

BEFORE THE  
DIVISION OF MEDICAL QUALITY  
MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA  
DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS  
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Accusation Against:

**Carol Stone Wolman, M.D.**  
Box 822  
Albion, CA 95410

Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate  
G-17507

Case No. 12-1999-98505

OAH No. N2003 020089

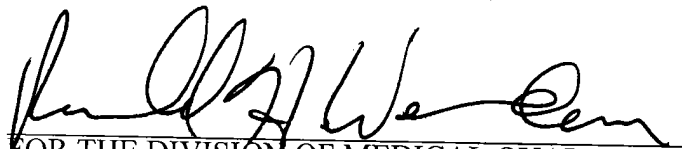
Respondent.

**DECISION AND ORDER**

The attached Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order is hereby adopted by the Division of Medical Quality, Medical Board of California, Department of Consumer Affairs, as its Decision in this matter.

This Decision shall become effective on September 4, 2003.

It is so ORDERED August 5, 2003.



FOR THE DIVISION OF MEDICAL QUALITY  
MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA  
DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS  
RONALD H. WENDER, M.D.  
Chair, Panel B

1 BILL LOCKYER, Attorney General  
of the State of California  
2 LAWRENCE A. MERCER, State Bar No. 111898  
Deputy Attorney General  
3 California Department of Justice  
455 Golden Gate Avenue, Suite 11000  
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6 Attorneys for Complainant

7 **BEFORE THE**  
8 **DIVISION OF MEDICAL QUALITY**  
9 **MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA**  
10 **DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS**  
11 **STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

12 In the Matter of the Accusation Against:

13 **Carol Stone Wolman, M.D.**  
14 Box 822  
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Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate  
G-17507

15 Respondent.

Case No. 12-1999-98505

OAH No. N2003 020089

**STIPULATED SETTLEMENT  
AND DISCIPLINARY ORDER**

17 IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED AND AGREED by and between the parties to the  
18 above-entitled proceedings that the following matters are true:

19 PARTIES

20 1. Ron Joseph (Complainant) is the Executive Director of the Medical Board  
21 of California. He brought this action solely in his official capacity and is represented in this  
22 matter by Bill Lockyer, Attorney General of the State of California, by Lawrence A. Mercer,  
23 Deputy Attorney General.

24 2. Respondent Carol Stone Wolman, M.D. (Respondent) is represented in  
25 this proceeding by her attorneys, Hassard Bonnington L.L.P., and John Etchevers, Esq., whose  
26 address is Two Embarcadero, Suite 1800, San Francisco, CA 94111-3993.

27 3. On or about October 28, 1969, the Medical Board of California issued  
28 Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. G-17507 to Carol Stone Wolman, M.D. (Respondent).

1 Said license is currently valid with an expiration date of June 30, 2005.

2 JURISDICTION

3 4. Accusation No. 12-1999-98505 was filed before the Division of Medical  
4 Quality (Division) for the Medical Board of California, Department of Consumer Affairs, and is  
5 currently pending against Respondent. The Accusation and all other statutorily required  
6 documents were properly served on Respondent on February 22, 2002. Respondent timely filed  
7 her Notice of Defense contesting the Accusation. A First Amended Accusation was filed on  
8 January 23, 2003, and respondent's earlier Notice of Defense was deemed to respond to the  
9 charges in the amended pleading. A copy of First Amended Accusation No. 12-1999-98505 is  
10 attached as exhibit A and incorporated herein by reference.

11 ADVISEMENT AND WAIVERS

12 5. Respondent has carefully read, fully discussed with counsel, and  
13 understands the charges and allegations in Accusation No. 12-1999-98505. Respondent has also  
14 carefully read, fully discussed with counsel, and understands the effects of this Stipulated  
15 Settlement and Disciplinary Order.

16 6. Respondent is fully aware of her legal rights in this matter, including the  
17 right to a hearing on the charges and allegations in the Accusation; the right to be represented by  
18 counsel at her own expense; the right to confront and cross-examine the witnesses against her;  
19 the right to present evidence and to testify on her own behalf; the right to the issuance of  
20 subpoenas to compel the attendance of witnesses and the production of documents; the right to  
21 reconsideration and court review of an adverse decision; and all other rights accorded by the  
22 California Administrative Procedure Act and other applicable laws.

23 7. Respondent voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently waives and gives up  
24 each and every right set forth above.

25 CULPABILITY

26 8. Respondent understands and agrees that the charges and allegations in  
27 Accusation No. 12-1999-98505, if proven at a hearing, constitute cause for imposing discipline  
28 upon her license to practice medicine in the State of California.



1 following Disciplinary Order:

2 **DISCIPLINARY ORDER**

3 IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate no. G-  
4 17507 issued to Respondent Carol Stone Wolman, M.D. is revoked. However, the revocation is  
5 stayed and Respondent is placed on probation for four (4) years on the following terms and  
6 conditions.

7 Within 15 days after the effective date of this decision the respondent shall  
8 provide the Division, or its designee, proof of service that respondent has served a true copy of  
9 this decision on the Chief of Staff or the Chief Executive Officer at every hospital where  
10 privileges or membership are extended to respondent or at any other facility where respondent  
11 engages in the practice of medicine and on the Chief Executive Officer at every insurance carrier  
12 where malpractice insurance coverage is extended to respondent.

13 1. **CONTROLLED DRUGS - PARTIAL RESTRICTION** Respondent shall  
14 not prescribe, administer, dispense, order, or possess any controlled substances as defined by the  
15 California Uniform Controlled Substances Act, except for those drugs listed in Schedule(s) III,  
16 IV and V of the Act and the ADD medications Ritalin and Adderal.

17 2. **PHYSICIAN ASSESSMENT AND CLINICAL EDUCATION**  
18 **PROGRAM** Within 90 days from the effective date of this decision, respondent, at his/her  
19 expense, shall enroll in The Physician Assessment and Clinical Education Program at the  
20 University of California, San Diego School of Medicine (hereinafter the "PACE Program"). The  
21 PACE Program consists of the Comprehensive Assessment Program which is comprised of two  
22 mandatory components: Phase 1 and Phase 2. Phase 1 is a two-day program which assesses  
23 physical and mental health; neuropsychological performance; basic clinical and communication  
24 skills common to all clinicians; and medical knowledge, skill and judgment pertaining to the  
25 specialty or sub-specialty of the respondent. After the results of Phase 1 are reviewed,  
26 respondent shall complete Phase 2. Phase 2 comprises five (5) days (40 hours) of Clinical  
27 Education in respondent's field of specialty. The specific curriculum of Phase 2 is designed by  
28 PACE Faculty and the Department or Division of respondent's specialty, and utilizes data

1 obtained from Phase 1. After respondent has completed Phase 1 and Phase 2, the PACE  
2 Evaluation Committee will review all results and make a recommendation to the Division or its  
3 designee as to whether further education, clinical training (including scope and length), treatment  
4 of any medical and/or psychological condition and any other matters affecting respondent's  
5 practice of medicine will be required or recommended. The Division or its designee may at any  
6 time request information from PACE regarding the respondent's participation in PACE and/or  
7 information derived therefrom. The Division may order respondent to undergo additional  
8 education, medical and/or psychological treatment based upon the recommendations received  
9 from PACE.

10           Upon approval of the recommendation by the Division or its designee, respondent  
11 shall undertake and complete the recommended and approved PACE Program. At the completion  
12 of the PACE Program, respondent shall submit to an examination on its contents and substance.  
13 The examination shall be designed and administered by the PACE Program faculty. Respondent  
14 shall not be deemed to have successfully completed the program unless he/she passes the  
15 examination. Respondent agrees that the determination of the PACE Program faculty as to  
16 whether or not she passed the examination and/or successfully completed the PACE Program  
17 shall be binding.

18           Respondent shall complete the PACE Program no later than six months after his  
19 initial enrollment unless the Division or its designee agrees in writing to a later time for  
20 completion.

21           If respondent successfully completes the PACE Program, including the  
22 examination referenced above, she agrees to cause the PACE Program representative to forward  
23 a Certification of Successful Completion of the program to the Division or its designee. If  
24 respondent fails to successfully complete the PACE Program within the time limits outlined  
25 above, she shall be suspended from the practice of medicine.

26           Failure to participate in, and successfully complete all phases of the PACE  
27 Program, as outlined above, shall constitute a violation of probation.

28           3.       MONITORING Within thirty (30) days of the effective date of this

1 decision, respondent shall submit to the Division or its designee for its prior approval a plan of  
2 practice in which respondent's practice shall be monitored by another physician in respondent's  
3 field of practice, who shall provide periodic reports to the Division or its designee.

4 If the monitor resigns or is no longer available, respondent shall, within fifteen  
5 (15) days, move to have a new monitor appointed, through nomination by respondent and  
6 approval by the Division or its designee.

7 4. OBEY ALL LAWS Respondent shall obey all federal, state and local  
8 laws, all rules governing the practice of medicine in California, and remain in full compliance  
9 with any court ordered criminal probation, payments and other orders.

10 5. QUARTERLY REPORTS Respondent shall submit quarterly  
11 declarations under penalty of perjury on forms provided by the Division, stating whether there  
12 has been compliance with all the conditions of probation.

13 6. PROBATION SURVEILLANCE PROGRAM COMPLIANCE  
14 Respondent shall comply with the Division's probation surveillance program. Respondent shall,  
15 at all times, keep the Division informed of her business and residence addresses which shall both  
16 serve as addresses of record. Changes of such addresses shall be immediately communicated in  
17 writing to the Division. Under no circumstances shall a post office box serve as an address of  
18 record, except as allowed by Business and Professions Code section 2021(b).

19 Respondent shall, at all times, maintain a current and renewed physician's and  
20 surgeon's license.

21 Respondent shall also immediately inform the Division, in writing, of any travel  
22 to any areas outside the jurisdiction of California which lasts, or is contemplated to last, more  
23 than thirty (30) days.

24 7. INTERVIEW WITH THE DIVISION, ITS DESIGNEE OR ITS  
25 DESIGNATED PHYSICIAN(S) Respondent shall appear in person for interviews with the  
26 Division, its designee or its designated physician(s) upon request at various intervals and with  
27 reasonable notice.

