



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Robert A. Nebiker
Director

Department of Health Professions
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October 15, 2004

Manjit Bajwa, M.D.
6391 Little River Turnpike
Alexandria, Virginia 22312

UPS OVERNIGHT

RE: License No. 0101-023754

Dear Dr. Bajwa:

This letter is official notification that an informal conference of the Virginia Board of Medicine ("Board") will be held on **Wednesday, November 17, 2004, at 9:00 a.m., at the Holiday Inn Select, 2801 Plank Road, Fredericksburg, Virginia.** The conference will be conducted pursuant to Sections 54.1-2400(10), 2.2-4019 and 2.2-4021 of the Code of Virginia (1950), as amended ("Code").

A Special Conference Committee ("Committee") will inquire into allegations that you may have violated certain laws governing the practice of medicine in Virginia. Specifically:

1. You may have violated Sections 54.1-2915(4) and (3) [*formerly 54.1-2915.A(4) and (3)*], as further defined in Section 54.1-2914.A(8) of the Code, in that you failed to appropriately treat Patient A for Addison's disease, and altered his medication regimen, endangering his health and causing him harm. Specifically, Patient A presented to your office on June 11, 2003, with a history of Addison's disease for ten years. Patient A's mother, who was present during the history portion of the office visit, informed you of Patient A's current medications, which included Cortef, Florinef, and Synthroid:

a. You failed to note in his record that Patient A's current medications included Florinef, and failed to demonstrate adequate medical knowledge of its uses and indications in a subsequent interview with a senior investigator for the Department of Health Professions ("Senior Investigator").

b. You performed a history and physical on Patient A, after which you prescribed Cytozyme AD, a dietary supplement; Armour Thyroid; and Thorne's multivitamins. Both Patient A and his mother understood that he was to discontinue the Cortef and use instead the Cytozyme AD, and the Armour Thyroid was to replace the Synthroid that Patient A had previously taken.

c. Patient A's mother contacted you in late July and reported that Patient A was losing weight, was unfocused, and was not as well as he was during his June 11, 2003 office visit. You failed to assess Patient A or to perform laboratory tests to determine his adrenal status. You were notified at that time that Patient A was not taking Cortef with the medication you prescribed.

d. On August 10, 2003, Patient A's mother contacted you by telephone to report that Patient A was vomiting and febrile. You recommended that Patient A take his usual dose of Cytozyme, and for his mother to elevate his legs and take his blood pressure. Later the same day, Patient A's mother informed you that he was not improving, and his blood pressure was 69/37. You called in a prescription for Cytomel, instructed Patient A's mother to administer one Cytomel tablet and one Cortef tablet to Patient A, and to observe him further. You failed to recommend appropriate, emergent action based upon her report of his condition to you. Patient A's family transported him to the emergency department of Potomac Hospital, Woodbridge, Virginia ("Potomac Hospital"), on the evening of August 10, 2003, after his mother determined from his symptoms that he was in adrenal crisis, and she was unable to contact you further. He was diagnosed with hypotension, dehydration, hyperkalemia, hyponatremia, and renal insufficiency, and was admitted into the intensive care unit of Potomac Hospital. Patient A was returned to his previous regimen of Cortef, Florinef and Synthroid.

2. You may have violated Sections 54.1-2915(1) and (3) [formerly 54.1-2915.A(1) and (3)], as further defined in Section 54.1-2914.A(11) of the Code, in that you provided medical records to the Senior Investigator that differed in content from the records you had previously provided to Patient A's mother. Specifically, at the conclusion of the office visit of June 11, 2003, you copied Patient A's treatment plan and provided the copy to his mother for her reference. During the course of the investigation of your treatment of Patient A, you provided the same treatment plan to the senior investigator that included the following addition:

"Come in 10 days to do blood tests
for cortisol SMAC CBC
make sure he is compliant in taking
all his medications & supplements
Also bring blood tests from last year"

You advised the Senior Investigator that you may have added a note to the file during a subsequent telephone conversation with Patient A's mother on approximately June 25, 2003, and that you advised her at that time of your plan for laboratory testing and a follow-up visit. However, Patient A's mother denied receiving instructions for a follow-up visit for Patient A, and denied that you ordered laboratory work or requested previous records.

Please see Attachment I for the name of the patient referenced above.

After consideration of all information, the Committee may:

1. Exonerate you;
2. Place you on probation with such terms it deems appropriate.
3. Reprimand you;
4. Modify a previous Order; and
5. Impose a monetary penalty pursuant to Section 54.1-2401 of the Code.

