

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS  
BUREAU OF PROFESSIONAL LICENSING  
BOARD OF MEDICINE  
DISCIPLINARY SUBCOMMITTEE

In the Matter of

VENKATESWARA B. TALASILA, M.D.

Complaint No. 43-22-000113

License No. 43-01-407245

CONSENT ORDER AND STIPULATION

CONSENT ORDER

A superseding administrative complaint was filed with the Disciplinary Subcommittee of the Board of Medicine on March 21, 2024, charging Venkateswara B. Talasila, M.D. (Respondent) with having violated sections 16221(a) and (b)(i) of the Public Health Code, MCL 333.1101 *et seq.*

The parties have stipulated that the Disciplinary Subcommittee may enter this consent order. The Disciplinary Subcommittee has reviewed the stipulation contained in this document and agrees that the public interest is best served by resolution of the outstanding complaint. Therefore, the Disciplinary Subcommittee finds that the allegations of fact contained in the complaint are true and that Respondent has violated sections 16221(a) and (b)(i) of the Public Health Code.

Accordingly, for these violations, IT IS ORDERED:

Respondent is FINED \$500.00 to be paid by check, money order, or cashier's check made payable to the State of Michigan (with complaint number 43-22-000113 clearly indicated on the check or money order) and shall be payable within 60 days of the effective date of this order. The timely payment of the fine shall be Respondent's responsibility. Respondent shall mail the fine to: Department of

Licensing and Regulatory Affairs, Bureau of Professional Licensing, Enforcement Division, Compliance Section, P.O. Box 30189, Lansing, Michigan 48909.

Respondent shall be responsible for all costs and expenses incurred in complying with the terms and conditions of this consent order.

Respondent shall be responsible for the timely compliance with the terms of this consent order, including the timely filing of any documentation. Failure to comply within the time limitations provided will constitute a violation of this order.

If Respondent violates any term or condition set forth in this order, Respondent will be in violation of Mich Admin Code, R 338.1632, and section 16221(h) of the Public Health Code.

This order shall be effective 30 days from the date signed by the Chairperson of the Disciplinary Subcommittee or the Disciplinary Subcommittee's authorized representative, as set forth below.

Signed on May 15, 2024

MICHIGAN BOARD OF MEDICINE

By Laurann Brown for  
Chairperson  
Disciplinary Subcommittee

STIPULATION

The parties stipulate as follows:

1. The facts alleged in the complaint are true and constitute a violation of the Public Health Code.

2. Respondent understands and intends that, by signing this stipulation, he is waiving the right under the Public Health Code, rules promulgated under the Public Health Code, and the Administrative Procedures Act of 1969, MCL 24.201 et seq., to require the Department to prove the charges set forth in the complaint by presentation of evidence and legal authority, and to present a defense to the charges before the Disciplinary Subcommittee or its authorized representative. Should the Disciplinary Subcommittee reject the proposed consent order, the parties reserve the right to proceed to hearing.

3. The Disciplinary Subcommittee may enter the above consent order, supported by Board conferee Rev. Donald Tynes, M.D. Dr. Tynes or an attorney from the Licensing and Regulation Division may discuss this matter with the Disciplinary Subcommittee in order to recommend acceptance of this resolution.

4. Dr. Tynes and the parties considered the following factors in reaching this agreement:

- A. Since the incident, Respondent successfully completed and provided certificates for the following courses from the Psychopharmacology Institute: the Psychopharmacology Algorithm for Psychotic Depression, and Lithium: How to Manage Dosage and Side Effects and Persuade Patients to Take it.
- B. During a February 29, 2024 compliance conference, Respondent advised that throughout his time treating the patient, Respondent regularly ordered laboratory tests for the patient to have his lithium levels checked and reminded the patient often about complying with these ordered tests, but the patient failed to consistently comply with Respondent's orders. Respondent advised that when he discussed the importance of the patient complying with his laboratory test orders, the patient indicated that he

did not comply with Respondent's orders due to the patient's inability to afford the laboratory tests with his type of insurance. Respondent further advised that while treating the patient, the patient never presented with any symptoms that would alert Respondent that the patient was experiencing issues with the prescribed lithium carbonate.

- C. Respondent advised that while he acknowledges 3-6 months is the recommended schedule for monitoring lithium levels in patients being prescribed lithium carbonate, Respondent prioritized the patient's well-being, and he did not want to abandon the patient or discontinue his treatment as the patient was doing well and none of the available lithium test results were ever abnormal.
- D. Respondent advised that the patient did not maintain treatment with a primary care physician, but Respondent did refer the patient to other providers for treatment.
- E. Respondent has been licensed since 1989 and has no prior discipline on this license.

By signing this stipulation, the parties confirm that they have read, understand, and agree with the terms of the consent order.

AGREED TO BY:

/s/ DeAnthony D. Shaw  
DeAnthony D. Shaw (P82292)  
Assistant Attorney General  
Attorney for Complainant  
Dated: March 26, 2024

AGREED TO BY:

Venkat Talasila  
Venkateswara B. Talasila, M.D.  
Respondent

Dated: 3/22/24

Kathleen A. Westfall  
Katheleen A. Westfall (P78874)  
Attorney for Respondent  
Dated: 3/22/2024

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In the Matter of

VENKATESWARA B. TALASILA, M.D.  
License No. 43-01-407245

Complaint No. 43-22-000113

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FIRST SUPERSEDING ADMINISTRATIVE COMPLAINT

Assistant Attorney General Daniel P. Kelly, on behalf of the Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs, Bureau of Professional Licensing (Complainant), files this first superseding administrative complaint against Venkateswara B. Talasila, M.D. (Respondent), alleging upon information and belief as follows:

1. The Board of Medicine, an administrative agency established by the Public Health Code, MCL 333.1101 *et seq.*, is authorized to find that a licensee has violated the Code and impose sanctions through its Disciplinary Subcommittee under the Code.