28 //

1                   8.     TOLLING FOR OUT-OF-STATE PRACTICE, RESIDENCE OR IN-  
2 STATE NON-PRACTICE In the event respondent should leave California to reside or to  
3 practice outside the State or for any reason should respondent stop practicing medicine in  
4 California, respondent shall notify the Division or its designee in writing within ten (10) days of  
5 the dates of departure and return or the dates of non-practice within California. Non-practice is  
6 defined as any period of time exceeding thirty (30) days in which respondent is not engaging in  
7 any activities defined in Sections 2051 and 2052 of the Business and Professions Code. All time  
8 spent in an intensive training program approved by the Division or its designee shall be  
9 considered as time spent in the practice of medicine. A Board-ordered suspension of practice  
10 shall not be considered as a period of non-practice. Periods of temporary or permanent residence  
11 or practice outside California or of non-practice within California, as defined in this condition,  
12 will not apply to the reduction of the probationary order.

13                   9.     COMPLETION OF PROBATION Upon successful completion of  
14 probation, respondent's certificate shall be fully restored.

15                   10.    VIOLATION OF PROBATION If respondent violates probation in any  
16 respect, the Division, after giving respondent notice and the opportunity to be heard, may revoke  
17 probation and carry out the disciplinary order that was stayed. If an accusation or petition to  
18 revoke probation is filed against respondent during probation, the Division shall have continuing  
19 jurisdiction until the matter is final, and the period of probation shall be extended until the matter  
20 is final.

21                   11.    COST RECOVERY The respondent is hereby ordered to reimburse the  
22 Division the amount of \$1,500.00 for its investigative and prosecution costs, with the initial  
23 payment of \$500.00 due within six months of the effective date of this decision and the balance  
24 due within three years of the effective date. Failure to reimburse the Division's cost of  
25 investigation and prosecution shall constitute a violation of the probation order, unless the  
26 Division agrees in writing to payment by an installment plan because of financial hardship. The  
27 filing of bankruptcy by the respondent shall not relieve the respondent of her responsibility to  
28 reimburse the Division for its investigative and prosecution costs.



1                   12.     PROBATION COSTS Respondent shall pay the costs associated with  
2 probation monitoring each and every year of probation, as designated by the Division, which are  
3 currently set at \$2,874.00, but may be adjusted on an annual basis. Such costs shall be payable  
4 to the Division of Medical Quality and delivered to the designated probation surveillance  
5 monitor no later than January 31 of each calendar year, unless the Board upon a showing of  
6 financial hardship agrees in writing to a later date. Failure to pay costs within 30 days of the due  
7 date shall constitute a violation of probation.

8                   13.     LICENSE SURRENDER Following the effective date of this decision, if  
9 respondent ceases practicing due to retirement, health reasons or is otherwise unable to satisfy  
10 the terms and conditions of probation, respondent may voluntarily tender her certificate to the  
11 Board. The Division reserves the right to evaluate the respondent's request and to exercise its  
12 discretion whether to grant the request, or to take any other action deemed appropriate and  
13 reasonable under the circumstances. Upon formal acceptance of the tendered license, respondent  
14 will not longer be subject to the terms and conditions of probation.

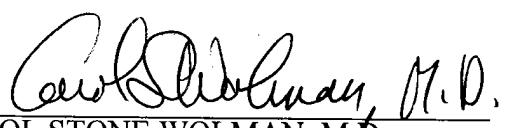
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ACCEPTANCE

I have carefully read the above Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order and have fully discussed it with my attorney. I understand the stipulation and the effect it will have on my license to practice medicine in California. I enter into this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently, and agree to be bound by the Decision and Order of the Division of Medical Quality, Medical Board of California.


DATED: 6/13/03.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
CAROL STONE WOLMAN, M.D.  
Respondent

I have read and fully discussed with Respondent Carol Stone Wolman, M.D. the terms and conditions and other matters contained in the above Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order. I approve its form and content.

DATED: 6/13/03.

HASSARD BONNINGTON, L.L.P.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
JOHN A. ETCHEVERS  
Attorney for Respondent

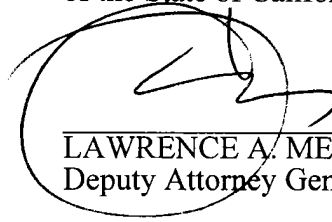
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ENDORSEMENT

The foregoing Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order is hereby respectfully submitted for consideration by the Division of Medical Quality, Medical Board of California of the Department of Consumer Affairs.

DATED: June 13, 2003.

BILL LOCKYER, Attorney General  
of the State of California



LAWRENCE A. MERCER  
Deputy Attorney General

Attorneys for Complainant

DOJ Docket Number: 03573160-SF2002AD0225

Exhibit A  
Accusation No. 12-1999-98505

1 BILL LOCKYER, Attorney General  
of the State of California  
2 VIVIEN H. HARA (State Bar No. 084589)  
Supervising Deputy Attorney General  
3 LAWRENCE A. MERCER (State Bar No. 111898)  
Deputy Attorney General  
4 California Department of Justice  
455 Golden Gate Ave., Suite 11000  
5 San Francisco, CA 94102  
Telephone: (415) 703-5539  
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7 Attorneys for Complainant

8  
9 **BEFORE THE DIVISION OF MEDICAL QUALITY**  
**MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA**  
10 **DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS**  
11 **STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

12 **In the Matter of the Accusation Against:** )  
13 **CAROL STONE WOLMAN, M.D.** ) **No. 12 1999 98505**  
14 **Box 822** )  
15 **Albion, CA 95410** ) **FIRST AMENDED**  
16 **Physician and Surgeon Certificate** ) **ACCUSATION**  
17 **No. G 17507** )  
18 **Respondent** )

19 Complainant, Ron Joseph, alleges:

20 **PARTIES**

- 21 1. He is the Executive Director of the Medical Board of California,  
22 Department of Consumer Affairs, State of California and brings this Accusation solely in his  
23 official capacity.  
24 2. On or about October 28, 1969, the Medical Board of California ("Board")  
25 issued Physician and Surgeon Certificate No. G 17507 to respondent Carol Stone Wolman, M.D.  
26 ("respondent"). Said certificate was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges  
27 and allegations brought herein and will expire on June 30, 2003, unless renewed. There is no  
28 Board record of previous discipline having been taken against this certificate.

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1 **JURISDICTION**

2 3. This Accusation is brought before the Division of Medical Quality  
3 (" Division") of the Board under the authority of the following provisions of law:

4 A. Section 2227 of the Business and Professions Code ("the Code") states:

5 "(a) A licensee whose matter has been heard by an  
6 administrative law judge of the Medical Quality Hearing  
7 Panel as designated in Section 11371 of the Government  
8 Code, or whose default has been entered, and who is found  
9 guilty may, in accordance with the provisions of this  
10 chapter:

- 11 "(1) Have his or her license revoked upon order of the  
12 division.
- 13 (2) Have his or her right to practice suspended for a period not  
14 to exceed one year upon order of the division.
- 15 (3) Be placed on probation and required to pay the costs of  
16 probation monitoring upon order of the division.
- 17 (4) Be publicly reprimanded by the division.
- 18 (5) Have any other action taken in relation to discipline as the  
19 division or an administrative law judge may deem proper."

20 "(b) Any matter heard pursuant to subdivision (a), except for  
21 warning letters, medical review or advisory conferences, or  
22 other matters made confidential or privileged by existing  
23 law, is deemed public and shall be made available to the  
24 public by the board."

25 B. Section 2234 of the Code states:

26 "The Division of Medical Quality shall take action against any  
27 licensee who is charged with unprofessional conduct. In addition to other  
28 provisions of this article, unprofessional conduct includes, but is not  
limited to, the following:

- 29 (a) Violating or attempting to violate, directly or indirectly, or  
30 assisting in or abetting the violation of, or conspiring to  
31 violate, any provision of this chapter [Chapter 5, the  
32 Medical Practice Act].
- 33 (b) Gross negligence.
- 34 (c) Repeated negligent acts.
- 35 (d) Incompetence.
- 36 (e) The commission of any act involving dishonesty or  
37 corruption which is substantially related too the  
38 qualifications, functions, or duties of a physician and  
surgeon.
- 39 (f) Any act or conduct which would have warranted the denial  
of a certificate."

40 //

1 C. Section 2242(a) of the Code provides that prescribing, dispensing or  
2 furnished dangerous drugs as defined in section 4022 without a good faith prior examination and  
3 medical indication therefor constitutes unprofessional conduct.

4 D. Section 2261 of the Code provides, in pertinent part, that it is  
5 unprofessional conduct to knowingly make or sign any document related to the practice of  
6 medicine which falsely represents the existence or nonexistence of a state of facts.

7 E. Section 2262 of the Code provides that it is unprofessional conduct to alter  
8 or modify the medical record of any person, with fraudulent intent, or to create any false medical  
9 record, with fraudulent intent.

10 F. Section 2266 of the Code provides that the failure of a physician and  
11 surgeon to maintain adequate and accurate records relating to the provision of services to patients  
12 constitutes unprofessional conduct.

13 G. Section 725 of the Code provides, in pertinent part, that repeated acts of  
14 clearly excessive prescribing or administering of drugs is unprofessional conduct for a physician  
15 and surgeon.

16 H. Section 125.3 of the Code provides, in pertinent part, that the Division  
17 may request the administrative law judge to direct a licentiate found to have committed a  
18 violation or violations of the licensing act to pay a sum not to exceed the reasonable costs of the  
19 investigation and enforcement of the case.

20 4. Section 14124.12 of the Welfare and Institutions Code states, in pertinent  
21 part:

22 "(a) Upon receipt of written notice from the Medical  
23 Board of California, the Osteopathic Medical Board of California,  
24 or the Board of Dental Examiners of California, that a licensee's  
25 license has been placed on probation as a result of a disciplinary  
26 action, the department may not reimburse any Medi-Cal claim for  
27 the type of surgical service or invasive procedure that gave rise to  
28 the probation, including any dental surgery or invasive procedure  
that was performed by the licensee on or after the effective date of  
probation and until the termination of all probationary terms and  
conditions or until the probationary period has ended, whichever  
occurs first. This section shall apply except in any case which the  
relevant licensing board determines that compelling circumstances  
warrant the continued reimbursement during the probationary  
period of any Medi-Cal claim, including any claim for dental

1 services, as so described. In such a case, the department shall  
2 continue to reimburse the licensee for all procedures, except for  
3 those invasive procedures for which the licensee was placed on  
4 probation."

5 5. At all times mentioned herein, respondent practiced in the rural  
6 community of Albion, California as a psychiatrist.

