

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

February 1, 2005

CERTIFIED MAIL-RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Nirmal K. Parikh, M.D. 26 Elaine Drive Kingston, NY 12401

Re: License No. 115320

Dear Dr. Parikh:

Enclosed please find Order #BPMC 05-27 of the New York State Board for Professional Medical Conduct. This order and any penalty provided therein goes into effect February 8, 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: Robert D. Cook, Esq.

Cook, Netter, Cloonan, Kurtz & Murphy, P.C.

85 Main Street P.O. Box 3939

Kingston, NY 12402

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

IN THE MATTER OF NIRMAL PARIKH, M.D.

CONSENT

BPMC No. 05-27

Upon the application of (Respondent) NIRMAL PARIKH, 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: 1-31-2005

Kendrick A. Sears, M.D.

State Board for Professional Medical Conduct

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

IN THE MATTER OF NIRMAL PARIKH, M.D.

CONSENT
AGREEMENT
AND
ORDER

NIRMAL PARIKH, M.D., representing that all of the following statements are true, deposes and says:

That on or about January 22, 1973, I was licensed to practice as a physician in the State of New York, and issued License No. 115320 by the New York State Education Department.

My current address is 26 Elaine Drive, Kingston, 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 two 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 assert that I cannot successfully defend against at least one of the acts of misconduct alleged against me, and in full satisfaction of the charges against me, agree to the following penalty:

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 attached Exhibit "B."

Pursuant to §230-a(3) of the Public Health Law, my license to practice medicine in the state of New York shall be limited so as

to require that I in the course of practicing medicine in New York State, I may examine and/or treat any female patient only in the presence of a chaperone, as is more fully set forth in Exhibit "C," attached.

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 1912119

NIRMAL PARIKH, M.D RESPONDENT DATE:

DATE:

DATE:

DENNIS J. GRAZIANO

Director

Office of Professional Medical Conduct

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

EXHIBIT "A"

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

IN THE MATTER

OF

NIRMAL PARIKH, M.D.

STATEMENT

OF

_____ CHARGES

NIRMAL PARIKH, M.D., the Respondent, was authorized to practice medicine in New York State on or about January 22, 1973, by the issuance of license number 115320 by the New York State Education Department.

FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

- A. During the course of a physical examination, Respondent subjected Patient A to physical contact which had no legitimate medical purpose. The physical contact was without Patient A's consent.
- B. Respondent subjected Individual B, an employee of the medical practice in which Respondent worked, to physical contact without Individual B's consent.

SPECIFICATION OF CHARGES

FIRST SPECIFICATION WILLFUL ABUSE OF A PATIENT

Respondent is charged with committing professional misconduct as defined in N.Y. Educ. Law §6530(31) by willfully harassing, abusing, or intimidating a patient verbally or physically, as alleged in the facts of:

1. Paragraph A.

SECOND SPECIFICATION MORAL UNFITNESS

Respondent is charged with committing professional misconduct as defined in N.Y. Educ. Law §6530(20) by engaging in conduct in the practice of the profession of medicine that evidences moral unfitness to practice as alleged in the facts of the following:

2. Paragraphs A and B.

DATED:

January ズ I, 2005 New York, New York

> 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.
- 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.
- 6. 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.
- 7. 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.
- 8. Respondent shall enroll in and complete a continuing education program in the area of sexual harassment. This continuing education program is subject to the Director of OPMC's prior written approval and shall be completed within the first year of the probation period, unless the Order specifies otherwise.
- 9. 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.

EXHIBIT "C"

CHAPERONE

- 1. Respondent shall, in the course of practicing medicine in New York State, examine and/ treat any female patient only in the presence of a chaperone. The chaperone shall be a licensed or registered health care professional or other health care worker, shall not be a family member, personal friend, or be in a professional relationship with Respondent which could pose a conflict with the chaperone's responsibilities. The chaperone shall be proposed by Respondent and subject to the written the approval of the Director of OPMC.
- 2. Prior to the approval of any individual as chaperone, Respondent shall cause the proposed chaperone to execute and submit to the Director of OPMC an acknowledgment of the chaperone's agreement to undertake all of the responsibilities of the role of chaperone. Said acknowledgment shall be made upon a form provided by and acceptable to the Director. Respondent shall provide the chaperone with a copy of the Order and all of its attachments and shall, without fail, cause the approved chaperone to:
 - a. Report quarterly to OPMC regarding the chaperoning of Respondent's practice.
 - b. Report within 24 hours any failure of Respondent to comply with the Order, including, but not limited to, any failure by Respondent to have the chaperone present when required, any sexually suggestive or otherwise inappropriate comments by Respondent to any patient, and any actions of a sexual nature by Respondent in the presence of any patient.
 - c. Confirm the chaperone's presence at each and every examination and treatment of a female patient by Respondent, by placing the chaperone's name, title and date in the patient record for each and every visit, and by maintaining a separate log, kept in the chaperone's own possession, listing the patient name and date of visit for each and every patient visit chaperoned.
 - d. Provide copies of the log described in paragraph c, above, to OPMC at least quarterly and also immediately upon the Director's request.
- o. In settings other than Respondent's office practice when Respondent must examine a female patient and the OPMC- approved chaperone is not present, a licensed or registered health care professional or other health care worker may serve as chaperone. Such chaperone may not be a family member, personal friend, or in a professional relationship with Respondent which could pose a conflict with the chaperone's responsibilities. Respondent shall:
 - a. Cause the chaperone to confirm the chaperone's presence at each and every examination and treatment of a female patient by Respondent, by placing the chaperone's name, title and the date in the patient record for each and every visit.

- b. Maintain a separate log, kept in his possession, listing the patient name and date of visit for each and very patient visit chaperoned.
- c. Provide copies of the log described in paragraph 2, above, to OPMC at least quarterly and also immediately upon the Director's request.