

**STATE OF VERMONT
BOARD OF MEDICAL PRACTICE**

In re: Laura E. Purdy, M.D.)
) Docket No. MPN 168-0723
)

STIPULATION AND CONSENT ORDER

NOW COME Laura E. Purdy, M.D. and the Vermont Board of Medical Practice and stipulate and agree as follows:

1. Laura E. Purdy, M.D. (“Respondent”) holds Vermont medical license number 042.0014659-COMP first issued by the Vermont Board of Medical Practice (“Board”) on January 29, 2020. Respondent is a physician.
2. Jurisdiction in this matter vests with the Board pursuant to 26 V.S.A. §§ 1353-1354, 1370-74, and 3 V.S.A. §§ 809-814, and other authority.

Findings of Fact

3. Respondent is a family medicine physician and is licensed to practice medicine in all fifty states and Washington, D.C.
4. The Board opened docket number MPN 168-0723 in July 2023 after it received a report from the National Practitioner Data Bank that the Mississippi State Board of Medical Licensure determined Respondent had prescribed diet medications without real-time audio visual interactions with patients in violation of Mississippi regulations which prohibit prescribers from relying solely on text messages and written questionnaire answers. The Board assigned the investigation of the complaint to the North Investigative Committee (“Committee”).
5. In a Determination and Order dated May 18, 2023, the Mississippi Board suspended Respondent’s license for three months with the suspension immediately stayed, required that she successfully complete the PROBE course offered by CPEP, prohibited her from

practicing telehealth in Mississippi until June 17, 2023, and required her to report to the Mississippi Board for review of her telehealth standard operating procedures prior to resuming the practice of telehealth in Mississippi.

6. In response to a request from the Committee, Respondent stated that she had treated 25 patients in Vermont via telemedicine. The Committee then obtained the records of 10 of those patients to review.

7. After it reviewed the patient records, the Committee determined that Respondent had prescribed non-controlled medications such as Mounjaro (a diet medication), Ramelteon (a sedative), and Rifaximin (an antibiotic) to the patients based upon their answers to an online questionnaire and without first establishing physician-patient relationships.

8. Respondent has been disciplined in at least 11 other states based upon the discipline imposed by the Mississippi Board.

9. On October 23, 2023, the Mississippi Board notified Respondent that its review determined that she has fully complied with the terms of its May 18, 2023 Determination and Order.

10. Respondent cooperated with the Committee's investigation and provided relevant documents and information regarding her Vermont patients and disciplinary actions taken by other states.

Conclusions of Law

11. It is unprofessional conduct for a physician to provide, prescribe, dispense, or furnish medical services or prescription medication in response to a communication transmitted or received by computer or other electronic means when the physician fails to establish a physician-patient relationship by the establishment of a documented diagnosis through the use of

accepted medical practices and maintenance of a current record. 26 V.S.A. § 1354(a)(33)(A)(ii)-(iii).

12. When prescribing medication to a patient in response to a communication transmitted or received by computer or other electronic means, it is unprofessional conduct for a physician to conduct an initial evaluation of a patient by "an electronic, on-line, or telephonic evaluation by questionnaire[.]" 26 V.S.A. § 1354(a)(33)(B).

13. Respondent acknowledges that if this matter were to proceed to a contested hearing the State could prove that she failed to establish a physician-patient relationship with her Vermont patients and prescribed them medication in response to their answers to an online questionnaire.

14. Consistent with Respondent's cooperation with the Board, she acknowledges that if the State were to file charges it could satisfy its burden at a hearing and a finding adverse to her could be entered by the Board pursuant to 26 V.S.A. § 1354(a)(33).

15. The Board adopts as its facts in this matter Paragraphs 1-10 and Respondent agrees that this is an adequate basis for the Board actions set forth herein. Any representation by Respondent herein is made solely for the purposes set forth in this agreement.