Further, the Committee may refer this matter for a formal administrative proceeding when it has failed to dispose of a case by consent pursuant to Section 2.2-4020 of the Code.

You have the right to information that will be relied upon by the Committee in making a decision. Therefore, I enclose a copy of the documents that will be distributed to the members of the Committee, and will be considered by the Committee when discussing the allegations with you and when deliberating upon your case. These documents are enclosed only with the original notice sent by certified mail, and must be claimed at the post office. Further, if you retain counsel, it is your responsibility to provide the enclosed materials to your attorney.

To facilitate this proceeding, you must submit eight (8) copies of any documents you wish for the Committee to consider to Reneé S. Dixson, Discipline Case Manager, Virginia Board of Medicine, 6603 West Broad Street, 5th Floor, Richmond, Virginia 23230-1717, by **November 2, 2004**. Your documents may not be submitted by facsimile or e-mail. Should you or Senior Adjudication Analyst Kelli Moss wish to submit any documents for the Committee's consideration after **November 2, 2004**, such documents shall be considered only upon a ruling by the Chair of the Committee that good cause has been shown for late submission.

You may be represented by an attorney at the informal conference. If you obtain counsel, you should do so as soon as possible, because absent good cause to support a request for a continuance, the informal conference will be held on November 17, 2004. A request to continue this proceeding must state in detail the reason for the request and must establish good cause. Such request must be made, in writing, to me at the address listed on this letter and must be received by 12 noon on October 26, 2004. Only one such motion will be

considered. Absent exigent circumstances, such as personal or family illness, a request for a continuance after **October 26, 2004**, will not be considered

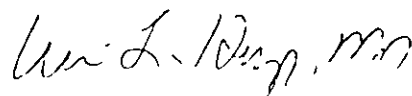
Relevant sections of the Administrative Process Act, which govern proceedings of this nature, as well as laws relating to the practice of medicine and other healing arts in Virginia cited in this notice can be found on the Internet at <http://leg1.state.va.us>. To access this information, please click on the *Code of Virginia* for statutes and *Virginia Administrative Code* for regulations.

In its deliberations, the Committee may utilize the Sanction Reference Points System, as contained in the Sanction Reference Manual. The manual, which is a guidance document of the Board, may be accessed at <http://www.dhp.virginia.gov/medicine>. Please click on *Guidance Documents*, then select #85-11. You may also request a paper copy from the Board office by calling (804) 662-7009.

Please advise the Board, in writing, of your intention to be present. Should you fail to appear at the informal conference, the Board may proceed to a formal administrative hearing in order to impose sanctions.

If you have any questions regarding this notice, please contact Kelli Moss, Senior Adjudication Analyst, at (804) 662-7593.

Sincerely,



William L. Harp, M.D.
Executive Director
Virginia Board of Medicine

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Enclosures:

Attachment I
Informal Conference Package
Map

cc: Thomas B. Leecost, D.P.M., President, Virginia Board of Medicine
Robert A. Nebiker, Director, Department of Health Professions
Reneé S. Dixon, Discipline Case Manager, Board of Medicine
Kelli Moss, Senior Adjudication Analyst
Pamela Kincheloe, Senior Investigator (92104)

VIRGINIA:

BEFORE THE BOARD OF MEDICINE

IN RE: MANJIT BAJWA, M.D.
License No.: 0101-023754

CONSENT ORDER

By letter dated October 15, 2004, the Virginia Board of Medicine ("Board") noticed Dr. Bajwa for an informal conference to inquire into allegations that she may have violated certain laws governing the practice of medicine in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

In lieu of proceeding to this informal conference, the Board and Dr. Bajwa, as evidenced by their signatures affixed below, agree to enter into this Consent Order affecting the license of Dr. Bajwa to practice medicine in Virginia.