7 **DRUGS INVOLVED**

8 6. The following dangerous drugs and controlled substances are involved in  
9 this matter:

- 10 A. **Alupent** is a trade name for metaproterenol sulfate, which is a  
11 bronchodilator, a potent beta-adrenergic stimulator indicated for the relief  
12 of bronchial asthma and reversible bronchospasm which may occur in  
13 association with bronchitis and emphysema. It is contraindicated for  
14 patients with cardiac arrhythmias. It is a dangerous drug under Business  
15 and Professions Code section 4022 (hereinafter "section 4022").
- 16 B. **Ambien** is a trade name for zolpidem tartrate, a non-benzodiazepine  
17 hypnotic of the imidasopyridine class. It is a dangerous drug as defined in  
18 section 4022, a schedule IV controlled substance as defined by section  
19 1308.14 of Title 21 of the Code of Federal Regulations. It is indicated for  
20 the short-term treatment of insomnia. It is a central nervous system  
21 depressant and should be used cautiously in combination with other  
22 central nervous system depressants. Any central nervous system  
23 depressant could potentially enhance the CNS depressive effects of  
24 Ambien. It should be administered cautiously to patients exhibiting signs  
25 or symptoms of depression because of the risk of suicide. Because of the  
26 risk of habituation and dependence, individuals with a history of addiction  
27 to or abuse of drugs or alcohol should be carefully monitored while  
28 receiving Ambien. The recommended dosage for adults is 10 mg.  
immediately before bedtime.



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- C. **Amoxicillin** is a semi-synthetic penicillin antibiotic used in the treatment of bacterial infections and is a dangerous drug under section 4022.
- D. **Ativan**, a trade name for lorazepam, a psychotropic drug of the benzodiazepine class indicated for the management of anxiety disorders or for the short-term relief of the symptoms of anxiety. It is a dangerous drug as defined in section 4022, a schedule IV controlled substance as defined by section 11057(d)(13) of the Health and Safety Code. It has a central nervous system depressant effect. Lorazepam can produce psychological and physical dependence and it should be prescribed with caution particularly to addiction-prone individuals (such as drug addicts and alcoholics) because of the predisposition of such patients to habituation and dependence.
- E. **Buspar**, a trade name for busprione hydrochloride, is a non-benzodiazepine drug used for short-term management of anxiety. It is a dangerous drug as defined in section 4022.
- F. **Celebrex** is a trade name for celecoxib capsules. It is a non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug (NSAID) used for the relief of signs and symptoms of osteoarthritis or rheumatoid arthritis. It is a dangerous drug under section 4022.
- G. **Chloral Hydrate** is a dangerous drug as defined in section 4022 of the Code and a schedule IV controlled substance and narcotic. It is a sedative hypnotic recommended for short term use. Prolonged use may result in psychological and physical dependence.
- H. **Dalmane**, a trade name for flurazepam hydrochloride, is a dangerous drug as defined in section 4022 and a schedule IV controlled substance as defined in Health and Safety Code section 11057(d)(5). It is indicated for the treatment of insomnia.
- I. **Depakote** is a trade name for divalproex sodium and is indicated for the

1 treatment of manic episodes associated with bipolar disorder. It is a  
2 dangerous drug under section 4022. Depakote is contraindicated for  
3 patients with compromised liver function or blood clotting disorders since  
4 hepatotoxicity and inhibition of platelet aggregation are known side  
5 effects of this medication.

6 J.. **Erythromycin** is an antibiotic used in the treatment of bronchitis and  
7 pneumonia and is a dangerous drug under section 4022.

8 K. **Imitrex** is a trade name for sumatriptan succinate. It is a dangerous drug  
9 under section 4022, and is used to treat migraines. It should only be used  
10 when a clear diagnosis of migraine has been established.

11 L. **Inderal** is a trade name for propranolol hydrochloride, a nonselective  
12 beta-adrenergic receptor blocking agent indicated in the treatment of  
13 hypertension, and is a dangerous drug as defined in section 4022. Inderal  
14 is contraindicated for patients with asthmatic conditions or certain heart  
15 conditions, since it can exacerbate asthma and raise blood pressure.

16 M. **Klonopin** is a trade name for clonazepam, an anticonvulsant of the  
17 benzodiazepine class of drugs. It is a dangerous drug as defined in section  
18 4022, a schedule IV controlled substance as defined by section  
19 11057(d)(6) of the Health and Safety Code. It produces central nervous  
20 system depression and should be used with caution with other central  
21 nervous system depressant drugs. Like other benzodiazapines, it can  
22 produce psychological and physical dependence. Withdrawal symptoms  
23 similar to those noted with barbiturates and alcohol have been noted upon  
24 abrupt discontinuance of Klonopin. The initial dosage for adults should  
25 not exceed 1.5 mg. per day divided in three doses.

26 N. **Lithium carbonate**, indicated in the treatment of manic episodes of  
27 Bipolar Disorder, is a dangerous drug within the meaning of section 4022.

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- O. **Lorcet** is a trade name for a combination of hydrocodone bitartrate (10 mg.) and acetaminophen (650 mg.). Hydrocodone bitartrate is a semisynthetic narcotic analgesic, a dangerous drug as defined in section 4022 and a Schedule III controlled substance under section 11056(e)(4). (See "Vicodin" below.)
- P. **Marijuana** is a hallucinogenic substance and a Schedule I controlled substance under section 11054(e)(13) of the Health and Safety Code. As such, it cannot be prescribed for a patient for any condition. Under the Compassionate Use Act of 1996 (section 11362.5 of the Health and Safety Code), however, it may be recommended by a licensed physician and surgeon under certain specified conditions.
- Q. **Paxil**, a trade name for paroxetine hydrochloride, an antidepressant unrelated to tricyclic, tetracyclic or other available antidepressant agents, is a dangerous drug as defined by section 4022 and is used for major depressive disorder.
- R. **Promethazine with Codeine** cough syrup is a dangerous drug as defined in section 4022, a Schedule V controlled substance under Health and Safety Code section 11058(c)(1).
- S. **Risperidol** is a trade name for risperidone, an antipsychotic medication of the benzisoxazole class and is indicated for the management of manifestations of psychotic disorders. It is a dangerous drug under section 4022.
- T. **Ritalin** is a trade name for methylphenidate hydrochloride. It is a dangerous drug under section 4022, and a Schedule II controlled substance. Ritalin is a central nervous system stimulant frequently used for treatment of attention deficit disorders. It is contraindicated for use in patients with marked anxiety

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U. **Soma** is a trade name for carisoprodol tablets; carisoprodol is a muscle-relaxant and sedative. It is a dangerous drug as defined in section 4022. Since the effects of carisoprodol and alcohol or carisoprodol and other central nervous system depressants or psychotropic drugs may be additive, appropriate caution should be exercised with patients who take more than one of these agents simultaneously. Carisoprodol is metabolized in the liver and excreted by the kidneys; to avoid its excess accumulation, caution should be exercised in administration to patients with compromised liver or kidney functions.

V. **Tranxene**, a trade name for clorazepate dipotassium, is a benzodiazepine. Tranxene is indicated for the management of anxiety disorders or for the short-term relief of the symptoms of anxiety. It is a dangerous drug as defined in section 4022, a schedule IV controlled substance and narcotic as defined by section 11057 (d)(7) of the Health and Safety Code. Tranxene has depressive effects on the central nervous system and patients should be advised against the simultaneous use of other CNS-depressant drugs, and cautioned that the effects of alcohol may be increased. The actions of this and other benzodiazepines may be potentiated by barbiturates, narcotics, phenothiazines, monoamine oxidase inhibitors or other antidepressants.

and

W. **Tylenol with Codeine #3** is a trade name for a combination of acetaminophen and codeine. It is a dangerous drug under section 4022, a Schedule III controlled substance. It is used for treatment of pain, and can produce drug dependence.

X. **Ultram** is a trade name for tramadol hydrochloride, a centrally acting synthetic analgesic compound, and is indicated for the management of moderate to moderately severe pain. There is a seizure risk in patients who are simultaneously taking selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors (SSRI's), tricyclic antidepressants, monoamine oxidase (MAO) inhibitors,

1 or neuroleptics. It is a dangerous drug under section 4022.

2 Y. **Valium** is a trade name for diazepam, a psychotropic drug for the  
3 management of anxiety disorders or for the short-term relief of the  
4 symptoms of anxiety. It is a dangerous drug as defined in section 4022, a  
5 schedule IV controlled substance as defined by section 11057(d)(8) of the  
6 Health and Safety Code. Diazepam can produce psychological and  
7 physical dependence and it should be prescribed with caution particularly  
8 to addiction-prone individuals (such as drug addicts and alcoholics)  
9 because of the predisposition of such patients to habituation and  
10 dependence. Valium is available in 5 mg. and 10 mg. tablets. The  
11 recommended dosage is 2 to 10 mg. 2 to 4 times daily.

12 Z. **Vicodin and Vicodin ES** are trade names for a combination of  
13 hydrocodone bitartrate and acetaminophen. Hydrocodone bitartrate is a  
14 semisynthetic narcotic analgesic, a dangerous drug as defined in section  
15 4022, a Schedule III controlled substance and narcotic as defined by  
16 section 11056(e)(4), of the Health and Safety Code. Vicodin tablets  
17 contain 5 mg of hydrocodone bitartrate and 500 mg of acetaminophen and  
18 Vicodin ES tablets contain 7.5 mg of hydrocodone bitartrate and 750 mg  
19 of acetaminophen. Alcohol and other CNS depressants may produce an  
20 additive CNS depression, when taken with this combination product, and  
21 should be avoided. Patients taking other narcotic analgesics,  
22 antihistamines, antipsychotics, antianxiety agents, or other CNS  
23 depressants (including alcohol) concomitantly with Vicodin ES may  
24 exhibit an additive CNS depression. The dose of one or both agents  
25 should therefore be reduced. Repeated administration of Vicodin or  
26 Vicodin ES over a course of several weeks may result in psychic and  
27 physical dependence. Patients should take the drug only for as long as it is  
28 prescribed, in the amounts prescribed, and no more frequently than

1 prescribed. In patients with severe hepatic or renal disease, effects of  
2 therapy should be monitored with serial liver and/or renal function tests.  
3 The total 24 hour dose should not exceed five tablets. The maximum 24  
4 hour dosage of acetaminophen should not exceed 4000 mg. At high  
5 levels, acetaminophen can cause liver toxicity and even death. With the  
6 ingestion of 10,000 mg to 15,000 mg of acetaminophen, severe liver  
7 damage is a significant risk.