16. Therefore, in the interest of Respondent's desire to fully and finally resolve the matter presently before the Board, she has determined that she shall enter into this agreement with the Board. Respondent enters no further admissions here, but to resolve this matter without further time, expense, and uncertainty she has concluded that this agreement is acceptable and in the best interest of the parties.

17. Respondent agrees and understands that by executing this document she is waiving any right to challenge the jurisdiction and continuing jurisdiction of the Board in this

matter, to be presented with a specification of charges and evidence, to cross-examine witnesses, and to offer evidence of her own to contest any allegations by the State.

18. The parties agree that upon the Board's acceptance of this Stipulation and Consent Order, and pursuant to the terms herein, the above-captioned matter shall be resolved by the Board. Thereafter, the Board will take no further action as to this matter absent non-compliance with the terms and conditions of this document by Respondent.

19. This Stipulation and Consent Order is conditioned upon its acceptance by the Board. If the Board rejects any part of this document, the entire agreement shall be considered void. Respondent agrees that if the Board does not accept this agreement in its current form, she shall not assert in any subsequent proceeding any claim of prejudice from any such prior consideration. If the Board rejects any part of this agreement, none of its terms shall bind Respondent or constitute an admission of any of the facts of the alleged misconduct, it shall not be used against Respondent in any way, it shall be kept in strict confidence, and it shall be without prejudice to any future disciplinary proceeding and the Board's final determination of any charge against Respondent.

20. Respondent acknowledges and understands that this Stipulation and Consent Order shall be a matter of public record, shall be entered in her permanent Board file, shall constitute an enforceable legal agreement, and may and shall be reported to other licensing authorities, including but not limited to the Federation of State Medical Boards Board Action Databank and the National Practitioner Data Bank. In exchange for the actions by the Board, as set forth herein, Respondent expressly agrees to be bound by all terms and conditions of this Stipulation and Consent Order.

21. The parties therefore jointly agree that should the terms and conditions of this Stipulation and Consent Order be deemed acceptable by the Board, it may enter an order implementing the terms and conditions herein.


ORDER

WHEREFORE, based on the foregoing and the consent of Respondent, it is hereby ORDERED that:

1. Respondent shall be REPRIMANDED for the conduct set forth above.
2. Respondent shall comply with Vermont law when treating patients in Vermont, including but not limited to 26 V.S.A. § 1354(a)(33).

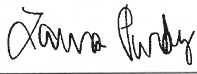
SIGNATURES

Dated at _____, Vermont, this ____ day of December, 2023.

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 2/12/2024
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 North Investigative Committee
 Vermont Board of Medical Practice

Dated at Miami, Florida, this 2 day of January, 2024 December, 2023.



 Laura E. Purdy, M.D.
 Respondent

APPROVED AS TO LEGAL FORM:

Dated at Richmond, Virginia this 5th day of January, 2024 ~~December, 2023~~ JBM

John B.
Mumford, Jr.

Digitally signed by John B.
Mumford, Jr.
Date: 2024.01.05 12:32:40
-05'00'

John B. Mumford, Jr., Esq.
Hancock, Daniel & Johnson, P.C.
P.O. Box 72050
Richmond VA 23225-2050
Counsel for Respondent

Dated at Montpelier, Vermont this 19th day of December, 2023.

Kurt A. Kuehl

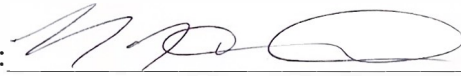
Digitally signed by Kurt A. Kuehl
Date: 2023.12.19 14:08:12 -05'00'

Kurt A. Kuehl
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Vermont Attorney General's Office
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**AS TO LAURA E. PURDY, M.D.
APPROVED AND ORDERED
VERMONT BOARD OF MEDICAL PRACTICE**

Signed on Behalf of the Vermont Board of Medical Practice

By: _____







Rick Hildebrant, M.D.
Chair, Vermont Board of Medical Practice

Vote documented in the Vermont Board of Medical Practice meeting minutes,
dated 03/06/2024.

Dated: 03/06/2024

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