September 29, 1997

6 doctors disciplined

During its Sept. 18-20 board meeting, the Texas State Board of Medical Examiners disciplined six licensed physicians, who received one or more of the following actions: one suspension; one revocation, which was stayed and probated under various terms and conditions; one restriction with various terms and conditions; and three public reprimands. In addition, two administrative penalties of \$1,100 were assessed.

Board proposes rule changes

At its Sept. 18-20 meeting, the Board recommended the following rule amendments for publication in the Texas Register:

Proposed revision to Board Rule 166.2(a)(2), relating to advertising by sponsors of continuing medical education courses, would require that, beginning Jan. 1, 1999, at least one of the formal hours of CME must involve the study of medical ethics and/or professional responsibility. Whether a particular hour of CME involves the study of medical ethics and/or professional responsibility would be determined by the organizations providing the CME hours in their course planning.

The Board also proposed amendments to Rule 165.1, Medical Records, adding a requirement for retention of records of seven years from the last date of treatment for adults, and until age 21 for patients younger than 18. Board Rule 165.1 would be renumbered to 165.2, and Rule 165.2 would be renumbered to 165.3. The Board also proposed to amend current Rule 165.2, Medical Records Release and Charges (new Rule 165.1 (d)), to define "medical records" to include copies of medical records of other health care practitioners contained in the records of the physician to whom a request for release of records has been made.

The Board proposed to amend Chapter 174, Telemedicine, to require physicians licensed under this Chapter to comply with registration requirements of Chapter 166 of the Board's rules. The Board also proposed an amendment to Chapter 161.1(g)(15)(A)-(D) to make the Telemedicine Committee a standing committee of the Board.

The Board also proposed an addition to its position statement on the Unlicensed Practice of Medicine, adding the following statement at the end:

This statement shall not be interpreted to prohibit utilization review as authorized by and defined by state law.

Disciplinary Actions

The following is a summary of actions taken by the full Board:

Athari, Mohammad, M.D., Baytown, TX, Lic. #E6718

An agreed order was entered 9-20-97 ordering the physician to comply with certain terms and conditions for one year. Action due to professional failure to practice medicine in an acceptable manner.

Dunn, Jack, III, M.D., Lubbock, TX, Lic. #H6182

An agreed order was entered 9-20-97 suspending the physician's license until such time as he appears before the board and provides sufficient evidence and information that he is physically, mentally, and otherwise competent to safely practice medicine. Action due to intemperate use of alcohol or drugs, unprofessional or dishonorable conduct, prescribing or dispensing to habitual user, prescribing or administering a drug or treatment that is nontherapeutic in nature or nontherapeutic in the manner the drug or treatment is administered or prescribed, professional failure to practice medicine in an acceptable manner consistent with public health and welfare, and disciplinary action by peers.

Hsu, Yu-to, M.D., Houston, TX, Lic. #F1065

An agreed order was entered 9-20-97 publicly reprimanding Dr. Hsu. Action due to prescribing or administering a drug or treatment that is nontherapeutic in nature or nontherapeutic in the manner the drug or treatment is administered or prescribed.

Maes, Myron L., M.D., Baltimore, MD., Lic. #J3348

An agreed order was entered 9-20-97 publicly reprimanding Dr. Maes and assessing an administrative penalty in the amount of \$100. Action due to violation of board rules.

Price, Steven L., Houston, TX, Lic. #E6571

An agreed order was entered 9-20-97 publicly reprimanding Dr. Price and assessing an administrative penalty in the amount of \$1,000. Action due to failure to practice medicine in an acceptable manner consistent with public health and welfare.

Serrano, Antonio, M.D., Fort Worth, TX, Lic. #F1988

An agreed order was entered 9-20-97 revoking the physician's license; however, the revocation was stayed and he was placed on probation for 10 years under various terms and conditions. Action due to unprofessional or dishonorable conduct, violation of laws connected with practice of medicine, failure to keep drug records, prescribing or dispensing to habitual user, writing false or fictitious prescriptions, prescribing or administering a drug or treatment that is nontherapeutic in nature or nontherapeutic in the manner

the drug or treatment is administered or prescribed, administering dangerous drugs in an improper manner, and intemperate use of alcohol or drugs which could affect the lives of patients.

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