8 AA. **Wellbutrin**, a trade name for bupropion hydrochloride, an antidepressant  
9 of the aminoketone class, which is chemically unrelated to tricyclic,  
10 tetracyclic or other available antidepressant agents, is a dangerous drug  
11 under section 4022. It is indicated in the treatment of depression and  
12 contraindicated in patients with a seizure disorder or who are taking MAO  
13 inhibitors.

14 BB. **Zoloft**, a trade name for sertraline hydrochloride, an antidepressant  
15 unrelated to tricyclic, tetracyclic or other available antidepressant agents,  
16 is a dangerous drug as defined by section 4022. It is used for major  
17 depressive disorders. Zoloft interacts with many drugs including cardiac  
18 medications, such as digitoxin. It causes decreased clearance of diazepam  
19 (Valium). It has side effects including nausea, diarrhea, dyspepsia, tremor,  
20 dizziness, insomnia and somnolence.

### 21 FIRST CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

#### 22 Patient E.C.<sup>1</sup>

23 (Gross Negligence/Negligence/Incompetence)

24 7. In or about 1992, respondent undertook to care for and treat E.C., a 13  
25 year old boy, in a family therapy context. E.C. was seen by respondent approximately every two  
26 weeks, individually and with family members, until his death in April of 1998 at age 18.

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27  
28 <sup>1</sup>Patients are referred to by initials to protect privacy. Respondent will be provided with  
the full name of the patients pursuant to any request for discovery.

1           8.       Respondent has no progress notes of her treatment of E.C. or medications  
2 she prescribed for him until 1997. Respondent asserts that she lost the records for the "early  
3 '90's" during an office move. She did not explain the lack of progress notes or records for her  
4 treatment of E.C. after the purported loss of records. The only records respondent was able to  
5 produce was a one-page document setting forth the dates she saw E.C. in 1997 and 1998.  
6 Respondent has stated that she "reconstructed" records for E.C. after his death, but she made no  
7 notation that she had made late entries or had reconstructed the records.

8           9.       Respondent described E.C. as having severe anxiety, depression, muscle  
9 spasms, and back pain; additionally, he was described as learning disabled and living in a  
10 dysfunctional family. In an SSI report dated September 14, 1996, respondent stated that E.C.  
11 suffered from severe anxiety and depression and had been treated with phenothiazines, minor  
12 tranquilizers, antidepressants, and sleeping medications; at the time of the report, E.C. was taking  
13 Valium and Mellaril. Respondent further stated in the report that E.C. had made two serious  
14 suicide attempts warranting hospitalization in 1992 and 1993. On June 5, 1997, E.C. overdosed  
15 on Valium and Soma, prompting respondent to arrange that all medications be dispensed by  
16 E.C.'s grandfather.

17           10.       In a letter to E.C.'s probation officer dated January 31, 1996, respondent  
18 expressed concern about E.C.'s drug usage. In the September 1996 SSI report, respondent had  
19 stated that E.C. occasionally drinks to excess and has used drugs, including marijuana,  
20 amphetamines, and cocaine. There is no documentation of any evaluation or treatment of this  
21 substance abuse problem in respondent's records for E.C.

22           11.       Respondent indicates in her records for E.C. that he refused to take  
23 antidepressants or tranquilizers, but there are no reasons for E.C.'s refusal documented.  
24 Respondent indicates that E.C. made multiple visits to emergency rooms with somatic  
25 complaints, was diagnosed with anxiety/depression and prescribed various muscle relaxants and  
26 antibiotics.

27           12.       During 1997, respondent treated E.C.'s "severe" anxiety with Valium or  
28 Klonopin, muscle spasms and back pain with Soma and Vicodin ES. Respondent gave E.C. 17

1 prescriptions for Vicodin ES #20 from November 15, 1997 to April 17, 1998. Respondent  
2 prescribed Valium, 10 mg. #100 approximately monthly from October 25, 1997 to April 17,  
3 1998.

4           13. Respondent apparently also acted as E.C.'s general medical practitioner,  
5 at least on some occasions. On December 29, 1997, respondent also prescribed Erythromycin  
6 400 mg. #40 qid and Promethazine with codeine cough syrup, 240 ml., 1 tbsp. Q 4-6 hours. On  
7 January 6, 1998, respondent prescribed an Alupent inhaler (no directions specified). On January  
8 15, 1998, respondent prescribed Amoxicillin 260 [sic] mg. #40. Respondent also made referrals  
9 as needed to a physical therapist and a dietitian. She also corresponded with ancillary agencies  
10 involved in E.C.'s care.

11           14. On April 9, 1998, E.C., then 18 years of age, was taken to jail after he  
12 became psychotic, disorganized, and belligerent. On April 12, 1998, E.C. was transferred to a  
13 psychiatric health facility, and his mental status apparently normalized. Urine toxicology on  
14 E.C. revealed methamphetamines; he was discharged on April 14, 1998. E.C. apparently  
15 indicated to respondent on April 16, 1998 that someone had put drugs in his drink without his  
16 knowledge. Respondent indicated that E.C. was angry at being duped and sounded paranoid,  
17 thinking that someone had poisoned him and would try to do so again. Respondent also  
18 indicated that E.C. described feeling strange, like something was missing inside of him, that he  
19 had severe headaches from head-banging, and muscle spasms from struggling with officers in  
20 jail. Respondent refilled E.C.'s medications, making sure that E.C.'s grandfather was holding  
21 them. On April 18, 1998, E.C. was found dead; autopsy report states the cause of death as  
22 "morphine-type alkaloid and methamphetamine toxicity."

23           15. Respondent was grossly negligent, negligent, and/or incompetent, jointly,  
24 singly, or in any combination thereof with respect to her care and treatment of patient E.C. by  
25 reason of the following acts or omissions:

26           A. Respondent failed to document each patient encounter to the  
27 extent that the treatment can be understood by any health care provider who may have  
28 needed to treat E.C. concurrently or in the future. She failed to document chief



1 complaint, medical and psychiatric history, medication history, mental status  
2 examination, diagnostic formulation with attention to differential diagnosis, and  
3 treatment plan. Respondent saw E.C., prescribed multiple psychoactive medications  
4 and even medications to treat medical conditions such as asthma, bronchitis or  
5 pneumonia, but did not document any physical examination, or history of the  
6 condition.

7 B. Respondent failed to obtain a detailed substance abuse history from  
8 E.C., even though she was aware of his substance abuse and that substance abuse or  
9 withdrawal may play a part in psychiatric symptoms. She failed to document the  
10 frequency and duration of the use of drugs or refer the patient for concurrent treatment of  
11 the substance abuse problem. She failed to obtain a toxicology screen or to arrange for  
12 urine testing or to address relapse prevention or to refer out for relapse prevention  
13 services. After E.C. had been hospitalized on April 14, 1998 for a drug overdose,  
14 respondent continued to fail in this area; she failed to assess his drug abuse, present and  
15 past, and failed to refer him for substance abuse treatment.

16 C. Respondent was treating E.C. with opiates for chronic pain from a  
17 physical disorder. She failed to state the medical diagnosis or any treatment plan and  
18 failed to do a physical examination. She failed to refer E.C. for further medical  
19 evaluation of the pain condition or a second opinion. Respondent wrote 17 prescriptions  
20 for Vicodin ES without documenting a medical history or physical history or even  
21 documenting that she was relying on another named practitioner's history and physical  
22 and coordinating care with that practitioner. She failed to refer E.C. to an appropriate  
23 specialist for further evaluation when his chronic pain did not abate but instead just  
24 renewed prescriptions for the opiate.

25 D. Respondent treated E.C., a patient with a history of substance abuse, with  
26 benzodiazepines for depression and anxiety and not with antidepressants. She  
27 documented that E.C. refused antidepressants but did not state a reason or a medical  
28 justification for using benzodiazepines alone for depression and anxiety. Respondent

1 should have known the addiction potential for benzodiazepines, the danger of rebound  
2 anxiety on withdrawal, the potential for causing or exacerbating depression with  
3 monotherapy, and the danger for patients who drink alcohol to excess or use illicit  
4 depressive drugs in combination with benzodiazepines. Especially with a minor,  
5 respondent should have solicited the help of E.C.'s guardians and other caregivers to  
6 convince him to take antidepressants and deal with his reasons for refusing them.

7 E. Respondent failed to ask E.C., a patient with previous serious suicide  
8 attempts, about suicidal ideation on a periodic basis. Specifically, respondent failed to  
9 inquire about suicidal ideation after E.C. had been hospitalized with a drug overdose and  
10 after she noted that he sounded paranoid and felt as if something was missing inside of  
11 him.

12 16. Therefore, respondent's conduct as set forth above, whether singly,  
13 jointly or in any combination thereof, constitutes causes for discipline pursuant to section 2234  
14 (b), (c) and/or (d) of the Code.

15 **SECOND CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

16 (Prescribing without Good Faith Prior Examination and Medical Indication)

17 17. The allegations of paragraphs 7 through 15 above, are incorporated  
18 herein by reference as if fully set forth.

19 18. Respondent's conduct as set forth above constitutes prescribing of  
20 controlled substances and/or dangerous drugs without a good faith prior examination and medical  
21 indication therefor, and therefore, cause for discipline exists pursuant to sections 2242(a) and  
22 2234 of the Code.

23 **THIRD CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

24 (Failure to Maintain Adequate Medical Records/Dishonest or Corrupt Acts)

25 19. The allegations of paragraphs 7 through 15 above are incorporated herein  
26 by reference as if fully set forth.

27 20. Respondent's conduct as set forth above constitutes the failure to maintain  
28 adequate and accurate records with reference to the treatment of E.C., and therefore cause for

1 discipline exists pursuant to sections 2266 and 2234 of the Code.

2           21. Respondent's conduct in creating a medical record for E.C. after the fact  
3 and failing to disclose or document that fact constitutes gross negligence and/or the commission  
4 of an act involving dishonest or corruption which is substantially related to the qualifications,  
5 functions or duties of a physician, and therefore cause for discipline exists pursuant to sections  
6 2234(b) and/or 2234(e).

7           22. Respondent's conduct in failing to take reasonable and appropriate steps to  
8 arrange for storage and/or transportation of E.C.'s patient records constitutes gross negligence  
9 and/or unprofessional conduct, and therefore cause for discipline exists pursuant to sections 2234  
10 and/or 2234(e).

#### 11   **FOURTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

#### 12   **(Patient D.L.)**

13   (Gross Negligence/Negligence/Incompetence)

14           23. On or about March 8, 1996, respondent undertook to care for and treat  
15 patient D.L., a 58-year-old man with bipolar affective disorder and chronic pain secondary to a  
16 back injury. D.L. had a long history of bipolar illness and was taking Tranxene at the time he  
17 first consulted respondent, and he refused mood stabilizers.

