

1999 Press Releases

September 9, 1999

37 Doctors Disciplined

During its August 26-28 Board meeting, the Texas State Board of Medical Examiners disciplined 37 licensed physicians, who received one or more of the following actions: 3 revocations, of which one was stayed and probated under various terms and conditions; 15 suspensions, of which 10 were stayed and probated under various terms and conditions; 12 restrictions; 10 public reprimands; and 12 administrative penalties totaling \$56,600 were assessed.

Rule Changes and Review

The Board approved the following proposed rule changes that were published in the *Texas Register*: Chapter 166, Physician Registration, amendment to section 166.1 regarding a requirement that physicians notify the board of a change of address within 60 days. Chapter 179, Investigation Files, rule review and amendment to section 179.2 regarding responses to written inquiries. Chapter 183, Acupuncture, amendments to sections 183.7 and 183.13 relating to the time frame for the requirement of physician referral, the maximum number of treatments performed before referral to a physician, and referrals from chiropractors. Chapter 187, Procedure, amendment to section 187.39 that will increase the administrative penalty for failure to obtain required continuing medical education.

In accordance with House Bill No. 1, 75th Legislature, Regular Session, 1998-1999, Article IX, Section 167, the Board reviewed the following rules with no amendments to current text: Chapter 164, Advertising; Chapter 165, Medical Records; Chapter 168, Persons With Criminal Backgrounds; Chapter 169, Authority of Physicians to Supply Drugs; Chapter 180, Rehabilitation Orders; Chapter 188, Complaint Procedure Notification; Chapter 190, Disciplinary Guidelines; Chapter 191, District Review Committees; Chapter 196, Voluntary Surrender of a Medical License; Chapter 198, Unlicensed Practice.

Action on the following proposed rule changes that were published in the *Texas Register* was deferred for further comment: Chapter 167, Reinstatement, rule review and proposed new sections 167.4-167.6 regarding criteria to be considered when assessing whether it is in the best interest of the physician or the public to reinstate a physician's license.

Chapters 173, Applications, and 175, Schedule of Fees and Penalties, rule review, repeal of Chapters 173 and 175, and new Chapter 175, Fees, Penalties, and Applications were withdrawn and republished with additional changes from previously published text.

The Board also proposed rule changes for publication and comment on Chapter 161, General Provisions, regarding committee responsibilities; and rule review and repeal and replacement of Chapter 163, Licensure, to be in compliance with recent legislative changes mandated in Senate Bill 1207.

For copies of these rules, write the Board at MC 901, P.O. Box 2018, Austin, TX 78768-2018 or e-mail jill.wiggins@tmb.state.tx.us

