

### 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 Kendrick A. Sears, M.D. Chairman

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

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

July 5, 2005

Public

### CERTIFIED MAIL-RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Eric G. Klausner, M.D. 1323 West Galway Road Hagaman, NY 12086

Re: License No. 180976

Dear Dr. Klausner:

Enclosed is a copy of Order #BPMC 05-132 of the New York State Board for Professional Medical Conduct. This order and any penalty provided therein goes into effect July 12, 2005.

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

Sincerely.

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

Executive Secretary

Board for Professional Medical Conduct

Enclosure

cc: Edward D. Laird, Jr., Esq.

Carter, Conboy, Case, Bardwell, Maloney, Laird, P.C.

20 Corporate Woods Blvd.

Albany, NY 12211

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

# OF

ERIC G. KLAUSNER, M.D.

CONSENT ORDER

BPMC No. 05-132

Upon the application of (Respondent) Eric G. Klausner, 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 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: 7-1-05

KENDRICK A. SEARS, M.D.

State Board for Professional Medical Conduct

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

# OF ERIC G. KLAUSNER, M.D.

CONSENT
AGREEMENT
AND
ORDER

Eric G. Klausner, M.D., representing that all of the following statements are true, deposes and says:

That on or about December 11, 1989, I was licensed to practice as a physician in the State of New York, and issued License No. 180976 by the New York State Education Department.

My current address is 1323 West Galway Road, Hagaman, New York, 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 one specification of professional misconduct.

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

I plead no contest to the First Specification, in full satisfaction of the charges against me, and agree to the following penalty:

Pursuant to Section 230-a(1) of the Public Health Law, my license to practice medicine shall be subject to a Censure and Reprimand.

Pursuant to Section 230-a(2) of the Public Health Law, my license shall be suspended for a period of thirty-six (36) months, said suspension to be stayed.

Pursuant to Section 230-a(3) of the Public Health Law, I shall not practice in emergency medicine unless and until I submit to a clinical competency assessment performed by a program for such assessment as directed by the Director of OPMC; comply with such terms and/or conditions of practice, if any, as may be consistent with the recommendation(s) in the clinical competency assessment report; and obtain written approval from said Director of OPMC documenting such compliance, all of the terms of which are set forth in the attached Exhibit "B".

Pursuant to Section 230-a(9) of the Public Health Law, I shall be placed on probation for a period of thirty-six (36) months, subject to the terms set forth in the attached Exhibit "C".

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

That Respondent shall maintain active registration of Respondent's license 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. The Order, this agreement, and all attached Exhibits shall be public documents, with only patient identities, if any, redacted.

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: 5/25/05

4

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

DATED: 5/25/05

CARTER, CONBOY, CASE BARDWELL, MALONEY & LAIRD B.C.

By Fred Clary

EDWARD D. LAIRD, JR, ESQ. Attorney for Respondent

DATED: May 31, 2005

ASSOCIATE COUNSEL
Bureau of Professional Medical Conduct

DATED: 2006

DENNIS J. CRAZIANO

Office of Professional Medical Conduct

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

### IN THE MATTER OF ERIC G. KLAUSNER, M.D.

STATEMENT OF CHARGES

Eric G. Klausner, M.D., the Respondent, was authorized to practice medicine in New York State on or about December 11, 1989, by the issuance of license number 180976 by the New York State Education Department.

### **FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS**

- A. Respondent provided medical care to Patient A (hereinafter identified in Appendix A) at the Emergency Department of Amsterdam Memorial Hospital, Amsterdam, New York, commencing on December 23, 2001, for, among other things, complaints of suprasternal chest pain, and difficulty breathing. Patient A had a medical history of having undergone a cardiac catheterization. Respondent's care and treatment of Patient A failed to meet minimum standards of care in that:
  - Respondent failed to take and/or document an appropriate medical history;
  - 2. Respondent failed to initially order indicated diagnostic tests;
  - 3. Respondent failed to order an indicated consultation; and
  - 4. Respondent failed to appropriately treat Patient A.
- B. Respondent provided medical care to Patient B (hereinafter identified in Appendix A), at the Emergency Department of Bassett Hospital, Schoharie, New York, commencing on May 28, 2002, for, among other things, complaints of nausea, vomiting, and vertigo. Patient B had a medical history of hypertension, gout, recently diagnosed pneumonia, and had undergone cardiac surgery. Respondent's care and treatment of Patient B failed to meet accepted standards of care in that:

- Respondent failed to take and/or document an appropriate medical history;
- 2. Respondent failed to perform and/or document a complete neurological examination;
- 3. Respondent failed to timely order indicated diagnostic tests; and
- 4. Respondent failed to appropriately treat Patient B.