18           24. Respondent's medical records for D.L. are disorganized, at times  
19 contradictory, and sketchy. For example, medication notations for 1996 and 1997 do not correlate  
20 with progress notes for those years. Also, there are two sets of clinical notes for 2001 that do not  
21 correlate with one another and at times, for the same dates, contradict one another. The initial  
22 evaluation dated July 9, 1996 does not correlate with a first progress note dated  
23 March 8, 1996.

24           25. Respondent's initial evaluation dated July 9, 1996 documents a  
25 psychiatric, medical and social history for D.L. and a notation that a recent physical was normal.  
26 She ordered a copy of a lumbar CT, which the patient had evidently described as an MRI report.  
27 The lumbar CT indicates degenerative disc disease. Respondent records no formal mental  
28 examination for D.L. and does not note the presence or absence of psychotic symptoms or a

1 history of them. Throughout the record, however, mental symptoms such as mood changes and  
2 manic symptoms are noted.

3           26. For 1996, there are handwritten progress notes for 18 dates, starting on  
4 March 8, 1996 and ending on October 18, 1996. A medication page does not correlate in any  
5 way with the progress note. Medication entries start on January 26, 1996 and end on December  
6 28, 1996, and progress notes go from March 8, 1996 to October 18, 1996, as follows:

7	1/26 - Ativan 120	No progress note
	2/28 - Ativan 120	No progress note
8		3/8 progress note indicates depressed; refused antidepressants
9	3/20 - Vicodin ES 15	No progress note
		3/22 progress note indicates feeling better
10	3/24 - Ativan 120	No progress note
		4/5 progress note indicates doing better
11	4/17 - Ativan 120	No progress note
		4/19 progress note indicates doing OK
12		5/3 progress note indicates excited about trip
	5/7 - Vicodin ES 100	No progress note
13		5/17 progress note indicates sounds hypomanic
	5/21 - Ativan 120	No progress note
14		5/31 progress note indicates back flare up; has increased Vicodin, advised to cut back.
15	6/12 - Ativan 120	No progress note.
	Vicodin ES 100	6/14 progress note indicates going East; brother helping financially
16		6/28 progress note indicates had a great trip; feeling good
17		
18		7/9 no progress note but typed history indicates patient taking Tranxene, not Ativan
19		7/12 progress note indicates doing well
20		
21	7/14 - Ativan 120	No progress note
	Vicodin ES 100	7/26 progress note indicates doing OK
22		
	8/7 - Ativan 120	No progress note
23		8/10 progress note indicates hypomanic under control
24		8/24 progress note indicates OK
	9/6 - Ativan 120	9/6 progress note partially illegible - indicates going out less; backache
25		9/20 progress note partially illegible - indicates pulling out hair; refused antidepressants
26		
	10/4 - Ativan 120	10/4 progress note indicates staying in bed a lot; not eating.
27		10/11 progress note indicates still depressed
28		10/18 progress note partially illegible - indicates still depressed, not suicidal

1	11/1 - Ativan 120	No progress note
	11/19 - Elavil 50	No progress note
2	12/1 - Ativan 120	No progress note
3	12/28 - Ativan 120	No progress note

4 Respondent notes no indication for the medications given, no physical or mental examination, and  
5 no detailed clinical findings. No treatment plan is noted.

6 27. For 1997, medication entries start on January 13, 1997 and end on  
7 September 2, 1997. Progress notes indicate 30 visits with other medications indicated. Entries  
8 are as follows:

9	1/3 - Ativan 120	No progress note
10		1/11 progress note indicates feeling better and <b>refill Tranxene 7.5 mg #120</b>
11		2/8 progress note indicates doing OK 2/22 progress note indicates doing OK and <b>refill Tranxene #120</b>
12	3/3 - Ativan 120	No progress note
13		3/8 progress note indicates doing fine, maybe reduce frequency of visits
14		3/22 progress note indicates OK <b>refill Tranxene</b>
15	4/1 - Ativan 120	No progress note
16		4/5 progress note indicates low back pain <b>Vicodin ES #100 no more than tid</b>
17	4/11 - Ativan 120	No progress note
18		4/19 progress note indicates Vicodin helps; mood good. 5/3 progress note indicates tapering off Vicodin bid. <b>refill Vicodin ES #100; Tranxene #120</b>
19	5/6 - Ativan 120	No progress note
20		
21	5/8 - Vicodin ES 100	No progress note
22		5/17 progress note indicates feeling great; cautioned about mania; refusing Lithium.
23		5/31 progress note indicates over-talkative. Urged to take Lithium. <b>Refill Tranxene #120</b>
24	6/2 - Ativan 120	No progress note
25		6/14 progress note indicates arrogant tone, argued with landlord; still refusing mood stabilizers.
26	6/25 - Ativan 120	No progress note
27		6/28 progress note indicates doing OK; calmer. <b>Refill Tranxene #120</b>
28	7/9 - Ativan 120 Vicodin ES 100	No progress note
		7/12 progress note indicates loud, argumentative. Hurt back; still refusing Lithium or

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**Depakote; Refill Tranxene #120 and Vicodin ES #100**

7/26 progress note indicates calmer; doing OK

8/3 - Ativan 120  
Vicodin ES 100

No progress note  
8/9 progress note indicates calming down; antagonistic but not hostile; back pain.

**Refill Tranxene, Vicodin**

8/23 progress note indicates doing OK, calm

9/2 - Ativan 120  
Vicodin ES 100

No progress note  
9/6 progress note indicates upset with nun on his block.

**Refill Tranxene, Vicodin**

9/22 progress note indicates talked to nun; she yelled at him; refused antidepressants.

10/4 progress note indicates he is paranoid about the nun. **Refill Tranxene, Vicodin**

10/18 progress note indicates fearful; agoraphobic; clingy. Refusing antidepressants.

11/1 progress note indicates paranoid re: nun. **Refill Tranxene**

11/8 progress note indicates doing better.

11/15 progress note indicates depressed; worried re: nun.

11/22 progress note indicates feeling better

11.20 progress note indicates talked to landlord re: nun; feeling better; relieved.

12/5 - entry in medication record; no drugs listed

12/5 progress note indicates relieved nun may be leaving. **Refill Tranxene 120; Vicodin ES 100**

12/12 progress note indicates maintaining.

12/19 progress note indicates feeling better

There are no indications in the records for 1997 of medical indication for the drugs prescribed, of mental status evaluations, of examinations physical or mental, of any detailed clinical findings, or of any reasons for continuing medications that do not seem to be effective. No reasons are noted for double prescriptions for the benzodiazepines Tranxene and Ativan and no referrals noted for further evaluation of chronic pain for which Vicodin ES is supposedly prescribed. There is no evaluation of the source of pain or any alternative treatment offered.

28.. Beginning in 1998, respondent has no separate medication record for D.L.

In 1998, there are 36 entries in respondent's progress notes for D.L. In January 1998, D.L. is described as depressed. Tranxene #120 is prescribed on 1/5/98, and Vicodin ES #20 on 1/5 and 1/19. In February 1998, D.L. is doing better. Tranxene #120 is prescribed on 2/3/98 and 2/28/98; Vicodin ES #50 on 2/3 and 2/28. D.L. is described on 2/3 as using only 1 - 2 Vicodin per day

1 now. In March 1998, D.L. is described as doing better. Tranxene #120 and Vicodin ES #50 are  
2 prescribed on 3/25. In April 1998, D.L. is described as doing well. Tranxene #120 and Vicodin  
3 ES #50 are refilled on 4/27. In May 1998, D.L. is described as feeling better and wanting to quit  
4 smoking and thinking about taking Wellbutrin. Tranxene #120 and Vicodin ES #50 refilled on  
5 5/25. On 6/8/98, Wellbutrin 75 mg #50 is prescribed. On 6/29/98, D.L. left for Britain for a  
6 vacation and Tranxene #120 and Vicodin ES #50 are refilled.

7           29. After his trip to Britain, D.L. returned to respondent on July 13, 1998 and  
8 Wellbutrin was discontinued. D.L. was described as hypomanic after his trip, pressured, not  
9 sleeping. He feels better after 7/13. In August 1998, Tranxene #120 and Vicodin ES #50 are  
10 refilled on 8/3 and 8/29. D.L. is described as doing better until 8/31/98, when he arrives in crisis,  
11 upset after a fight with a neighbor, irate and self-righteous, refusing mood stabilizers. On  
12 September 7, 1998, D.L. is very depressed and agrees to try Paxil, 10 mg. #50 and on 9/9 is doing  
13 better. On 9/21, however, he wants to try Zoloft instead and 50 mg. #30 is prescribed. On 9/28,  
14 Tranxene #120 and Vicodin ES #60 are refilled. D.L. is described as doing well in October 1998.  
15 Vicodin ES #60 and Tranxene #120 are refilled on 10/26 and 10/30, with prescriptions called in  
16 on 10/30. D.L. is described as doing well in November 1998, with Vicodin ES #60 and Tranxene  
17 #120 refilled (called in) on 11/30. In December 1998, D.L. is described as depressed, but not  
18 wanting to go back on SSRI's (Zoloft and Paxil are SSRI's). Entries for 11/9 and 11/23 are  
19 between entries for 10/26 and 10/30. On December 21, 1998, he reports his back hurting, and  
20 Vicodin ES #75 was prescribed.

21           30. For 1998, there are no indications in the record of medical indication for  
22 the drugs prescribed, of mental status examinations, of examinations physical or mental, of any  
23 detailed clinical findings, or of any reasons for continuing medications not consistently effective.  
24 There is no explanation for the double prescriptions for Tranxene and Vicodin on 10/25 and  
25 10/30; no indication of how long Zoloft and Paxil were taken; no medical reasons noted for the  
26 discontinuance of Paxil or the substitution of Zoloft; no reasons were noted for the refusal of  
27 antidepressants or for the refusal to continue SSRI's. There is no indication of referrals for further  
28 evaluation of back pain and no indication of alternative treatments or further evaluation offered.

1           31.     In 1999, respondent has only 13 entries in her progress notes for D.L. In  
2 January 1999, D.L. is described as "down" early in the month and obsessing about cigarettes and  
3 taking three Vicodin per day for back pain. On 1/11, he is described as "down to ½ ppd (from 2  
4 ppd)" presumably of Vicodin and refusing Wellbutrin. Tranxene #120 and Vicodin ES #100 are  
5 prescribed. By 1/18, D.L. is "feeling better," but on 1/25, in a telephone call, he indicates he has  
6 bronchitis, fever and is coughing up green sputum. Respondent prescribes Erythromycin, 250 mg.  
7 #40. During February D.L. is "doing OK," and Tranxene #120 and Vicodin ES #100 are refilled  
8 by telephone on 2/23.

