

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

Middlesex, SS.

Board of Registration in Medicine

Adjudicatory Case No. 2021-043

In the Matter of

RONALD ABRAMSON, M.D.

CONSENT ORDER

Pursuant to G.L. c. 30A, § 10, Ronald Abramson, M.D. (Respondent) and the Board of Registration in Medicine (Board) (hereinafter referred to jointly as the "Parties") agree that the Board may issue this Consent Order to resolve the above-captioned adjudicatory proceeding. The Parties further agree that this Consent Order will have all the force and effect of a Final Decision within the meaning of 801 CMR 1.01(11)(d). The Respondent admits to the findings of fact specified below and agrees that the Board may make the conclusions of law and impose the sanction set forth below in resolution of investigative Docket No. 17-403.

Findings of Fact

1. The Respondent was born on August 26, 1940. He graduated from the University of Louisville School of Medicine in 1967. He is certified by the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology in psychiatry. He has been licensed to practice medicine in Massachusetts under certificate number 30745 since 1967. He has a solo practice in Wayland, Massachusetts.

2. The Massachusetts Prescription Awareness Tool (MassPAT) is an online database that lists all Schedule II to V prescriptions as well as gabapentin prescriptions filled by patients at pharmacies.

3. Beginning in October 2016, physicians were mandated to check MassPAT prior to prescribing narcotics listed in Schedules II and III.

4. Beginning in June 2019, physicians were mandated to check MassPAT prior to prescribing benzodiazepines.

5. A review of the Respondent's MassPAT inquiries from March 2018 to November 2020 shows that the Respondent failed to check MassPAT prior to prescribing Schedule II and Schedule III narcotics to the following patients:

- a. Patient A.
- b. Patient B.

6. A review of the Respondent's MassPAT inquiries from June 13, 2019 to November 2020 shows that the Respondent failed to check MassPAT prior prescribing benzodiazepines to the following patients:

- a. Patient C.
- b. Patient D.

7. All four patients were or have been Respondent's long-term psychotherapy patients.

8. There is currently no evidence that the four patients were inappropriately obtaining controlled substances from more than one provider.

Conclusion of Law

A. Pursuant to G.L. c. 112, §5, eighth par. (b), and 243 C.M.R. 1.03(5)(a)11, the Board may discipline a physician upon proof satisfactory to a majority of the Board that said physician has committed an offense against any provisions of the laws of the Commonwealth relating to the practice of medicine, or any rule or regulation adopted thereunder, to wit:

1. 105 CMR 700.00 as it pertains to mandatory review of the MassPAT system for the issuance of certain prescriptions.

Sanction and Order

The Respondent's license is hereby Reprimanded.

Execution of this Consent Order

Complaint Counsel and the Respondent agree that the approval of this Consent Order is left to the discretion of the Board. The signature of Complaint Counsel, the Respondent, and the Respondent's counsel are expressly conditioned on the Board accepting this Consent Order. If the Board rejects this Consent Order in whole or in part, then the entire document shall be null and void; thereafter, neither of the parties nor anyone else may rely on these stipulations in this proceeding.

As to any matter in this Consent Order left to the discretion of the Board, neither the Respondent, nor anyone acting on her behalf, has received any promises or representations regarding the same.

The Respondent waives any right of appeal that she may have resulting from the Board's acceptance of this Consent Order.

The Respondent shall provide a complete copy of this Consent Order with all exhibits and attachments within ten (10) days by certified mail, return receipt requested, or by hand delivery to the following designated entities: any in- or out-of-state hospital, nursing home, clinic, other licensed facility, or municipal, state, or federal facility at which the Respondent practices medicine; any in- or out-of-state health maintenance organization with whom the Respondent has privileges or any other kind of association; any state agency, in- or out-of-state, with which the Respondent has a provider contract; any in- or out-of-state medical employer,

whether or not the Respondent practices medicine there; the state licensing boards of all states in which the Respondent has any kind of license to practice medicine; the Drug Enforcement Administration Boston Diversion Group; and the Massachusetts Department of Public Health Drug Control Program. The Respondent shall also provide this notification to any such designated entities with which the Respondent becomes associated in the year following the date of imposition of this reprimand. The Respondent is further directed to certify to the Board within ten (10) days that the Respondent has complied with this directive.

The Board expressly reserves the authority to independently notify, at any time, any of the entities designated above, or any other affected entity, of any action it has taken.

Ronald Abramson MD
Ronald Abramson, M.D.
Licensee

April 27, 2021
Date

A. L. Hyams
Andrew L. Hyams
Attorney for the Licensee

4/27/21
Date

James Paikos
James Paikos
Complaint Counsel

5/7/21
Date

So ORDERED by the Board of Registration in Medicine this 4th day of November, 2021.

George Abraham, M.D.
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Board Chair

Julian Robinson, M.D.
Chair