



# STATE OF NEW YORK DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

433 River Street, Suite 303

Troy, New York 12180-2299

Dennis P. Whalen  
*Executive Deputy Commissioner*

April 1, 1999

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

Young S. Sohn, M.D.  
63 Carlough Road  
Upper Saddle River, NJ 07458

Donald Horowitz, Esq.  
24 Bergen Street  
Hackensack, NJ 07601

Terrence Sheehan, Esq.  
NYS Department of Health  
5 Penn Plaza – Sixth Floor  
New York, New York 10001

RE: In the Matter of Young S. Sohn, M.D.

Dear Parties:

Enclosed please find the Determination and Order (No.99-64) of the Hearing Committee in the above referenced matter. This Determination and Order shall be deemed effective upon the receipt or seven (7) days after mailing by certified mail as per the provisions of §230, subdivision 10, paragraph (h) of the New York State Public Health Law.

Five days after receipt of this Order, you will be required to deliver to the Board of Professional Medical Conduct your license to practice medicine if said license has been revoked, annulled, suspended or surrendered, together with the registration certificate. Delivery shall be by either certified mail or in person to:

Office of Professional Medical Conduct  
New York State Department of Health  
Hedley Park Place  
433 River Street - Fourth Floor  
Troy, New York 12180

If your license or registration certificate is lost, misplaced or its whereabouts is otherwise unknown, you shall submit an affidavit to that effect. If subsequently you locate the requested items, they must then be delivered to the Office of Professional Medical Conduct in the manner noted above.

As prescribed by the New York State Public Health Law §230, subdivision 10, paragraph (i), and §230-c subdivisions 1 through 5, (McKinney Supp. 1992), "the determination of a committee on professional medical conduct may be reviewed by the Administrative Review Board for professional medical conduct." Either the licensee or the Department may seek a review of a committee determination.

Request for review of the Committee's determination by the Administrative Review Board stays penalties other than suspension or revocation until final determination by that Board. Summary orders are not stayed by Administrative Review Board reviews.

All notices of review must be served, by certified mail, upon the Administrative Review Board and the adverse party within fourteen (14) days of service and receipt of the enclosed Determination and Order.

The notice of review served on the Administrative Review Board should be forwarded to:

James F. Horan, Esq., Administrative Law Judge  
New York State Department of Health  
Bureau of Adjudication  
Hedley Park Place  
433 River Street, Fifth Floor  
Troy, New York 12180

The parties shall have 30 days from the notice of appeal in which to file their briefs to the Administrative Review Board. Six copies of all papers must also be sent to the attention of Mr. Horan at the above address and one copy to the other party. The stipulated record in this matter shall consist of the official hearing transcript(s) and all documents in evidence.

Parties will be notified by mail of the Administrative Review Board's Determination and Order.

Sincerely,



Tyrone T. Butler, Director  
Bureau of Adjudication

TTB:nm  
Enclosure

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



-----X  
IN THE MATTER : HEARING COMMITTEE  
OF : DETERMINATION  
YOUNG S. SOHN, MD. : AND ORDER  
-----X

BPMC - 99 - 64

Ms. Thea Graves Pellman, Chairperson, Jack Schnee, M.D., and Robert S. Bernstein, M.D., duly designated members of the State Board of Professional Medical Conduct, were appointed by the Executive Deputy Commissioner of Health of the State of New York pursuant to Section 230 (1) of the Public Health Law, to serve as the Hearing Committee in this matter pursuant to Sections 230 (10) (e) and 230 (12) of the Public Health Law. Stephen Bermas, Esq., Administrative Law Judge, served as Administrative Officer of the Hearing Committee.

After consideration of the entire record, the Hearing Committee submits this Determination and Order.

SUMMARY OF THE PROCEEDINGS

Notice of Hearing dated:	December 9, 1998
Statement of Charges dated:	December 9, 1998
Hearing Dates:	December 16, 1998 and January 12, 1999
Deliberation Date:	March 9, 1999
Place of Hearing:	NYS Department of Health 5 Penn Plaza New York, NY
Petitioner Appeared By:	Terrence Sheehan, Esq. Associate Counsel Bureau of Professional Medical Conduct NYS Department of Health
Respondent Appeared By:	Donald Horowitz, Esq.

## STATEMENT OF CHARGES

The Statement of Charges has been marked as Petitioner's Exhibit 1 in evidence and attached hereto as Appendix A.

## FINDINGS OF FACT

Numbers in parentheses refer to transcript page numbers or exhibits. These citations represent evidence found persuasive by the Hearing Committee in arriving at a particular finding. Conflicting evidence, if any, was considered and rejected in favor of cited evidence. All Findings are unanimous.