9           32.     In March 1999, D.L. is described as "happy" but he still has back pain. On  
10 3/25, respondent added Ultram 50 mg. tid #100 to his usual medications of Tranxene #120 and  
11 Vicodin ES #100. There is also a notation of "mj permit." In April 1999, D.L. is described as  
12 happy with a girlfriend, but having urinary frequency and nocturia; respondent notes referral to a  
13 urologist who suggested substituting Valium for Tranxene, and so on 4/21, respondent prescribed  
14 Valium, 10 mg., #100 and Vicodin ES #100. In May, D.L. is described as having trouble with  
15 his girlfriend but working on the relationship. There are no further progress notes for 1999.

16           33.     There is no indication of any medical examination before prescribing  
17 Erythromycin for "bronchitis" that was apparently diagnosed over the telephone. There is no  
18 indication of the reasons for D.L. refusing Wellbutrin and no examination or reasons indicated for  
19 adding Ultram to Vicodin ES for pain control. There is no reason or examination indicated for the  
20 substitution of Valium for Tranxene except for the "recommendation" of the urologist.

21           34.     For the year 2000, there are 38 entries in respondent's progress notes for  
22 D.L. In January 2000, D.L. is described as feeling "OK" but in pain. Respondent adds Celebrex,  
23 50 mg. #50 to Vicodin ES #100 and Valium #100. In February, Celebrex, Vicodin ES and  
24 Valium are refilled. In March, D.L. is described as doing "OK" with mood stable. Celebrex,  
25 Vicodin ES, and Valium are refilled on 3/21. In April, D.L. is described as having trouble  
26 sleeping, so Dalmane 50 mg. #50 is prescribed on 4/20 along with a refill of Celebrex #50. On  
27 May 4, D.L. is described as coughing green sputum and febrile. Respondent prescribes  
28 Erythromycin 250 mg. #40 in addition to Valium #100 and Vicodin ES #100. On 5/11,



1 respondent indicates that the cough and fever have cleared. Dalmane #50 is refilled on 5/25,  
2 along with a prescription for Wellbutrin 100 mg. #100. In June, D.L. is described as doing "OK"  
3 but still having nocturia, and a recommendation to see the urologist again is indicated. Refills of  
4 Vicodin ES #100, Valium #100, and Celebrex #50 are given on 6/5, and on 6/15, refills of  
5 Dalmane #50 and Wellbutrin #60 are given. In July, Vicodin ES #100, Valium #100, and  
6 Celebrex #50 are refilled on 7/3, and there is an indication of a referral to a pain clinic. There is  
7 further reference to trouble sleeping due to nocturia and a refill of Dalmane #50 on 7/14. On 7/19,  
8 it is indicated that D.L. still cannot sleep, so Ambien, 10 mg., #30 is prescribed along with a refill  
9 of Wellbutrin, 100 mg. #100. On 7/31, Valium #100 and Vicodin ES #100 are called in. D.L. is  
10 on Cardura, prescribed by the urologist, for nocturia.

11           35.     In August 2000, there is an indication that Cardura is helping, and a refill  
12 of Ambien 10 mg #30 on 8/10. On 8/24, D.L. is described as doing well, and refills of Valium  
13 #100, Vicodin ES #100, Celebrex #60, and Wellbutrin 100 mg. #60 are given. In September, he  
14 is described as in pain and spasm, and respondent prescribes Lorcet "10/650." D.L. is given  
15 lumbar epidural steroid injections at the pain clinic for his pain on 9/14 and describes an increase  
16 in pain; respondent prescribes Lorcet #25 and refills Ambien #30, Celebrex #15. On 9/18,  
17 respondent calls in prescriptions for Valium 10 mg. #30, Lorcet #25, and Celebrex #30. On 9/21,  
18 D.L. has another injection which he describes as making him feel worse; on 9/25, respondent  
19 prescribes Lorcet #25, Valium #50, Ambien #30, and Wellbutrin 100 mg. #60. On 9/28,  
20 respondent describes D.L. telephoning in a rage with lots of pain and indications that he is  
21 overusing Lorcet. Respondent indicates she referred him to the emergency room. On October 3,  
22 2000, respondent called in prescriptions for Lorcet #50 and Valium #50; on 10/13, respondent  
23 describes D.L. as angry because he cannot take more than 3 Lorcet tablets per day; D.L.  
24 apparently indicated he would go to the VA for more; on 10/16, respondent called in prescriptions  
25 for Lorcet #50 and Ultram #100 tid. On 10/23 D.L. is described as doing better, keeping Lorcets  
26 down to tid, and refills for Valium 10 mg. #50 and Ambien 10 mg. #50 are given. In November,  
27 D.L. is described as better; Valium #50 and Lorcet #50 refills are called in on 11/14, and Ultram  
28 #100, Valium #50, and Lorcet #50 are refilled on 11/28. In December, D.L. is still described as

1 doing well, with pain and nocturia better. Refills for Valium #50 and Lorcet #50 on 12/15 and  
2 12/28 along with Ultram #100 and Celebrex #30 on 12/28.

3           36.     Respondent added Celebrex and Lorcet for back pain and continued to  
4 treat D.L. with Valium, Vicodin ES, and added sleep medications. Prescriptions were incomplete  
5 as to strength and directions for administration. No physical examination or vital signs were  
6 indicated before prescribing Erythromycin for cough and fever on 5/4/00. Respondent indicated  
7 that D.L. had had a manic reaction when taking Wellbutrin before, but there is no indication of  
8 reasons for again prescribing this medication, nor did respondent indicate the administration or  
9 other directions. She referred D.L. to a pain clinic but continued to prescribe pain medications for  
10 D.L.

11           37.     For the year 2001, respondent's progress notes for D.L. are confusing.  
12 Notes for January indicate D.L. is depressed, and Wellbutrin is increased. D.L. is described as  
13 still having back pain and urinary frequency. Lorcet #50, Valium #50, Ultram #100 and  
14 Wellbutrin #60 were prescribed. In February, depression continued. "Usual winter bronchitis"  
15 was indicated on 2/12, and Erythromycin, 250 mg. #40 was again prescribed with no physical  
16 examination indicated in the chart. In addition, Lorcet #50, Valium #50, and Ambien #30 were  
17 prescribed. On 2/21, Paxil, 20 mg/day, #50 was added, and on 2/28, D.L. was described as doing  
18 better; on 2/28, medications were refilled: Lorcet #50, Valium #50, Ultram #50, and Wellbutrin,  
19 #50; indication that D.L. was referred for pain management.

20           38.     In March 2000, D.L. is described as doing better and in pain management  
21 with a Dr. Graham, who is described as continuing Lorcet and Valium. In April, D.L. is described  
22 as stable, and refills of Paxil 20 mg. #50, Wellbutrin 100 mg. #60, Ambien 10 mg. #30, and  
23 Celebrex 100 mg. #30 are given on 4/9.

24           39.     From May 2000 through October 2000, respondent has two sets of  
25 progress notes for D.L., and the entries are not consistent with each other. Entries are as follows:

26	Set I	Set II
27	<b>May 2000</b>	
28	5/8 Called in Ambien, Celebrex and and Wellbutrin refills	5/24 Doing OK; Refill Vicodin ES Valium; RTC 2 weeks
	5/11 Doing OK - urinary problem	

1		RTC 2 weeks	
2	5/28	Doing well; RTC 1 month	
3	<b>June 2000</b>		
4	6/5	Called in Ambien, Celebrex	6/9 Meds stolen-refill Vicodin ES Valium
5			6/23 Spending money on girlfriend; RTC 2 weeks
6	<b>July 2000</b>		
7	7/3	Called in Ambien, Celebrex	7/5 Unhappy with girlfriend. Concerned about use of Vicodin. Refill Vicodin #25 Valium #100; RTC 1 week
8	7/9	Doing OK. Stopped Wellbutrin. Graham prescribing Paxil; RTC 3 wks.	7/12 Girlfriend leaving. Refill Vicodin #25; RTC 2 weeks
9			7/29 Refill Vicodin #25, Valium #25
10	<b>August 2000</b>		
11	8/1	Med call in Ambien #30.	8/2 Doing OK. Refill Vicodin #25, Valium #25. RTC 2 weeks.
12	8/13	Mildly depressed; RTC 2 wks.	8/9 Refill Vicodin #25; Valium #25
13	8/27	Mildly depressed; refuses Wellbutrin Friends stole from him. Refill Ambien. RTC 2 weeks.	8/16 DUI arrest. Refill Vicodin #25, Valium #25
14			8/23 Refill Vicodin #25; Valium #25
15			8/30 Wants to go back on Wellbutrin 75 mg #60. Refill Vicodin #25, Valium #25. RTC 2 wks.
16	<b>September 2000</b>		
17	9/10	Doing well; getting lots of sun; RTC 3 weeks	9/? Cut off entry
18	9/26	Med call in Celebrex	9/13 DUI case dismissed. Heavily in debt from manic episode. Filling out disability forms. Refill Vicodin #25, Valium #25. RTC 1 week
19			9/23 Increased back pain. Resp. refuses more Vicodin. Declines Ultram. Talk about mania and overspending. Refill Vicodin #25; Valium #25. RTC 1 week.
20	<b>October 2000</b>		
21	10/1	Very upset. Daughter wants money. Depressed. Refill Ambien. RTC 1 wk.	10/1 Doing OK. Refill Vicodin #25; Valium #25 RTC 2 weeks.
22	10/8	Calmer, talked to daughter. RTC 2 weeks	10/8 Med Refill. Vicodin #25; Valium #25
23	10/19	Doing better. RTC 2 weeks	10/25 Forms. Doing OK, refill meds.
24			10/31 Investigating bankruptcy. Bitter; disenchanted. Refill Vicodin #25; Valium #25. RTC 1 week.

27 40. Respondent has stated that one set of records actually relates to treatment  
 28 rendered in 1999, and that she did not initially write the year at the top of the page. Respondent

1 stated that she made an error in the dates when she added dates to the documents at the time she  
2 provided records to the Board. It is not possible to discern from respondent's records, coupled  
3 with her explanation for the discrepancy, whether the records reflect different years or not.