FINDINGS OF FACT AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

The Special Conference Committee of the Board makes the following findings and conclusions in this matter:

1. Dr. Bajwa was issued license number 0101-023754 by the Board to practice medicine in the Commonwealth of Virginia on December 3, 1973. Said license will expire on January 31, 2006, unless renewed or otherwise restricted.
2. Dr. Bajwa has violated Sections 54.1-2915(3) [*formerly 54.1-2915.A(3)*], as further defined in Section 54.1-2914.A(8) of the Code, in that she failed to adequately communicate her treatment plan to Patient A. Specifically, Patient A presented to Dr. Bajwa's office on June 11, 2003, and reported a ten-year history of Addison's disease. According to Patient A's mother, who was present, she informed Dr. Bajwa that Patient A's current medications included Cortef, Florinef, and Synthroid. Patient A's mother only

had the Cortef and Synthroid bottles with her at the examination, and showed them to Dr. Bajwa. Patient A's mother claims that she subsequently advised Dr. Bajwa of the Florinef dosage. Dr. Bajwa has no record or recollection of being informed that Patient A's medications included Florinef.

a. Dr. Bajwa performed a history and physical on Patient A, after which Dr. Bajwa prescribed Cytozyme AD, a dietary supplement; Armour Thyroid; and Thorne's multivitamins. Patient A and his mother understood that he was to discontinue the Cortef and use instead the Cytozyme AD, and the Armour Thyroid was to replace the Synthroid that Patient A had previously taken. Dr. Bajwa failed to adequately communicate her intention for Patient A to continue taking Cortef.

b. Dr. Bajwa added a handwritten note to Patient A's record at an unknown time after his June 11, 2003 office visit that contained the following information necessary to communicate to Patient A:

"Come in 10 days to do blood tests
for cortisol SMAC CBC
Make sure he is compliant in taking
all his medications & supplements
Also bring blood tests from last year"

Dr. Bajwa failed to sign or date the additional entry. Dr. Bajwa indicated she may have added that note to the file during a subsequent telephone conversation with Patient A's mother on or about June 25, 2003, and that she advised Patient A's mother at that time of her plan for laboratory testing and a follow-up visit. Patient

A's mother denied receiving instructions for a follow-up visit for Patient A, and disputed that Dr. Bajwa ordered laboratory work or requested previous records.

3. Dr. Bajwa has violated Sections 54.1-2915(3) [formerly 54.1-2915.A(3)], as further defined in Section 54.1-2914.A(8) of the Code, in that she failed to adequately respond to Patient A during an adrenal crisis. Specifically:

a. Patient A's mother contacted Dr. Bajwa by telephone in late July and, upon Dr. Bajwa's inquiry of Patient A's status, reported that Patient A was losing weight, was unfocused, and was not as well as when he had seen Dr. Bajwa on June 11, 2003. Patient A's mother stated that she notified Dr. Bajwa that Patient A was not taking Cortef with the medication Dr. Bajwa prescribed. Dr. Bajwa failed to assess Patient A or to perform laboratory tests to determine his adrenal status at that time. Dr. Bajwa does not have a recollection of speaking to Patient A's mother by telephone in late July 2003.

b. On Sunday, August 10, 2003, Patient A's mother contacted Dr. Bajwa by telephone to report that Patient A was vomiting and febrile. Dr. Bajwa recommended that Patient A take his usual dose of Cytozyme, and that his mother elevate his legs and take his blood pressure. Later the same day, Patient A's mother informed Dr. Bajwa that Patient A was not improving. Dr. Bajwa called in a prescription for Cytomel, instructed Patient A's mother to administer one Cytomel tablet and Cortef to Patient A, and to observe him further. Dr. Bajwa failed to

recommend appropriate, emergent action based upon the report of his condition by Patient A's mother.

c. Patient A's family transported him to the emergency department of Potomac Hospital, Woodbridge, Virginia ("Potomac Hospital"), on the evening of August 10, 2003, after his symptoms indicated that he may be in adrenal crisis, and Patient A's mother was unable to contact Dr. Bajwa further. Patient A was diagnosed with dehydration, hyperkalemia, hyponatremia, and renal insufficiency, and was admitted to Potomac Hospital.

4. Dr. Bajwa has violated Sections 54.1-2915(3) [formerly 54.1-2915.A(3)], as further defined in Section 54.1-2914.A(8) of the Code, in that she failed to accurately document her treatment of Patient A. Specifically:

a. Dr. Bajwa did not document her complete physical examination of Patient A on June 11, 2003, and incorrectly recorded the date as June 10, 2003.

b. Dr. Bajwa's records for Patient A do not contain a written record of a telephone conversation with Patient A's mother in late July 2003, when Patient A's mother stated she informed Dr. Bajwa that Patient A was not taking Cortef with the other prescribed medications.

c. Dr. Bajwa's records for Patient A do not contain a written record of any telephone conversation with Patient A's mother on Sunday, August 10, 2003, the day on which more than one substantive conversation occurred, and on which Patient A was admitted to Potomac Hospital.

