

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

Middlesex, SS.

Board of Registration in Medicine

Adjudicatory Case No. 2021-038

In the Matter of
DONALD GRIGER, M.D.

CONSENT ORDER

Pursuant to G.L. c. 30A, § 10, Donald Griger, 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. 20-586.

Findings of Fact

1. The Respondent was born on January 24, 1966. He graduated from the Dartmouth Medical School in 1992. He is certified by the American Board of Internal Medicine in the subspecialty certification in Rheumatology. He has been licensed to practice medicine in Massachusetts under certificate number 204189 since 2000. He has privileges at Baystate Medical Center.

2. Patient A is a female born in 1980.

3. On or about February 16, 2018, Patient A was seen by the Respondent for bilateral hand numbness and tingling.
4. On or about February 16, 2018, the Respondent noted that Patient A was a smoker and told her that smoking was bad for her.
5. After one subsequent visits, the Respondent saw Patient A for a follow-up visit on January 7, 2019.
6. On January 7, 2019, the Respondent asked Patient A whether she had stopped smoking. When Patient A told the Respondent that she had not stopped, he jokingly told her that he would discipline her. The Respondent then lightly struck the buttock of Patient A about two times with a small plastic ruler as she was stepping up on the examination table.
7. The Respondent's use of the ruler was not medically warranted and made Patient A feel uncomfortable.

Conclusion of Law

A. The Respondent has engaged in conduct that undermines the public confidence in the integrity of the medical profession. *See Levy v. Board of Registration in Medicine*, 378 Mass. 519 (1979); *Raymond v. Board of Registration in Medicine*, 387 Mass. 708 (1982).

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

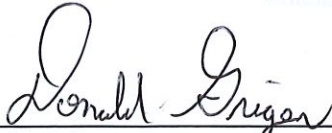
and void; thereafter, neither of the parties nor anyone else may rely on these stipulations in this proceeding.

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.

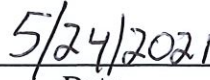
The Respondent waives any right of appeal that she may have resulting from the Board's acceptance of this Consent Order.

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.

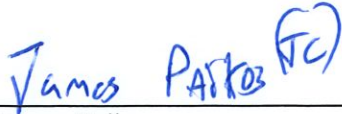
The Board expressly reserves the authority to independently notify, at any time, any of the entities designated above, or any other affected entity, of any action it has taken.



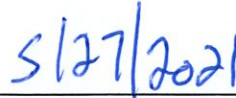
Donald Griger, M.D., pro se
Licensee



Date



James Paikos
Complaint Counsel



Date

So ORDERED by the Board of Registration in Medicine this 7th day of October,
2021.



Julian Robinson, M.D.
Board Chair