follows:


On Respondent Carl Paul Drago, M.D.:

By delivering to him copies thereof.

By leaving copies thereof at his last known  
address.

Date served: March 5 - 2009 8:55 AM.

Date of return: March 5 - 2009

By:   
Loy Royold  
Investigator, NC Medical Board