

## Department of Health

KATHY HOCHUL

Governor

JAMES V. McDONALD, M.D., M.P.H.

Commissioner

JOHANNE E. MORNE, M.S. Acting Executive Deputy Commissioner

January 17, 2024

#### CERTIFIED MAIL-RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Xinjun Zhu, M.D. Albany Gastroenterology Consultants 1375 Washington Avenue, Suite 101 Albany, New York 12206

RE: License No. 257364

Dear Dr. Zhu:

Enclosed is a copy of the New York State Board for Professional Medical Conduct (BPMC) Order No. 24-015. This Order and any penalty provided therein goes into effect January 24, 2024.

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 2784 Empire State Plaza Albany, New York 12237

Please direct any questions to: Board for Professional Medical Conduct, Riverview Center, 150 Broadway, Suite 355, Albany, New York, 12204, telephone # 518-402-0846.

Sincerely,

David Besser, M.D. Executive Secretary Board for Professional Medical Conduct

Enclosure

CC:

Daniel J. Hurteau, Esq. Nixon Peabody, LLP. 677 Broadway, 10<sup>th</sup> Floor Albany, New York 12207-2996

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

IN THE MATTER
OF
XINJUN ZHU, M.D.

BPMC No. 24-015

CONSENT ORDER

Upon the application of (Respondent) XINJUN ZHU, 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: 1/12/2024

THOMAS T. LEE, M.D.

Chair

State Board for Professional Medical Conduct

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

# OF XINJUN ZHU, M.D.

CONSENT AGREEMENT

XINJUN ZHU, M.D., represents that all of the following statements are true:

That on or about June 17, 2010, I was licensed to practice as a physician in the State of New York and issued License No. 257364 by the New York State Education Department.

My current address is Albany Gastroenterology Consultants

1375 Washington Avenue, Suite 101 Albany, NY 12206, 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 agree not to contest the allegations, in full satisfaction of the charges against me, and agree to the following penalty:

Pursuant to N.Y. Pub. Health Law § 230-a(1), I shall be subject to a Censure and Reprimand.

Pursuant to N.Y. Pub. Health Law §§ 230-a(7) and (9), I shall be subject to a fine in the amount of \$2,500.00, to be paid in full within 30 days of the effective date of this Order. Payments must be submitted to:

Bureau of Accounts Management New York State Department of Health Corning Tower, Room 2784 Empire State Plaza Albany, New York 12237

In making such payment, Respondent shall indicate the order number of this Order both on the payment check submitted and on the cover letter accompanying payment. Additionally, Respondent shall simultaneously mail a photocopy of the check and cover letter to:

Physician Monitoring Program

Office of Professional Medical Conduct

Riverview Center

150 Broadway, Suite 355

Albany, New York 12204-2719.

Respondent shall enroll in and successfully complete continuing education as directed by the Office of Professional Medical Conduct, subject to the Director of OPMC's prior written approval.

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

Respondent shall comply fully with the State of Florida Board of Medicine's April 25, 2023, Final Order and any extension or modification thereof.

Respondent shall provide a written authorization for the State of Florida Board of Medicine to provide the Director of OPMC with any/all information or documentation as requested by OPMC to enable OPMC to determine whether Respondent is in compliance with the Florida Order.

That Respondent shall comply with each and every penalty imposed by this Order pursuant to N.Y. Pub. Health Law § 230-a.

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 the Licensee's profile information within six months prior to the expiration date of the licensee's registration period. Licensee shall submit changes to the Licensee's 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 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. This condition shall take effect 30 days after the Order's effective date and shall continue at all times until Respondent receives written notification from the Office of Professional Medical Conduct, Physician Monitoring Program, that OPMC has determined that Respondent has fully complied with and satisfied the requirements of the Order, regardless of tolling; 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 the N.Y. Pub. Health Law.

l 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 or other confidential information, 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 1/9/24

XINJUN ZHU, M.D. RESPONDENT The undersigned agree to Respondent's attached Consent Agreement and to its proposed penalty, terms and conditions.

DATE: 1/9/24

DATE: 1/10/24

DATE: 1/12/2024

DANIEL J. HURTEAU, ESQ. Attorney for Respondent

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SHELLY WANG BANDAGO Director

Office of Professional Medical Conduct

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

IN THE MATTER

STATEMENT

OF

CHARGES

OF

XINJUN ZHU, M.D.

XINJUN ZHU, M.D., was authorized to practice medicine in New York State on or about June 17, 2010, by the issuance of license number 257364 by the New York State Education Department.

### **FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS**

- A. On or about April 25, 2023, the State of Florida Board of Medicine (the "Board") issued a Final Order approving a Settlement Agreement (the "Agreement") between the Board and Respondent. The Board issued a Letter of Concern; fined Respondent \$5,000.00; assessed costs in the amount of \$6,548.11; and required Respondent to take CME in Medical Record Keeping, Small Bowel Obstruction and Risk Management. The Agreement was based on an Administrative Complaint alleging that, with respect to one patient, Dr. Zhu failed to call for an immediate surgical consultation after completion of the patient's colonoscopy, which revealed a completely obstructing sigmoid mass; failed to refrain from ordering any food or liquids for the patient pending surgery when he had a completely obstructing sigmoid mass; and failed to arrange for continued follow-up care of the patient either by herself or another gastroenterologist after discovering the patient had a completely obstructing sigmoid mass. Dr. Zhu neither admitted nor denied the allegations in the Administrative Complaint.
- 1. The conduct resulting in the Order would constitute misconduct under the laws of New York State, pursuant to:

- a) New York Education Law Section 6530(3) (Practicing the profession with negligence on more than one occasion).
- b) New York Education Law Section 6530 (4) (Practicing the profession with gross negligence on a particular occasion).

## SPECIFICATION OF CHARGES FIRST SPECIFICATION

### HAVING HAD DISCIPLINARY ACTION TAKEN

Respondent is charged with committing professional misconduct as defined in N.Y. Educ. Law § 6530(9)(d) by having his or her license to practice medicine revoked, suspended or having other disciplinary action taken, or having his or her application for a license refused, revoked or suspended or having voluntarily or otherwise surrendered his or her license after a disciplinary action was instituted by a duly authorized professional disciplinary agency of another state, where the conduct resulting in the revocation, suspension or other disciplinary action involving the license or refusal, revocation or suspension of an application for a license or the surrender of the license would, if committed in New York state, constitute professional misconduct under the laws of New York state, namely N.Y. Educ. Laws §6530(3) and (4), as alleged in the facts of the following:

1. The facts in Paragraph A, A1 and its subparagraphs.

DATE: November 8, 2023 New York, New York

Henry Weintraub
Chief Counsel
Bureau of Professional Medical Conduct