## GENERAL FINDINGS

1. YOUNG S. SOHN, M.D., the Respondent, was authorized to practice medicine in New York State on or about April 9, 1984 by the issuance of license number 157858 by the New York State Education Department (Ex. 1).
2. This hearing was initiated by service of a Commissioner's Order prohibiting Respondent from practicing medicine in the State of New York on the ground that the continued practice of medicine by the Respondent constituted an imminent danger to the health of the people of this State.
3. Based upon a preponderance of the evidence before the Hearing Committee, as set forth in these Findings of Facts, the Committee finds that the continued practice of medicine by Respondent was an imminent danger to the health of the public and further finds that the summary suspension of Respondent's license to practice medicine was appropriate.
4. Petitioner presented the expert testimony of William Rosenthal, M.D., a board certified psychiatrist, who the Hearing Committee found to be a credible witness. (Ex. 3).
5. Admitted into evidence in this proceeding is a letter from the Respondent to the Commissioner of Mental Health, Dr. James Stone. In the letter the Respondent claims that intruders are living in her house and that they constantly observe her and follow her around wherever she goes. She

- further claims that they are "inflicting pain, poking and cutting around my body, including messing around private parts (rectum and vagina and urethra)." (Ex. 5)
6. Admitted into evidence in this proceeding is a document written by respondent titled "Dr. Y. Sohn's medical profile." In this document the Respondent complains of emotional and mental trauma and physical abuse inflicted at her home by intruders. She also complains of daily I.V. injections into her right arm by apparently unknown entities. (Ex. 6).
  7. Admitted into evidence in this proceeding are certain medical records relating to the Respondent. These documents show that the Respondent made similar complaints to certain practitioners who concluded that the Respondent was delusional. (Ex. 7).
  8. Dr. H.S. Dinakar, President of Medical Staff and Deputy Clinical Director of Rockland Psychiatric Center in Orangeburg, New York where Respondent worked as a psychiatrist, concluded that Respondent "was clearly paranoid with poor judgement." (Ex. 8, page 2).
  9. Dr. Sobel, Chief of Psychiatry at Rockland Psychiatric Center concluded that Respondent "has a recurrence of her previous psychiatric disorder." (Ex. 8, page 3).
  10. Respondent suffers from paranoid schizophrenia (T. 81, lines 7-10; Exs. 5,6,7 and 8).
  11. Respondent did not testify nor offer any witnesses or evidence in her behalf in general, nor specifically to show that she is being treated for her condition or that there is any improvement in her condition.

### CONCLUSION OF LAW

FIRST: Respondent is found to have engaged in professional misconduct by practicing medicine while having a psychiatric condition which impairs her ability to practice medicine, within the meaning of N.Y. Education Law §6530 (8) (McKinney Supp. 1998), as set forth in Findings of Fact 1 through 11, supra.

## DISCUSSION

The Hearing Committee noted that Respondent was offered but refused to accept the opportunity to voluntarily surrender her license in a non-disciplinary proceeding on a temporary basis and without any prejudice to a later application to reinstate. (T 99-100).

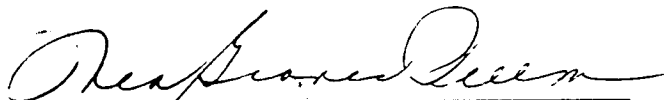
The Committee observed Respondent's pleasant, cooperative demeanor at the Hearing. It appeared that she had a supportive family.

The Committee encourages Respondent to apply for restoration of her license to practice medicine at such time as she undergoes appropriate treatment with evidence of her restored ability to practice medicine.

## ORDER

The Hearing Committee hereby determines and orders that Respondent's license to practice medicine in the State of New York be revoked.

Dated: New York, NY  
March 24, 1999



Thea Graves Pellman  
Chairperson

Jack Schnee, M.D.

Robert S. Bernstein, M.D.

APPENDIX I

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

IN THE MATTER  
OF  
YOUNG S. SOHN, M.D.

STATEMENT  
OF  
CHARGES

YOUNG S. SOHN, M.D., the Respondent, was authorized to practice medicine in New York State on or about April 9, 1984, by the issuance of license number 157858 by the New York State Education Department.

**FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS**

- A. Respondent suffers from schizophrenia or other serious psychiatric disorder. Her condition is characterized by delusions with paranoid elaboration, including somatic delusions, delusions of alien control, auditory and olfactory hallucinations, as well as obsessional concern with bodily parts and excretory functioning.

**SPECIFICATION OF CHARGES**

**FIRST SPECIFICATION**

**BEING AN HABITUAL ABUSER OR HAVING A  
PSYCHIATRIC CONDITION WHICH IMPAIRS  
THE ABILITY TO PRACTICE**

Respondent is charged with committing professional misconduct as defined in N.Y. Educ. Law §6530(8)(McKinney Supp. 1998) by being a habitual abuser of alcohol, or being dependent on or a habitual user of narcotics, barbiturates,



amphetamines, hallucinogens, or other drugs having similar effects, or having a psychiatric condition which impairs the licensee's ability to practice as alleged in the facts of the following:

1. Paragraph A

DATED: December 9, 1998  
New York, New York

*Roy Nemerson by WJC*

ROY NEMERSON  
Deputy Counsel  
Bureau of Professional  
Medical Conduct