

New York State Board for Professional Medical Conduct

433 River Street, Suite 303 • Troy, New York 12180-2299 • (518) 402-0863

Antonia C. Novello, M.D.,M.P.H., Dr. P.H. Commissioner NYS Department of Health

Dennis P. Whalen

Executive Deputy Commissioner

NYS Department of Health

Dennis J. Graziano, Director Office of Professional Medical Conduct



Michael A. Gonzalez, R.P.A. Vice Chair

Ansel R. Marks, M.D., J.D. Executive Secretary

April 22, 2004

CERTIFIED MAIL-RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

William Jay Heidenberg, M.D. 85 Old Mamaroneck Road White Plains, NY 10605

RE: License No. 086328

Dear Dr. Heidenberg:

Enclosed please find Order #BPMC 04-85 of the New York State Board for Professional Medical Conduct. This Order and any penalty provided therein goes into effect April 29, 2004.

If the penalty imposed by the Order is a surrender, revocation or suspension of this license, you are required to deliver to the Board the license and registration within five (5) days or receipt of the Order to:

Board for Professional Medical Conduct New York State Department of Health Hedley Park Place, Suite 303 433 River Street Troy, New York 12180

If the penalty imposed by the Order is a fine, please write the check payable to the New York State Department of Health. Noting the BPMC Order number on your remittance will assist in proper crediting. Payments should be directed to the following address:

Bureau of Accounts Management
New York State Department of Health
Corning Tower, Room 1258
Empire State Plaza
Albany, New York 12237

Sincerely,

Ansel R. Marks, M.D., J.D.

Executive Secretary

Board for Professional Medical Conduct

cc: Scott I. Einiger, Esq.
Hoffman, Einiger & Polland, PLLC
220 E. 42nd Street, Suite 435
New York, NY 10017

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

IN THE MATTER OF

WILLIAM JAY HEIDENBERG, M.D.

CONSENT ORDER

BPMC No. 04-85

Upon the application of (Respondent) WILLIAM JAY HEIDENBERG, 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 SO ORDERED, and it is further

ORDERED, that this 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.

DATED: 4/21/04

MICHAEL A. GONZALEZ, A.P.A.

State Board for Professional Medical Conduct

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

IN THE MATTER OF WILLIAM JAY HEIDENBERG, M.D.

CONSENT
AGREEMENT
AND
ORDER

WILLIAM JAY HEIDENBERG, M.D., representing that all of the following statements are true, deposes and says:

That on or about August 28, 1961, I was licensed to practice as a physician in the State of New York, and issued License No. 086328 by the New York State Education Department.

My current address is 85 Old Mamaroneck Road, White Plains, NY 10605, 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 has charged me with six specifications of professional misconduct.

A copy of the Statement of Charges, marked as Exhibit "A", is attached to and part of this Consent Agreement.

I agree not to contest Specification 2, limited to Paragraphs A, A2 and A4, and Specification 5, in full satisfaction of the charges against me, and agree to the following penalty:

Pursuant to § 230-a(1) of the Public Health Law, I shall receive a censure and reprimand;

Pursuant to § 230-a(9) of the Public Health Law, I shall be placed on probation for a period of three years, subject to the terms set forth in

Exhibit "B" attached below; and

Pursuant to § 230-a(7) of the Public Health Law, I shall be fined \$10,000, payable within 30 days of the date that this Consent Agreement and Order becomes effective. I shall submit the payment to the Bureau of Accounts Management, New York State Department of Health, Corning Tower, Room 1245, Empire State Plaza, Albany, NY 12237.

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

That Respondent shall maintain current registration of licensure with the New York State Education Department Division of Professional Licensing Services (except during periods of actual suspension), and shall pay all registration fees. This condition shall take effect thirty (30) days after the Consent Order's effective date and will continue so long as Respondent remains licensed in New York State; and

That Respondent shall cooperate fully with the Office of Professional Medical Conduct (OPMC) in its administration and enforcement of this 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 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 Order shall constitute misconduct as defined by New York State Education 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 the Public 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 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.

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 ask that the Board adopt this Consent Agreement.

DATED 04/12/04

WILLIAMJAY HEIDENBURG, M.D.

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

DATE: 4/13/04

SCOTT I. EINIGER, ESQ.

SCOTT I. EINIGER, ESQ. Attorney for Respondent

DATE: 4-14-04

PAUL STEIN, ESQ.

Associate Counsel Bureau of Professional Medical Conduct

DATE: 4/20/04

DENNIS J CHAZIANO

Director
Office of Professional Medical Conduct

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

IN THE MATTER

OF

WILLIAM JAY HEIDENBERG, M.D.

STATEMENT OF CHARGES

WILLIAM JAY HEIDENBERG, M.D., the Respondent, was authorized to practice medicine in New York State on or about August 28, 1961, by the issuance of license number 086328 by the New York State Education Department.

FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

- A. From in about 1989 through on or about March 31, 1997, Respondent treated Patient A (D.O.B. 11-24-27) in his offices at 85 Old Mamaroneck Road, White Plains, New York and at White Plains Hospital Center (WPHC), Davis Avenue at Post Road, White Plains, New York. On or about March 17, 1997, Respondent admitted Patient A to WPHC for evaluation of anemia. She remained in WPHC until March 31, 1997, when she was discharged with a diagnosis of renal failure, diabetes mellitus, and arteriosclerotic heart disease.
 - 1. During the March 17-31, 1997 hospital admission, Respondent failed to adequately evaluate and treat Patient A.
 - 2. From March 12 through March 17, 1997, Respondent failed to adequately evaluate and treat Patient A.
 - 3. Throughout the course of office visits, Respondent failed to take an adequate history of Patient A.
 - 4. Respondent failed to keep an adequate record for Patient A.
- B. From in or about 1993 through on or about February 20, 1991, Respondent treated Patient B (D.O.B. 9-2-09) in his offices at 85 Old Mamaroneck Road, White Plains, New York and at White Plains Hospital Center (WPC), Davis

Avenue at Post Road, White Plains, New York. On February 17, 1991, Patient B was found unresponsive at home and taken to WPC by ambulance. Patient B died on February 20, 1991 of congestive heart failure.

