STATE OF TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

IN THE MATTER OF:)	BEFORE THE TENNESSEE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS
IMRAN MIRZA, M.D.)	
RESPONDENT)	DOCKET NO: 17.18-241218A
)	
MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE)	
TENNESSEE LICENSE NO. 35471)	

AGREED ORDER

Comes now the Division of Health Related Boards of the Tennessee Department of Health (the "Department"), by and through the Office of General Counsel, and Respondent, Imran Mirza, M.D. ("Respondent"), who would respectfully move the Tennessee Board of Medical Examiners (the "Board") for approval of this Agreed Order affecting Respondent's medical license in the State of Tennessee.

The Board is responsible for the regulation and supervision of medical doctors licensed to practice in the State of Tennessee. See Tennessee Medical Practice Act, TENN. CODE ANN. § 63-6-101, et seq. It is the policy of the Board to require strict compliance with the laws of this State, and to apply the laws so as to preserve the quality of medical care provided in Tennessee. It is the duty and responsibility of the Board to enforce the Tennessee Medical Practice Act in such a manner as to promote and protect public health, safety, and welfare in every practicable way, including disciplining medical doctors who violate the provisions of TENN. CODE ANN. § 63-6-101, et seq. or the Rules and Regulations promulgated by the Board and recorded in the Official Compilation Rules and Regulations of the State of Tennessee ("TENN. COMP. R. & REGS.").

Respondent, Imran Mirza, M.D., by his signature to this Agreed Order, waives the right to a contested case hearing and any and all rights to judicial review in this matter. Respondent agrees

that presentation to and consideration of this Agreed Order by the Board for ratification and all matters divulged during that process shall not constitute unfair disclosure such that the Board or any of its members shall be prejudiced to the extent that requires their disqualification from hearing this matter should this Order not be ratified. Likewise, all matters, admissions, and statements disclosed or exchanged during the attempted ratification process shall not be used against Respondent in any subsequent proceeding unless independently entered into evidence or introduced as admissions.

Respondent expressly waives all further procedural steps and expressly waives all rights to seek judicial review of or to challenge or contest the validity of this Agreed Order. Respondent understands that by signing this Agreed Order, Respondent is allowing the Board to issue its order without further process. Respondent acknowledges that this is a formal disciplinary action and will be reported to the National Practitioner Data Bank and/ or a similar agency. In the event that the Board rejects this Agreed Order for any reason, it will be of no force or effect for either party.

I. STIPULATIONS OF FACT

- 1. Respondent has been at all times pertinent hereto licensed by the Board as a medical doctor in the State of Tennessee, having first been granted Tennessee medical license number 35471 by the Board of Medical Examiners on June 19, 2001, which has a current expiration date of November 30, 2025.
- The Department conducted an investigation that included the review of nine (9) of the patient records prepared and kept by Respondent for care provided until about November 30, 2019.
- 3. During the relevant time, Respondent provided treatment to multiple patients as an

- internal medicine physician at Getwell Family Medicine in Memphis, Tennessee.
- The Department contends that Respondent's prescribing practices included instances where narcotics, benzodiazepines, and other medications and controlled substances for durations not advisable for a diagnosed condition.
- 5. The Department contends that Respondent prescribed controlled substances and other medication at times without documenting a complete history, the performance of a comprehensive physical, or the making of a new or confirming a current diagnosis which justified a need for opioid medications.
- 6. The Department contends that there were instances where Respondent's charting was handwritten and likely illegible to third parties and failed to show appropriate medical decision making for the controlled substances prescribed to his patients.
- 7. The Department contends that Respondent prescribed controlled substances and other medications at times without documenting a written treatment plan with regard to the use of controlled substances and other medications.
- 8. The Department contends that there were instances where Respondent's patient charts have minimal medical details, and the charting has no evidence of continuity of patient care.
- 9. The Department contends that Respondent failed at times to provide at periodic intervals alternate modalities of treatment other than the prescription of controlled substances.
- 10. The Department contends that Respondent failed at times to adequately document counseling of patients regarding anomalous urine drug screens.
- While Respondent acknowledges his some of his handwritten charting was likely illegible to third parties, and certain aspects of care provided and communications were not clearly

documented, Respondent contends his care met the applicable standard of care at the time the care was provided.