CONSENT

I, Manjit Bajwa, M.D., by affixing my signature hereto, acknowledge that:

1. I have been advised specifically to seek the advice of counsel prior to signing this document and am represented by Thomas M. Hogan, Esquire;
2. I am fully aware that without my consent, no legal action can be taken against me, except pursuant to the Virginia Administrative Process Act, § 2.2-4000.A et seq. of the Code of Virginia;
3. I have the following rights, among others:
 - a. the right to an informal conference before the Board;
 - b. the right to representation by counsel; and
 - c. the right to cross-examine witnesses against me.
4. I waive all rights to an informal conference;
5. I neither admit nor deny the truth of the above Findings of Fact, but agree not to contest them at any future proceeding before the Board; and
6. I consent to the following Order affecting my license to practice medicine in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

ORDER

WHEREFORE, based on the foregoing Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, and with the consent of the licensee, it is hereby ORDERED that Manjit Bajwa, M.D., be issued a REPRIMAND, and subject to the following terms and conditions:

1. Within nine (9) months of entry of this Consent Order, Dr. Bajwa shall successfully complete a Board approved course or courses of at least eight (8) hours, in the subject of endocrinology with an emphasis on adrenal and thyroid diseases. The course(s) shall be approved in advance of registration by the Executive Director of the Board. Any continuing education hours obtained for the requirement of license renewal shall not be used towards compliance with this term.

2. Within nine (9) months of entry of this Consent Order, Dr. Bajwa shall successfully complete a Board approved course in the subject of medical recordkeeping. The course shall be approved in advance of registration by the Executive Director of the Board. Any continuing education hours obtained for the requirement of license renewal shall not be used towards compliance with this term.

3. Upon receipt of verification that Dr. Bajwa has complied with Terms #1 and 2, the Committee authorizes the Executive Director of the Board to close this matter, or refer the matter to an informal conference for final determination.

Violation of this Consent Order shall constitute grounds for the suspension or revocation of the license of Dr. Bajwa. In the event Dr. Bajwa violates any of the terms and conditions of this Consent Order, a formal administrative hearing shall be convened to determine whether her license shall be revoked.

Pursuant to Section 54.1-2400.2(F) of the Code, the signed original of this Consent Order shall remain in the custody of the Department of Health Professions as a public record and shall be made available for public inspection and copying upon request.

FOR THE BOARD:

William L. Harp, M.D.
William L. Harp, M.D.
Executive Director
Virginia Board of Medicine

1/6/05
ENTERED

SEEN AND AGREED TO:

Manjit Bajwa, M.D.
Manjit Bajwa, M.D.

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA
COUNTY/CITY OF Fairfax TO WIT:

Subscribed and sworn to before me, the undersigned Notary Public, in and for the Commonwealth of Virginia, at large, this 30th day of December, 2004, by Manjit Bajwa, M.D.

[Signature]
Notary Public

My commission expires: 1/31/2008



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Robert A. Nebiker
Director

Department of Health Professions

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July 28, 2005

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Manjit R. Bajwa, M.D.
6391 Little River Turnpike
Alexandria, Virginia 22312

CERTIFIED MAIL

7160 3901 9848 8724 0067

RE: License No.: 0101-023754

Dear Dr. Bajwa:

The Virginia Board of Medicine ("Board") has received a report from the Compliance Division regarding your compliance with the terms of the Board's Order entered January 6, 2005.

A review of this report indicates that you attended the *American Association of Clinical Endocrinologist 14th Annual Meeting and Clinical Congress*, which was approved by the Board, and obtained 31.5 hours of continuing medical education as required by Term #1. Further, you completed a Board approved course entitled "*Medical Record-Keeping Course*" sponsored by the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario on June 3, 2005.

Therefore, based on receipt of this information your full compliance with the Order has been noted and this matter has been closed effective this date.

Pursuant to §54.1-2400.2 (F) of the *Code of Virginia*, a signed copy of this letter shall remain in the custody of the Department of Health Professions as a public record, and shall be made available for public inspection and copying upon request.

The Board wishes you well in your future endeavors.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "William L. Harp, M.D.", with a stylized flourish at the end.

William L. Harp, M.D.
Executive Director
Virginia Board of Medicine

Closure Letter-Dr. Bajwa
July 28, 2005
Page #2

cc: Reneé S. Dixon, Discipline Case Manager [103437]
Administrative Assistant, Board of Medicine
Debra Hay-Pierce, Compliance Case Manager
Melony Johnson, APD