

**STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH
HEALTHCARE QUALITY AND SAFETY BRANCH**

In re: Robert W. Behrends, M.D.

Petition No. 2020-548

CONSENT ORDER

WHEREAS, Robert W. Behrends of Waterbury, Connecticut ("respondent") has been issued license number 020493 to practice as a physician and surgeon by the Department of Public Health ("the Department") pursuant to Chapter 370 of the General Statutes of Connecticut, as amended; and,

WHEREAS, the Department alleges:

1. On one or more occasions, respondent prescribed greater than a seventy-two-hour supply of a controlled substance for patient #1 and failed to review patient #1's records in the electronic prescription drug monitoring program in violation of Connecticut General Statutes §21a-254(j)(9), including, but not limited to, in or about February 2018 and/or March 2018 when respondent prescribed benzodiazepine-type medication for patient #1.
2. The above-described facts constitute grounds for disciplinary action pursuant to the General Statutes of Connecticut, §20-13c, including, but not limited to §20-13c(4).

WHEREAS, respondent, in consideration of this Consent Order, has chosen not to contest the above allegations of wrongdoing but, while admitting no guilt or wrongdoing, agrees that for purposes of this or any future proceedings before the Connecticut Medical Examining Board

("the Board"), this Consent Order shall have the same effect as if proven and ordered after a full hearing held pursuant to §§19a-10, 19a-14 and 20-13c of the General Statutes of Connecticut.

WHEREAS, respondent has successfully completed coursework in prescribing practices.

NOW THEREFORE, pursuant to §§19a-14, 19a-17 and 20-13c of the General Statutes of Connecticut, respondent hereby stipulates and agrees to the following:

1. Respondent waives his right to a hearing on the merits of this matter.
2. Respondent's license number 020493 to practice as a physician and surgeon in the State of Connecticut is hereby reprimanded.
3. Respondent shall comply with all state and federal statutes and regulations applicable to respondent's licensure.
4. Respondent shall pay all costs necessary to comply with this Consent Order.
5. Legal notice shall be sufficient if sent to respondent's last known address of record reported to the Practitioner Licensing and Investigations Section of the Healthcare Quality and Safety Branch of the Department.
6. This Consent Order is effective on the date this Consent Order is accepted and ordered by the Board.
7. Respondent understands and agrees that this Consent Order is a public record.
8. Respondent understands and agrees that the Department's allegations as contained in this Consent Order shall be deemed true in any subsequent proceeding before the Board in which respondent's compliance with this Consent Order or with §20-13c of the General Statutes of Connecticut, as amended, is at issue. Further, respondent understands that any discipline imposed by this Consent Order shall be reported to the National Practitioner Data Bank maintained by the United States Department of Health and Human Services and

that all disciplinary actions will appear on respondent's physician profile pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §20-13j.

9. This Consent Order and terms set forth herein are not subject to reconsideration, collateral attack or judicial review under any form or in any forum. Respondent agrees that this Consent Order shall not be subject to modification as a result of any claim that the terms contained herein may result in action by third parties, including, but not limited to, healthcare facilities and/or credentialing or licensure boards and respondent waives any right to seek reconsideration or modification of this Consent Order pursuant to §4-181a of the General Statutes of Connecticut without the express consent and agreement of the Department. Respondent assumes all responsibility for assessing such actions prior to the execution of this document. Further, this Consent Order is not subject to appeal or review under the provisions of Chapters 54 or 368a of the General Statutes of Connecticut, provided that this stipulation shall not deprive respondent of any rights that respondent may have under the laws of the State of Connecticut or of the United States.
10. This Consent Order is a revocable offer of settlement which may be modified by mutual agreement or withdrawn by the Department at any time prior to its being executed by the last signatory.
11. Respondent permits a representative of the Department to present this Consent Order and the factual basis for this Consent Order to the Board. Respondent understands that the Board has complete and final discretion as to whether this executed Consent Order is approved or accepted. Respondent hereby waives any claim of error that could be raised that is related to or arises during the course of the Board's discussions regarding whether to approve or reject this Consent Order and/or a Board member's participation during this process, through the Board member's review or comments, including but not limited to bias or reliance on evidence outside the administrative record if this matter proceeds to a

hearing on a statement of charges resulting in a proposed decision by the Board and/or a panel of the Board and a final decision by the Board.

12. Respondent has consulted with his attorney prior to signing this document.
13. The execution of this document has no bearing on any criminal liability without the written consent of the Director of the Medicaid Fraud Control Unit or the State's Attorney's Office where the allegation occurred or Bureau Chief of the applicable unit in the Chief State's Attorney's Office. The purpose of this Consent Order is to resolve the pending administrative license disciplinary petition only and is not intended to affect any civil or criminal liability or defense.
14. This Consent Order embodies the entire agreement of the parties with respect to this case. All previous communications or agreements regarding the subject matter of this consent order, whether oral or written, between the parties are superseded unless expressly incorporated herein or made a part hereof.

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I, Robert W. Behrends, have read the above Consent Order, and I stipulate and agree to the terms as set forth therein. I further declare the execution of this Consent Order to be my free act and deed.

Robert W. Behrends MD
Robert W. Behrends, M.D.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 10th day of November 2022.

Mary Anne Moore Johnson
Notary Public or person authorized
by law to administer an oath or affirmation
COMM. OF THE SUPERIOR COURT

The above Consent Order having been presented to the duly appointed agent of the Commissioner of the Department of Public Health on the 6th day of December 2022, it is hereby accepted.

Christian D. Andresen

Christian D. Andresen, MPH, Section Chief
Practitioner Licensing and Investigations Section
Healthcare Quality and Safety Branch

The above Consent Order having been presented to the Connecticut Medical Examining Board on the 20th day of December 2022, it is hereby ordered and accepted.

Kathryn Emmett, Chairperson
Connecticut Medical Examining Board