4           41.     Set II of the records then goes on in November 2000 to indicate depression  
5 on 11/8 and referral to credit counselor; refusing antidepressants; suggested Depakote. Refills of  
6 Vicodin #25 and Valium #25. On 11/15, Depakote was prescribed, 250 mg. #100 bid, and refills  
7 of Valium #25 and Vicodin ES #25 were given. On 11/22, D.L. was described as doing better and  
8 feeling he could handle one month supply of medications, so Vicodin ES #100 and Valium #100  
9 were prescribed. On 11/29, D.L. was described as feeling better. On 12/5, D.L. was described as  
10 feeling better and philosophical about his affair. On 12/21/2000, D.L. was described as feeling  
11 much better, and refills of Depakote 250 mg. #100, Vicodin ES #100, and Valium #100 were  
12 given. Respondent's notes end at this point, although it is indicated that she continued to see D.L.

13           42.     Respondent was grossly negligent, negligent and/or incompetent, singly,  
14 jointly, or in any combination thereof with respect to her care and treatment of patient D.L. by  
15 reason of the following acts or omissions:

16           A.     Respondent did not perform and/or did not document a formal  
17 mental status examination in a patient with a history of major psychiatric illness,  
18 bipolar affective disorder. Although she document brief components of a mental  
19 examination throughout her sparse progress notes, she at no time recorded an  
20 examination in a systematic fashion. She failed to record a history of, or apparently  
21 inquire about, the presence or absence of psychotic symptoms that commonly occur  
22 in both depression and mania.

23           B.     At no time did respondent set forth a treatment plan for this patient or  
24 any change in diagnosis or treatment plan through evaluation.

25           C.     Respondent failed to document each patient encounter to the extent that  
26 the treatment can be understood by any health care provider who may have needed to  
27 treat D.L. concurrently or in the future. Her progress notes and medication records are not  
28 consistent with one another, and the two sets of progress notes for the period of 1999-

1 2001 are not consistent with one another and can't be reconciled. There is no way to  
2 determine which records, if any, accurately reflect the treatment rendered.

3 D. Respondent repeatedly failed to state tablet strength or directions for  
4 dosing when recording her prescriptions for D.L. At no time did respondent state the  
5 tablet strength for the Ativan prescribed; though Valium is sometimes specified as a 10  
6 mg. tablet, there are no daily dosing directions stated. There are numerous instances of  
7 other medications prescribed where key prescribing information is not present.

8 E. Respondent repeatedly prescribed two benzodiazepines, Tranxene and  
9 Ativan, simultaneously over a long period of time with no explanation or justification.  
10 She provided no treatment plan concerning this combination benzodiazepine treatment,  
11 which can be dangerous, as they are both central nervous system depressants.

12 F. Respondent failed to consider or offer or failed to document consideration  
13 of other treatments for D.L.'s depression when he refused to continue to take SSRI-type  
14 antidepressants.

15 G. When respondent treated D.L. for what she diagnosed as bronchitis on  
16 several occasions, she failed to take or failed to document a medical history and a  
17 physical examination before prescribing antibiotics or bronchodilators. Other diagnoses  
18 such as tuberculosis or lung cancer with recurrent infection would not have been  
19 unreasonable to rule out.

20 H. Respondent prescribed Depakote without ordering baseline laboratory  
21 monitoring and ongoing monitoring of liver function and platelet aggregation since  
22 hepatic failure resulting in death and thrombocytopenia have been reported in patients  
23 receiving this medication.

24 I. When respondent prescribed Wellbutrin for D.L. initially, she  
25 discontinued its use because D.L. had had a manic episode on the drug. When she  
26 prescribed it again later on, she failed to specify or did not consider dosage reduction or  
27 any other precautions, such as the prescribing an additional agent, to minimize the chance  
28 of a manic episode recurring in response to this medication.

1           43.    Therefore, respondent’s conduct as set forth above, whether singly, jointly,  
2 or in any combination thereof, constitutes causes for discipline pursuant to section 2234(b), (c),  
3 and/or (d) of the Code.

4   **FIFTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

5                   (Prescribing without Good Faith Prior Examination and Medical Indication)

6           44.    The allegations of paragraphs 23 through 42, above, are incorporated  
7 herein by reference as if fully set forth.

8           45.    Respondent’s conduct, as set forth above, constitutes the prescribing of  
9 controlled substances and/or dangerous drugs without a good faith prior examination and medical  
10 indication therefor, and therefore, cause exists for discipline pursuant to sections 2242(a) and  
11 2234 of the Code.

12   **SIXTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

13   (Excessive Prescribing)

14           46.    The allegations of paragraphs 23 through 42, above, are incorporated herein  
15 by reference as if fully set forth.

16           47.    Respondent’s conduct, with reference to the simultaneous prescriptions for  
17 Ativan and Tranxene and repeated prescriptions for pain medication for D.L. without treatment  
18 plan or examination, constitutes excessive prescribing under section 725 of the Code and  
19 therefore, cause exists for discipline pursuant to section 2234 of the Code.

20   **SEVENTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

21   (Failure to Maintain Adequate Medical Records)

22           48.    The allegations of paragraphs 23 through 42, above, are incorporated herein  
23 by reference as if fully set forth.

24           49.    Respondent’s conduct, as set forth above, constitutes failure to maintain  
25 adequate and accurate records with reference to the treatment of D.L., and therefore, cause exists  
26 for discipline pursuant to sections 2266 and 2234 of the Code.

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28 ///

1 **EIGHTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

2 (Creating a False Medical Record/Dishonest Act)

3 50. The allegations of paragraphs 23 through 42, above, are incorporated herein  
4 by reference as if fully set forth.

5 51. Respondent's conduct in having inconsistent medical records for D.L. and  
6 two inconsistent sets of medical records for D.L. for the year 2001, and/or in altering her records  
7 for D.L. without disclosing that fact, constitutes the creation of false medical records, the making  
8 of documents related to the practice of medicine which falsely represent the existence or non-  
9 existence of a state of facts, and/or a dishonest act substantially related to the qualifications,  
10 functions and duties of a physician and surgeon, and therefore cause exists for discipline pursuant  
11 to sections 2261 and/or 2262 and/or 2234(e) through section 2234 of the Code.

12 **NINTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

13 **(Patient M.W.)**

14 (Negligence/Incompetence)

15 52. From on or about July 22, 1999 through April 25, 2000, a period of nine  
16 months, respondent undertook to care for a treat patient M.W., a fifteen year old boy with a  
17 history of attention deficit disorder, impulse control disorder, and bipolar disorder. During that  
18 time, respondent had ten appointments for M.W. , and he failed to appear for five of those  
19 appointments. M.W. had been held by juvenile detention authorities on many occasions before  
20 his mother brought him to respondent requesting a recommendation for the use of marijuana for  
21 M.W.'s psychiatric symptoms. M.W. reported to respondent that he had used Ritalin, Dexedrine,  
22 Depakote, Cylert, Clonidine, Imipramine, Wellbutrin, Zoloft and other psychoactive medications  
23 in the past and could not tolerate the side effects of these medications; he had used marijuana, and  
24 this had alleviated his symptoms with fewer side effects and greater acceptance by his peer group.

25 53. Respondent conducted an initial psychiatric evaluation, but did not include  
26 in that evaluation any information concerning previous psychiatric hospitalizations or prevoius  
27 outpatient psychiatric treatment. Respondent's psychoactive medication history did not have  
28 information regarding duration of medication trials, dosages, efficacy, and any side effects of

1 concern that may have caused the drugs to be discontinued. Respondent's medication history did  
2 not indicate whether M.W. was currently taking any prescribed psychoactive medication. There  
3 was no medical history included in the evaluation. Following this evaluation, respondent wrote a  
4 recommendation for marijuana on July 22, 1999, but with the condition that M.W. keep regular  
5 appointments and refrain from the use of illicit drugs. When M.W. failed to keep his next  
6 appointment and it was reported to respondent on September 21, 1999 that M.W. had "stopped  
7 Depakote" and was using methamphetamines and abusing marijuana, and respondent immediately  
8 revoked her marijuana authorization for M.W.

9           54. On October 11, 1999, respondent convinced M.W. to try Depakote and  
10 wrote a prescription which was refilled until January 28, 2000, when a combination of lithium and  
11 Inderal was substituted because M.W. refused to continue on Depakote. Respondent did not  
12 perform or did not record any medical examination, medical history, or baseline laboratory blood  
13 or liver function tests before prescribing Depakote, Inderal, or lithium. M.W. was psychiatrically  
14 hospitalized in February 2000 and was discharged on or about February 16, 2000 on Depakote  
15 and Risperidol, which respondent subsequently refilled. M.W. did not appear for several  
16 appointments during his treatment with respondent, and in March 2000, he was truant from school  
17 and hiding from his probation officer. On April 25, 2000, respondent withdrew as M.W.'s  
18 psychiatrist by reason of his repeated failure to appear for evaluation.

19           55. Respondent was negligent and/or incompetent in her treatment of patient  
20 M.W. by reason of the following acts or omissions:

21           A. Respondent failed to do a medical history on M.W. as part of her  
22 initial evaluation.

23           B. Respondent failed to include information in her psychiatric evaluation  
24 about previous psychiatric hospitalizations or outpatient psychiatric treatment.

25           C. Respondent failed to include information in her psychoactive medication  
26 history concerning medication trials, dosages, efficacy, and side-effects that may have  
27 caused discontinuance of the drugs. She failed to record any current psychoactive or  
28 other medications.



1 D. Respondent failed to perform or record a medical history before prescribing  
2 psychoactive medications and failed to do a medical examination, including baseline liver  
3 function, heart function, and other tests before prescribing Depakote, Inderal, and lithium,  
4 all of which may have significant medical side effects.

5 56. Therefore, respondent's conduct as set forth above constitutes causes for  
6 discipline pursuant to sections 2234(c) and/or (d) of the Code.

7 **TENTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

8 **(Patient R.N.)**

9 57. Respondent first saw Patient R.N., in June, 1998. Respondent describes  
10 R.N. as a 40 year old woman with a long history of severe alcohol abuse, extreme anxiety,  
11 anorexia and physical problems, which included a severe leg infection at the site of a bullet  
12 wound and chronic bronchitis. R.N. was also reported to have legal problems, having been  
13 deprived of custody of her children.

14 58. Although respondent states that she first saw R.N. in June, 1998, her  
15 records contain no documentation of her initial treatment of R.N. The first progress note for R.N.  
16 is dated July 18, 1998, and a typed note of October 15, 1998 appears to be respondent's initial  
17 evaluation note for R.N.