2. Respondent is currently licensed to practice medicine and holds a controlled substance license pursuant to the Code. At all relevant times, Respondent practiced as a psychiatrist in private practice clinics in Mount Pleasant and Bay City, Michigan.

ARTICLE 15 PROVISIONS

3. Section 16221(a) of the Code authorizes the Disciplinary Subcommittee to sanction a licensee for a violation of general duty, consisting of negligence or

failure to exercise due care, including negligent delegation to, or supervision of, employees or other individuals, whether or not injury results, or any conduct, practice, or condition that impairs, or may impair, the ability to safely and skillfully engage in the practice of the health profession.

4. Section 16221(b)(i) of the Code authorizes the Disciplinary Subcommittee to sanction a licensee for personal disqualifications, consisting of incompetence, which is defined in section 16106(1) of the Code to mean a departure from, or failure to conform to, minimal standards of acceptable and prevailing practice for a health profession, whether or not actual injury to an individual occurs.

5. Section 16226 of the Code authorizes the Disciplinary Subcommittee to impose sanctions against persons licensed by the Board if, after an opportunity for a hearing, the Disciplinary Subcommittee determines that a licensee violated one or more of the subdivisions contained in section 16221 of the Code.

#### FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

6. Respondent began treating patient K.C. at Respondent's office on or about March 28, 2013.

7. Prior to being referred to Respondent, K.C. had been diagnosed with bipolar disorder and had been prescribed medications to treat bipolar disorder, including Lithium carbonate (LiCO<sub>3</sub>).

8. Respondent's treatment of K.C. included continuing to prescribe LiCO<sub>3</sub>.

9. Respondent consistently prescribed K.C. LiCO<sub>3</sub> 300 m.g., to be taken once in the morning and twice at bedtime, until on or about September 29, 2021.

10. During his treatment of K.C., Respondent initially monitored K.C.'s serum Lithium levels from on or about June 6, 2014, to on or about September 19, 2019, when K.C. became non-compliant with blood monitoring.

11. Respondent's patient record for K.C. include standing lab orders for K.C. to obtain serum Lithium levels every three months and contain the following serum Lithium level results:

- a. 0.7 mmol/L on or about June 6, 2014;
- b. 0.6 mmol/L on or about June 30, 2016;
- c. 1.1 mmol/L on or about August 3, 2017; and
- d. 0.9 mmol/L on or about September 19, 2019.

12. Respondent continued to prescribe LiCO<sub>3</sub> to K.C. in 2020 and 2021, but Respondent's patient records for K.C. did not contain any serum Lithium level results for this period.

### COUNT I

13. Respondent's conduct as described above constitutes a violation of general duty, consisting of negligence or failure to exercise due care, including negligent delegation to, or supervision of, employees or other individuals, whether or not injury results, or any conduct, practice, or condition that impairs, or may impair, the ability to safely and skillfully engage in the practice of the health profession, in violation of section 16221(a) of the Code.

## COUNT II

14. Respondent's conduct as described above constitutes a departure from, or failure to conform to, minimal standards of acceptable and prevailing practice for a health profession, whether or not actual injury to an individual occurs, in violation of section 16221(b)(i) of the Code.

THEREFORE, Complainant requests that this first superseding administrative complaint be served upon Respondent and that Respondent be offered an opportunity to show compliance with all lawful requirements for retention of the aforesaid licenses. If compliance is not shown, Complainant further requests that formal proceedings be commenced pursuant to the Public Health Code, the Administrative Procedures Act of 1969, MCL 24.201 *et seq.*, and associated administrative rules.

RESPONDENT IS HEREBY NOTIFIED that, pursuant to section 16231(8) of the Public Health Code, Respondent has 30 days from receipt of this first superseding administrative complaint to submit a written response to the allegations contained in it. Pursuant to section 16192(2) of the Code, Respondent is deemed to be in receipt of the first superseding administrative complaint three days after the date of mailing listed in the attached proof of service. The written response shall be submitted by email to the Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs, Bureau of Professional Licensing to [LARA-BPL-RegulationSection@michigan.gov](mailto:LARA-BPL-RegulationSection@michigan.gov), with a copy mailed to the undersigned assistant attorney general. If unable to submit a response by email, Respondent may submit



by regular mail to the Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs, Bureau of Professional Licensing, P.O. Box 30670, Lansing, MI 48909, with a copy mailed to the undersigned assistant attorney general.

Pursuant to section 16231(9) of the Code, failure to submit a written response within the 30-day period shall be treated as an admission of the allegations contained in the first superseding administrative complaint and shall result in transmittal of the first superseding administrative complaint directly to the Board's Disciplinary Subcommittee for imposition of an appropriate sanction.

In the event Respondent's license is suspended or revoked, Respondent's controlled substance license shall be automatically void pursuant to section 7311(6) of the Public Health Code.

FURTHER, the administrative complaint previously filed against Respondent on August 22, 2023 is hereby WITHDRAWN and replaced in full by this superseding complaint.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ DeAnthony D. Shaw  
DeAnthony D. Shaw (P82292)  
Assistant Attorney General  
Licensing & Regulation Division  
P.O. Box 30758  
Lansing, MI 48909  
Telephone: (517) 335-7569  
Fax: (517) 241-1997

Dated: March 21, 2024

LF: 2023-0369354-A/Talasila, Venkateswara B., M.D., 000113/Administrative Complaint – 2024-03-21