

**Texas Medical Board
News Release
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Medical Board Suspends License of Sergio Silva, M.D., of Austin

A panel of the Texas Medical Board temporarily suspended the license of Sergio Silva, M.D., license #J8773, of Austin, after finding that Dr. Silva's continued practice would constitute a continuing threat to the public welfare.

The action was based on the following findings of fact: Dr. Silva prescribed Prozac and Strattera in a nontherapeutic manner to a seven-year-old and failed to diagnose and treat medication-induced toxicity, resulting in the patient being hospitalized with suicidal and homicidal ideation. Dr. Silva accused the patient's mother of sabotaging the patient's treatment and filed a complaint against the mother with child protective services. Dr. Silva prescribed controlled substances to another patient without documented medical necessity. After the patient overdosed, Dr. Silva attempted to manage the patient's condition without securing emergency care. When the patient was hospitalized, Dr. Silva's aggressive behavior resulted in his losing his privileges at that hospital.

The temporary suspension hearing took place Friday, September 8, and the suspension was effective immediately. The length of a temporary suspension order is indefinite but it remains in effect until the board takes further action.

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The Texas Medical Board, the state agency that regulates physicians, physician assistants, surgical assistants and acupuncturists, provides consumer protection through licensure, investigation and disciplinary action. The Board, under President Roberta M. Kalafut, D.O., and Executive Director Donald W. Patrick, M.D., J.D., and mandated by Senate Bill 104 of the 78th Legislature and S.B. 419 of the 79th Legislature, is strengthening and accelerating the disciplinary process for licensees who fail to meet the required standards of professional proficiency and behavior. Information on filing a complaint is on the agency web site at www.tmb.state.tx.us or by calling (800) 201-9353.