18 59. Respondent's records for R.N. show that she had regular, generally weekly,  
19 contact with R.N. between July, 1999 and January, 2001. The records do not state whether the  
20 entries are for an office visit or reflect a telephone consultation, but it appears that they address  
21 both types of contact. During this time, respondent's records reflect ongoing prescriptions for a  
22 number of drugs, including Dalmane, Klonopin, Tylenol with Codeine #3, Chloral Hydrate,  
23 Buspar, Ultram, Valium, Promethazine with Codeine syrup, and Alupent. The records do not  
24 contain any reflection of a full physical or mental status examination of patient R.N.

25 60. Although respondent's July 18, 1998 progress note states that R.N. had  
26 been clean and sober for one month, none of respondent's progress notes or records for R.N.  
27 document referral to or attendance at an alcohol treatment program. At no time did respondent  
28 document a standard alcohol history setting forth the amount of alcohol consumed, the duration of

1 drinking, whether R.N. had experienced significant alcohol withdrawal, whether she had been  
2 hospitalized for complications of her alcoholism, whether she had received treatment for  
3 alcoholism. She also failed to document any plan to address relapse prevention. Correspondence  
4 in respondent's file indicates that R.N. did relapse at some time between July 18, 1998 and  
5 November, 1998, but respondent's progress notes for R.N. make no mention of this fact.

6           61.     Respondent's records for R.N. describe her as suffering from severe anxiety  
7 and chronic depression. Over the course of treatment, respondent prescribed various  
8 benzodiazepines for R.N.'s anxiety, including Klonopin, Valium and Dalmane. At no time did  
9 respondent fully or adequately evaluate R.N.'s anxiety, and there is no indication that she  
10 considered the potential problems associated with prescribing benzodiazepines to an alcoholic  
11 who was attempting to stay sober. She failed to consider alternative treatment for R.N.'s anxiety,  
12 including treatment options not utilizing medication. Respondent failed to obtain a detailed  
13 medical history regarding R.N.'s depressive episodes and she failed to assess and document the  
14 symptoms and severity of depressive episodes prior to making a diagnosis of depression.

15           62.     Although respondent's notes indicate that a different physician was  
16 treating R.N.'s leg wound and prescribing pain medication, respondent prescribed Tylenol with  
17 Codeine #3 for pain on the July 18, 1998 visit. Respondent's record contains no explanation why  
18 she prescribed pain medication to R.N. on this occasion. She prescribed Tylenol with Codeine #3  
19 on a number of occasions between September 1999 and April 2000, again without an explanation,  
20 treatment plan or risk/benefit evaluation .

21           63.     Respondent's record for R.N. contains a progress note dated October 15,  
22 1998. That note states that Dalmane was not working for sleep, and that Chloral Hydrate and  
23 Buspar were prescribed. Another chart entry, also dated October 15, 1998 bears no resemblance  
24 to the progress note for the same date. In fact, the content and medications described in the two  
25 entries are entirely different, and do not correlate in any way with one another.

26           64.     Respondent wrote more than 40 prescriptions for promethazine with  
27 codeine syrup, which would be sufficient to provide up to 16 teaspoons per day for the period  
28 within which the prescriptions were issued. Respondent's record indicates that she undertook to

1 treat R.N.'s cough; However, her record contains a single reference to a physical examination for  
2 the cough, dated September 23, 1999. Respondent later admitted that she had excessively  
3 prescribed Promethazine with Codeine syrup, and that she was not aware what alcohol was an  
4 ingredient in the medication when she prescribed it.

5           65.     Respondent treated R.N. for insomnia. She prescribed Dalmane four  
6 times, for a total of 150 tablets, without any evaluation of R.N.'s insomnia. Between October and  
7 December, 1998, respondent also prescribed high doses of Chloral Hydrate without any  
8 evaluation of the insomnia. Respondent at no time conducted an insomnia evaluation, including  
9 the type of insomnia, associated symptoms, drug/alcohol and caffeine history or sleep hygiene.  
10 Her records contain no treatment plan for the insomnia, and no assessment of the risks of  
11 prescribing Chloral Hydrate and Dalmane to an alcoholic patient.

12           66.     Respondent prescribed Imitrex for R.N.'s recurrent headaches. However,  
13 respondent failed to take a detailed history, to perform a focused physical examination or to  
14 obtain a medication history regarding past treatment for the headaches.

15           67.     Respondent diagnosed and treated anorexia nervosa in R.N. She failed to  
16 obtain the clinical information necessary to make this diagnosis, including a history of the onset  
17 of the weight loss, a menstrual history, an assessment of R.N.'s body image assessment, or to  
18 consider the weight loss in connection with R.N.'s alcoholism, depression and anxiety.

19           68.     On or about April 25, 2000, respondent began prescribing Ritalin to R.N.  
20 for "low energy" without conducting a clinical evaluation of the complaint, or conducting an  
21 assessment of other conditions associated with low energy.

22           69.     Respondent was grossly negligent, negligent and/or incompetent, jointly,  
23 singly or in any combination thereof with respect to her care and treatment of patient R.N. by  
24 reason of the following acts or omissions:

25           A.     Respondent failed to document each patient encounter to the extent that the  
26 treatment can be understood by other health care providers who may have need to treat R.N.  
27 concurrently or in the future. She failed to adequately or completely document R.N.'s chief  
28 complaint, medical history, psychiatric and substance abuse history, medication history, mental

1 status examination, diagnostic formulation, and treatment plan. Respondent failed to record  
2 adequate information, including medical indications therefor, regarding the prescriptions she  
3 issued to R.N. Moreover, respondent failed completely to document her initial treatment of R.N.  
4 Further, respondent's progress note and evaluation for October 15, 1998 do not correlate in any  
5 way with one another, making it impossible to discern what treatment occurred on that date, what  
6 R.N.'s condition was on that date, or even whether the records accurately reflect anything that  
7 occurred on that date.

8           B.       Respondent failed to obtain a detailed, specific substance abuse history  
9 from R.N. Respondent failed to adequately evaluate R.N.'s alcohol problem, or to document  
10 previous treatment efforts. She failed to evaluate R.N. for abuse of other substances. Respondent  
11 failed to formulate a plan for alcohol abuse treatment.

12           C.       Respondent prescribed benzodiazepines to R.N., despite of her history of  
13 severe alcoholism. Respondent failed to discuss or consider that benzodiazepines can be  
14 addicting, that they can precipitate alcohol craving and a drinking relapse in some patients, and  
15 that they can exacerbate depression. Moreover, respondent prescribed three different  
16 benzodiazepines to R.N., a severe alcoholic in early remission, without attention to the risks of  
17 such prescriptions in this clinical setting. She failed to consider or document non-  
18 pharmacological treatment for anxiety.

19           D.       Respondent diagnosed recurrent depression in R.N. without conducting an  
20 adequate clinical evaluation of R.N.'s symptoms, including obtaining a past history of depressive  
21 episodes, the symptoms and severity of the current depressive episode. She failed to consider a  
22 differential diagnosis, including alcohol-related depressive symptoms.

23           E.       Respondent failed to fully and adequately evaluate R.N.'s complaints of  
24 insomnia. She failed to evaluate the type of insomnia, associated symptoms, drug/alcohol and  
25 caffeine history and sleep hygiene. Respondent inappropriately treated R.N.'s insomnia with high  
26 doses of benzodiazepines without a risk/benefit analysis.

27           F.       Respondent diagnosed migraine-type headaches in R.N. and prescribed  
28 Imitrex without documenting a clinical or medication history. She failed to perform a focused

1 physical examination, or to consider other explanations for R.N.'s headache.

2 G. Respondent at no time conducted an adequate mental status examination  
3 for R.N., an extremely ill and symptomatic patient.

4 H. Respondent diagnosed anorexia nervosa in R.N. without obtaining the  
5 clinical information to make the diagnosis. She failed to obtain an adequate history of R.N.'s  
6 reported weight loss, or to consider whether R.N.'s weight loss was associated with her chronic  
7 alcoholism, depression and anxiety.

8 I. Respondent prescribed large amounts of cough syrup containing Codeine  
9 and alcohol without having conducted a relevant examination and history. She failed to inform  
10 herself, let alone R.N., that the prescription contained alcohol, and she prescribed promethazine  
11 with codeine in excessive amounts over a large period of time.

12 J. Respondent prescribed Ritalin for "low energy" without clinically  
13 evaluating R.N.'s complaints of low energy, without evaluating the possibility that prescribed  
14 medication, alcohol relapse or other medical conditions could have contributed to a loss of  
15 energy, and without considering the possibility that Ritalin could exacerbate R.N.'s anxiety.

16 70. Therefore, respondent's conduct as set forth above, whether singly, jointly  
17 or in any combination thereof, constitutes causes for discipline pursuant to section 2234(b), (c)  
18 and/or (d) of the Code.

19 **ELEVENTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

20 (Prescribing Without Good Faith Prior Examination and Medical Indication)

21 71. The allegations of paragraphs 57 through 68, above, are incorporated  
22 herein by reference as if fully set forth.

23 72. Respondent's conduct as set forth above constitutes prescribing of  
24 controlled substances and/or dangerous drugs without a good faith prior examination and medical  
25 indication therefor, and therefore, cause for discipline exists pursuant to sections 2242(a) and  
26 2234 of the Code.

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1 **TWELFTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

2 (Failure to Maintain Adequate Medical Records)

3 73. The allegations of paragraphs 57 through 68 above are incorporated herein  
4 by reference as if fully set forth.

5 74. Respondent's conduct constitutes the failure to maintain adequate and  
6 accurate records with reference to the treatment of R.N., and therefore cause for discipline exists  
7 pursuant to sections 2266 and 2234 of the Code.

8 **PRAYER**

9 WHEREFORE, complainant requests that a hearing be held on the matters herein  
10 alleged, and that following that hearing, the Division issue a decision:

11 1. Revoking or suspending Physician and Surgeon Certificate No. G 17507,  
12 heretofore issued to Carol Stone Wolman, M.D.;

13 2. Prohibiting respondent from continuing to be or becoming a supervisor of  
14 physician assistants;

15 3. Ordering Carol Stone Wolman, M.D. to pay the Division the reasonable  
16 costs of the investigation and enforcement of this case, and, if placed on probation, the  
17 costs of probation monitoring; and

18 4. Taking such other and further action as deemed necessary and proper.

19 DATED: January 23, 2003

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21 \_\_\_\_\_  
22 RON JOSEPH, Executive Director  
23 Medical Board of California  
24 Department of Consumer Affairs  
25 State of California

26 Complainant  
27  
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