- 1. Respondent failed to adequately evaluate and treat Patient B.
- 2. Respondent inappropriately renewed prescriptions for Patient B.
- 3. Respondent failed to keep an adequate record for Patient B.
- C. As part of its investigation into a complaint about Respondent's professional misconduct, the New York State Department of Health Office of Professional Medical Conduct (OPMC) on several occasions by written communication requested that Respondent provide a certified copy of his records for Patient A.
 - 1. On or about January 15, 2003, OPMC sent a letter to Respondent requesting, pursuant to New York Public Health Law Section 230 (10) (I), that Respondent provide OPMC with a certified copy of the complete medical record of Patient A for all dates of service. Respondent received this letter but failed to provide the record.
 - On or about March 5, 2003, OPMC sent a letter to Respondent, in care of his attorney, requesting, pursuant to New York Public Health Law Section 230 (10) (I), that Respondent provide OPMC with a certified copy of the complete medical record of Patient A for all dates of service. This letter was received by Respondent's attorney, who notified Respondent of its receipt and contents, but Respondent failed to provide the record.
 - On or about March 24, 2003, OPMC sent a letter to Respondent, in care of his attorney, requesting, pursuant to New York Public Health Law Section 230 (10) (I), that Respondent provide OPMC with a certified copy of the complete medical record of Patient A for all dates of service. This letter was received by Respondent's attorney, who notified Respondent of its receipt and contents, but Respondent failed to provide the record.

- 4. On or about April 2, 2003, OPMC sent a letter to Respondent, in care of his attorney, requesting, pursuant to New York Public Health Law Section 230 (10) (I), that Respondent provide OPMC with a certified copy of the complete medical record of Patient A for all dates of service. This letter was received by Respondent's attorney, who notified Respondent of its receipt and contents, but Respondent failed to provide the record.
- 5. On or about July 23, 2003, OPMC sent a letter to Respondent, in care of his attorney, requesting, pursuant to New York Public Health Law Section 230 (10) (I), that Respondent provide OPMC with a certified copy of the complete medical record of Patient A for all dates of service. This letter was received by Respondent's attorney, who notified Respondent of its receipt and contents, but Respondent failed to provide the record.

SPECIFICATION OF CHARGES

FIRST SPECIFICATION GROSS NEGLIGENCE

Respondent is charged with committing professional misconduct as defined in N.Y. Educ. Law §6530(4) by practicing the profession of medicine with gross negligence on a particular occasion as alleged in the facts of the following:

1. Paragraphs A and A1-4.

SECOND 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 two or more of the following:

2. Paragraphs A and A1-4; and B and B1-3.

THIRD SPECIFICATION INCOMPETENCE ON MORE THAN ONE OCCASION

Respondent is charged with committing professional misconduct as defined in N.Y. Educ. Law §6530(5) by practicing the profession of medicine with incompetence on more than one occasion as alleged in the facts of two or more of the following:

3. Paragraphs A and A1-4; and B and B1-3.

FOURTH SPECIFICATION FAILING TO RESPOND WITHIN 30 DAYS AND MAKE RELEVANT RECORDS AVAILABLE

Respondent is charged with committing professional misconduct as defined in N.Y. Educ. Law §6530(28) by failing to respond within thirty days to written communications from the department of health and to make available any relevant records with respect to an inquiry or complaint about the licensee's professional misconduct, as alleged in the facts of:

4. Paragraphs C and C1, C2, C3, C4 and/or C5.

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:

- 5. Paragraphs A and A4.
- 6. Paragraphs B and B3.

DATED:

New York, New York March 2, 2004

> ROY NEMERSON 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 New York State Education Law §6530 or §6531 shall constitute a violation of probation and may subject Respondent to an action pursuant to New York State Public Health Law §230(19).
- 2. Respondent shall maintain current registration of licensure with the New York State Education Department Division of Professional Licensing Services (except during periods of actual suspension), and shall pay all registration fees.
- 3. Respondent shall provide the Director, Office of Professional Medical Conduct (OPMC), Hedley Park Place, 433 River Street Suite 303, Troy, New York 12180-2299 with the following information, in writing, and ensure that such 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, charges, convictions or disciplinary actions by any local, state or federal agency, institution or facility, within thirty (30) days of each action.
- 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 section 171(27)]; State Finance Law section 18; CPLR section 5001; Executive Law section 32].
- 6. The probation period shall toll when Respondent is not engaged in active medical practice in New York State for a period of thirty (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 thirty (30) day period. Respondent shall then notify the Director again at least fourteen (14) days before returning to active practice. Upon Respondent's return to active practice in New York State, the probation period will resume and Respondent shall fulfill any unfulfilled probation terms.
- 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 and/or hospital charts; and interviews with or periodic visits with Respondent and staff at practice locations or OPMC offices.
- 8. 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.

- 9. Within thirty days of the effective date of the order, 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.
 - 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.
- 10. Respondent shall enroll in and complete a continuing education program in the area of diabetes and the elderly patient for a minimum of 21 Category 1 AMA credits during each year of his probation. This continuing medical education is subject to the Director of OPMC's prior written approval.
- 11. Respondent shall comply with this Order and all its terms, and shall bear all associated compliance costs. Upon receiving evidence of noncompliance with, or 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.