II. GROUNDS FOR DISCIPLINE

The facts stipulated to in the Stipulations of Fact are sufficient to establish that grounds for discipline of Respondent's medical license exist. Specifically, Respondent has violated the following statutes or rules which are part of the Tennessee Medical Practice Act, (TENN. CODE ANN. § 63-6-101, et seq.) for which disciplinary action before and by the Board is authorized:

12. The facts stipulated in paragraphs two (2) through eleven (11), *supra*, constitute a violation of TENN. CODE ANN. § 63-6-214(b)(1):

Unprofessional conduct.

13. The facts stipulated in paragraphs two (2) through eleven (11), *supra*, constitute a violation of TENN. CODE ANN. § 63-6-214(b)(12):

Dispensing, prescribing or otherwise distributing any controlled substance . . . for durations not . . . advisable for a diagnosed condition.

- 14. The facts stipulated in paragraphs two (2) through eleven (11), *supra*, constitute a violation of TENN. COMP. R. & REG. RULE 0880-2-.14 (6)(e): which authorizes disciplinary action against a Respondent who prescribes, orders, administers or dispenses controlled substances without observing Board guidelines.
- 15. The facts stipulated in paragraphs one (1) through eighteen (18), supra, constitute a violation of TENN. COMP. R. & REG. RULE 0880-2-.14 (7)(a):
 - Except as provided in subparagraph (b), it shall be a prima facie violation of T.C.A. § 63-6-214 (b) (1), (4), and (12) for a physician to prescribe or dispense any drug to any individual, whether in person or by electronic means or over the Internet or over telephone lines, unless the physician, or his/her licensed supervisee pursuant to appropriate protocols

or medical orders, has first done and appropriately documented, for the person to whom a prescription is to be issued or drugs dispensed, all of the following:

- 1. Performed an appropriate history and physical examination; and
- 2. Made a diagnosis based upon the examinations and all diagnostic and laboratory tests consistent with good medical care; and
- 3. Formulated a therapeutic plan, and discussed it, along with the basis for it and the risks and benefits of various treatments options, a part of which might be the prescription or dispensed drug, with the patient.

III. POLICY STATEMENT

The Tennessee Board of Medical Examiners takes this action in order to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of the State of Tennessee by ensuring that physicians follow all legal and ethical requirements for prescribing and dispensing controlled medications and maintain appropriate medical records.

IV. ORDER

NOW THEREFORE, Respondent, for the purpose of avoiding further administrative action with respect to this cause, agrees to the following:

- 16. The Tennessee medical license of Imran Mirza, M.D., license number 35471, is hereby **REPRIMANDED**.
- 17. Respondent must enroll in and successfully complete, within ninety (90) days of the entry of this Order, the following course:
 - a. The three-day medical course entitled, *Prescribing Controlled Drugs* offered by Vanderbilt University Medical Center or an equivalent course approved in

- advance in writing by the Board's Medical Director.
- b. Within thirty (30) days after completion of such course, Respondent shall mail or deliver proof of compliance with this course requirement to: Disciplinary Coordinator, The Division of Health Related Boards, Tennessee Department of Health, 665 Mainstream Drive, Tennessee 37243.
- c. Any Continuing Medical Education ("CME") course hours earned from attendance and completion of the course required by this paragraph shall be in addition to the CME hours required to maintain licensure.
- 18. Beginning August 30, 2024, Respondent shall not prescribe opioids for a period of at least six (6) months (the "Covered Period").
 - Respondent shall not collaborate with any advanced practice registered nurses or physician assistants for issuing opioids during the Covered Period.
 - b. At the expiration of the six (6) month Covered Period, Respondent may petition the Board to lift the restriction on prescribing opioids on his license, imposed by this Order.
 - c. Prior to petitioning the Board to lift the restriction on prescribing opioids, the Respondent must complete the following course:
 - Documentation offered at The Case Western Reserve University
 Continuing Medical Education Program at The Case Western Reserve
 University School of Medicine located in Cleveland, Ohio, or an equivalent course pre-approved by the Board's Consultant.
 - ii) Within thirty (30) days after completion of such course, Respondent shall

