

BEFORE THE VIRGINIA BOARD OF MEDICINE

IN RE: DEVI VASU, M.D.
License Number: 0101-245756
Case Number: 215325

CONSENT ORDER

JURISDICTION AND PROCEDURAL HISTORY

The Virginia Board of Medicine (“Board”) and Devi Vasu, M.D., as evidenced by their signatures hereto, in lieu of proceeding to an informal conference, enter into the following Consent Order affecting Dr. Vasu’s license to practice medicine in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

FINDINGS OF FACT AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. Devi Vasu, M.D., was issued License Number 0101-245756 to practice medicine on May 27, 2009, which is scheduled to expire on May 31, 2024.
2. Dr. Vasu violated Virginia Code § 54.1-2915(A)(3), (13) and (16) during her care and treatment of Patient A. Specifically:
 - a. Patient A has been diagnosed with schizophrenia schizoaffective disorder and bipolar disorder and has been under the care of Dr. Vasu since 2016.
 - b. Dr. Vasu stated that from October, 2020 through January, 2021, she had scheduled telehealth appointments with Patient A on a monthly basis.
 - c. Dr. Vasu stated that at the conclusion of their telehealth appointment on January 6, 2021, Dr. Vasu directed Patient A to begin scheduling appointments every three (3) months and she prescribed a three (3) month supply of medication for Patient A.
 - d. Dr. Vasu stated that at the conclusion of their telehealth appointment on April 23, 2021, Dr. Vasu again prescribed a three (3) month supply of medication for Patient A.

e. On September 8, 2021, Individual 1 (Patient A's mother and guardian) contacted her pharmacy to refill a prescription for her son, Patient A. According to Individual 1, the pharmacy advised her that Patient A's medication could not be refilled unless Patient A was seen by Dr. Vasu.

f. Following that telephone conversation, Individual 1 contacted Dr. Vasu's office requesting Patient A's medication be refilled. Individual 1 was reminded by Dr. Vasu's staff that Patient A required an appointment with Dr. Vasu before medication could again be prescribed.

g. Dr. Vasu's staff scheduled a fit-in telehealth appointment with Dr. Vasu for September 15, 2021 and advised Individual 1 that Patient A's medication would be refilled at that time. Individual 1 advised Dr. Vasu's staff that Patient A did not have enough medication to last until the 15th and reminded them that Patient A needed his medication consistently in order to suppress his schizophrenic behavior and violent outbursts. Despite Individual 1's pleas, the appointment remained on the 15th and the medication was not refilled at that time.

h. According to Individual 1, Patient A ran out of medication on September 11, 2021 and by September 12, 2021, he was experiencing schizophrenic symptoms.

i. Desperate to have Patient A's medication refilled, Individual 1 contacted Dr. Vasu's office on September 13, 2021 and was told Dr. Vasu was with other patients but that Individual 1 would receive a call back. After getting no return call that day, Individual 1 called Dr. Vasu's office on September 14, 2021. Individual 1 relayed the seriousness of the situation to the office manager; however, a new medication order was not called in on that day either.

j. At the conclusion of the telehealth visit on September 15, 2021, Dr. Vasu stated she would be refilling Patient A's medication immediately. A short time later, Individual 1 followed up with her pharmacy but the medication had not been ordered. Individual 1 called Dr. Vasu's office to inquire as to the status of the medication and was told staff would follow up with Dr. Vasu and someone would

call Individual 1 back. After receiving no return call, Individual 1 called Dr. Vasu's office but the office was now closed for the day and Patient A's medication had yet to be ordered.

k. Patient A's behavior continued to escalate until, on September 16, 2021, Patient A struck Individual 2 in the face. Individual 1 observed blood all over Individual 2's face. Police and Emergency personnel responded to the scene and transported Patient A to a local hospital where he was evaluated and treated. Patient A was temporarily detained and transferred to Northern Virginia Mental Health Institute where he was admitted on September 16, 2021. Records indicate the first few days were "marked by episodes of aggressive, agitated outbursts towards staff and peers and the patient attempted to hit people several times." Patient A's medication were started and he progressively improved until he was discharged on September 21, 2021.

CONSENT

Devi Vasu, M.D., by affixing her signature to this Consent Order, agrees to the following:

1. I have been advised to seek advice of counsel prior to signing this document and I am represented by D. Shane Smith, Esq.;
2. I am fully aware that without my consent, no legal action can be taken against me or my license except pursuant to the Virginia Administrative Process Act, Virginia Code § 2.2-4000 *et seq.*;
3. I acknowledge that I have the following rights, among others: the right to an informal fact-finding conference before the Board; and the right to representation by counsel;
4. I waive my right to an informal conference;
5. I admit to the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law contained herein and waive my right to contest such Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law and any sanction imposed hereunder in any future judicial or administrative proceeding in which the Board is a party; and,

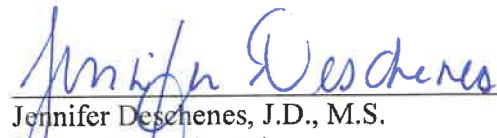
6. I consent to the entry of the following Order affecting my license to practice medicine in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

ORDER

Based on the foregoing Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, the Virginia Board of Medicine hereby ORDERS that Devi Vasu, M.D., is REPRIMANDED.

Pursuant to Virginia Code §§ 2.2-4023 and 54.1-2400.2, the signed original of this Order shall remain in the custody of the Department of Health Professions as a public record, and shall be made available for public inspection and copying upon request.

FOR THE BOARD



Jennifer Deschenes, J.D., M.S.
Deputy Executive Director
Virginia Board of Medicine

ENTERED: 7/11/22

SEEN AND AGREED TO:

Devi Vasu
Devi Vasu, M.D.

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA
COUNTY/CITY OF Petersburg, TO WIT:

Subscribed and sworn to before me, a notary public in and for the Commonwealth of Virginia at large, on
this 22nd day of June, 2022.

My commission expires:

Registration No.:

Kaysee Kohler Wiggins
Notary Public
October 31, 2022
7599842