## SPECIFICATION OF CHARGES FIRST SPECIFICATION

(Negligence on More than One Occasion)

- B. Respondent is charged with professional misconduct under New York Education Law Section 6530(3) by reason of his having practiced the profession with negligence on more than one occasion, in that Petitioner charges the following:
  - 1. The facts as alleged in paragraphs A and A1, A and A2, A and A 3, and/or A and A4; and B and B1, B and B2, B and B3, and/or B and B4.

DATED:

May 3/, 2005 Albany, New York

PETER D. VAN BUREN, ESQ.

Deputy Counsel

Bureau of Professional Medical Conduct

#### **EXHIBIT B**

### Conditions for future practice in emergency medicine

### **CLINICAL COMPETENCY ASSESSMENT**

- 1. Respondent shall not practice in emergency medicine in the future unless and until said Respondent obtains a clinical competency assessment performed by a program for such assessment as directed by the Director of OPMC. Respondent shall cause a written report of such assessment to be provided directly to the Director of OPMC within thirty (30) days of the completion of the competency assessment.
  - a. Respondent shall be responsible for all expenses related to the clinical competency assessment and shall provide to the Director of OPMC proof of full payment of all costs that may be charged. This term of probation shall not be satisfied in the absence of actual receipt, by the Director, of such documentation, and any failure to satisfy shall provide a basis for a professional misconduct proceeding.
- 2. Within thirty (30) days of receipt of the clinical competency assessment report by OPMC, the Director shall render a decision, at said Director's sole discretion, as to such other terms and/or conditions of practice, if any, as may be consistent with the recommendation(s) in the clinical competency report, including personalized continuing medical education, if appropriate, as set forth in paragraph "3".

### PERSONALIZED CONTINUING MEDICAL EDUCATION

- 3. Within thirty (30) days of receipt of the clinical competency assessment report by OPMC, the Director may direct that Respondent be enrolled in a course of personalized continuing medical education, which includes an assigned preceptor, preferably a physician board certified in the same specialty, to be approved, in writing, by the Director of OPMC. Respondent shall remain enrolled and shall fully participate in the program.
- 4. Respondent shall cause the preceptor to:
  - a. Develop and submit to the Director of OPMC for written approval a remediation plan, which addresses the deficiencies/retraining recommendations identified in the CCA. Additionally, this proposal shall establish a time frame for completion of the remediation program of not less than three months and no longer than twelve months.
  - b. Submit progress reports at periods identified by OPMC certifying whether Respondent is fully participating in the personalized continuing medical education program and is making satisfactory progress towards the completion of the approved remediation plan.
  - c. Report immediately to the Director of OPMC if Respondent withdraws from the program and report promptly to OPMC any significant pattern of non-compliance by the Respondent.
  - d. At the conclusion of the program, submit to the Director of OPMC a detailed assessment of the progress made by Respondent toward remediation of all identified deficiencies.

### **EXHIBIT "C"**

#### **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 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), 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 and such additional requirements as the Director may impose as reasonably relate to the matters set forth in Exhibit "A" or 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 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. Respondent shall enroll in and complete an intensive review of family medicine within one (1) year of the effective date of this Order. Additionally, Respondent shall enroll in and complete a minimum of fifty (50) hours of Category 1 continuing medical education in family medicine for each remaining year of probation, with emphasis on the following areas: geriatric medicine and cardio-pulmonary medicine. All continuing medical education is subject to the prior written approval of the Director of OPMC.

### PRACTICE MONITOR

- 10. Within thirty (30) 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.
- 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.