mail or deliver proof of compliance with this course requirement to:

Disciplinary Coordinator, The Division of Health Related Boards,

Tennessee Department of Health, 665 Mainstream Drive, Tennessee

37243.

- iii) Any Continuing Medical Education ("CME") course hours earned from attendance and completion of the course required by this paragraph shall be in addition to the CME hours required to maintain licensure.
- 19. Within thirty (30) days of entry of this Order, Respondent must submit proof to the Board that he has notified any physician, podiatrist, advanced practice registered nurse, or physician assistant with whom he collaborates of the discipline in this Order.
- 20. Respondent is assessed and must pay, pursuant to TENN. CODE ANN. § 63-6-214 and TENN. COMP. R. & REG. RULE 0880-02-.12(1)(h), one (1) Type "A" Civil Penalty, in the amount of one thousand dollars (\$1,000), for a total Civil Penalty of One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00).
- REG. RULE 0880-02-.12(1)(j), the actual and reasonable costs of prosecuting this case to the extent allowed by law, including all costs assessed against the Board by the Division's Bureau of Investigations in connection with the prosecution of this matter. These costs will be established by an Assessment of Costs prepared and filed by counsel for the Division. The maximum amount for the assessment of costs shall be **Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars** (\$25,000.00).
- Respondent understands that this is a formal disciplinary action and will be reported to the National Practitioner Data Bank (N.P.D.B.) and/or similar agency.

IV. NOTICE

Any and all civil penalties and costs shall be paid in full within three (3) years from the issuance of the Assessment of Costs. Payment shall be made by certified check, cashier's check, or money order, payable to the State of Tennessee, Department of Health. Payment by personal or business check will not be accepted. Any and all payments shall be forwarded to the Disciplinary Coordinator, The Division of Health Related Boards, Tennessee Department of Health, 665 Mainstream Drive, Nashville, Tennessee 37243. A notation shall be placed on all disciplinary terms, including CEs, civil penalties, and cost payments, which includes Imran Mirza, M.D., Case No. 2018045171/Docket No. 17.18-241218A.

Chairperson

Tennessee Board of Medical Examiners

APPROVED FOR ENTRY:

Imran Mirza, M.D.

Respondent

Tennessee License Number 35471

6/5/2024 DATE

Justin Joy (B.P.R #23722) Attorney for Respondent

40 South Main Street, Suite 2900 Memphis, Tennessee 38103

(901) 525-8721

6-5-24 DATE

Justin C. Harleman (B.P.R. #40071) Senior Associate General Counsel Office of General Counsel Tennessee Department of Health 665 Mainstream Drive, 2nd Floor Nashville, Tennessee 37243 (615) 532-8975 6/10/2024 DATE

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The undersigned hereby certifies that a true and correct copy of the foregoing has been served upon Respondent, Imran Mirza, M.D., through his attorney, Justin Joy, Esq., 40 S. Main St., Suite 2900, Memphis, Tennessee 38103-5529, by certified mail number 9589 0710 5270 0998 1052 58 ______, return receipt requested and by regular mail, with sufficient postage thereon to reach its destination; as well as being sent via email to jjoy@lewisthomason.com.

This 31st day of July, 2024.

Justin C. Harleman

Assistant General Counsel

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Tennessee Department of Health