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BEFORE THE ARIZONA MEDICAL BOARD

In the Matter of
PARESH GOEL, M.D.
Holder of License No. 44344
For the Practice of Allopathic Medicine
In the State of Arizona.

Case No. MD-17-0860A
**ORDER FOR LETTER OF REPRIMAND
AND PROBATION; AND CONSENT TO
THE SAME**

Paresh Goel, M.D. ("Respondent") elects to permanently waive any right to a hearing and appeal with respect to this Order for Letter of Reprimand and Probation; admits the jurisdiction of the Arizona Medical Board ("Board"); and consents to the entry of this Order by the Board.

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. The Board is the duly constituted authority for the regulation and control of the practice of allopathic medicine in the State of Arizona.
2. Respondent is the holder of license number 44344 for the practice of allopathic medicine in the State of Arizona.
3. The Board initiated case number MD-17-0860A after receiving notification from the Board's Physician Health Program ("PHP") Contractor that Respondent had violated a Stipulated Rehabilitation Agreement for diagnostic monitoring previously entered into on April 7, 2017.
4. The PHP Contractor submitted a report stating that Respondent tested positive for controlled substances on August 31, 2017 and was not safe to practice medicine until completion of an Intensive Diagnostic Evaluation at a Board-approved facility.
5. On September 5, 2017, Respondent entered into an Interim Consent Agreement for Practice Restriction ("Practice Restriction"). Respondent subsequently

1 presented for an evaluation and was admitted for treatment at a Board-approved facility.
2 Respondent was discharged with staff approval on December 21, 2017.

3 6. Respondent subsequently met with the PHP Contractor who agreed that
4 Respondent is safe to practice medicine, provided that Respondent enter into a five (5)
5 year Interim Consent Agreement for PHP Participation.

6 7. On January 22, 2018, Respondent entered into an Interim Consent
7 Agreement for PHP participation and the Practice Restriction was vacated on January 23,
8 2018.

9 8. Respondent is in compliance with the terms of his PHP monitoring.

10 11 **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

12 a. The Board possesses jurisdiction over the subject matter hereof and over
13 Respondent.

14 b. The conduct and circumstances described above constitute unprofessional
15 conduct pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-1401(27)(f) ("A pattern of using or being under the
16 influence of alcohol or drugs or a similar substance while practicing medicine or to the
17 extent that judgment may be impaired and the practice of medicine detrimentally
18 affected.").

19 c. The conduct and circumstances described above constitute unprofessional
20 conduct pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-1401(27)(r) ("Violating a formal order, probation, consent
21 agreement or stipulation issued or entered into by the board or its executive director under
22 the provisions of this chapter.").

1 **ORDER**

2 IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

3 1. Respondent is issued a Letter of Reprimand.

4 2. Respondent is placed on Probation for a period of 5 years¹ with the following
5 terms and conditions:

6 3. Respondent shall not consume alcohol or any food or other substance
7 containing poppy seeds or alcohol.

8 4. Respondent shall not take any illegal drugs or mood altering medications
9 unless prescribed for a legitimate therapeutic purpose.

10 5. Respondent shall continue to participate in any personalized aftercare
11 programs or activities. Respondent shall report on those activities as requested by the
12 PHP, including executing any releases necessary to allow the PHP to monitor his
13 participation and communicate directly with and obtain records from the treating providers
14 for those aftercare activities. Respondent shall be responsible for all costs of aftercare,
15 including costs associated with compliance of this Board Order.

16 6. Respondent shall promptly obtain a Primary Care Physician ("PCP") and
17 shall submit the name of the physician to the PHP Contractor in writing for approval.
18 Except in an Emergency, Respondent shall obtain medical care and treatment only from
19 the PCP and from health care providers to whom the PCP refers Respondent. Respondent
20 shall promptly provide a copy of this Order to the PCP. Respondent shall also inform all
21 other health care providers who provide medical care or treatment that Respondent is
22 participating in the PHP. "Emergency" means a serious accident or sudden illness that, if
23 not treated immediately, may result in a long-term medical problem or loss of life.

24 _____
25 ¹ Respondent's probation shall be retroactive to January 22, 2018.

1 7. All prescriptions for controlled substances shall be approved by the PHP
2 Contractor prior to being filled except in an Emergency. Controlled substances prescribed
3 and filled in an emergency shall be reported to the PHP within 48 hours. Respondent shall
4 take no Medication unless the PCP or other health care provider to whom the PCP refers
5 Respondent prescribes and the PHP Contractor approves the Medication. Respondent
6 shall not self-prescribe any Medication. "Medication" means a prescription-only drug,
7 controlled substance, and over-the counter preparation, other than plain aspirin, plain
8 ibuprofen, and plain acetaminophen.

9 8. Respondent shall submit to random biological fluid, hair and/or nail testing for
10 the remainder of this Order (as specifically directed below) to ensure compliance with the
11 PHP.

12 9. Respondent shall provide the PHP Contractor in writing with one telephone
13 number that shall be used to contact Respondent on a 24 hour per day/seven day per
14 week basis to submit to biological fluid, hair, and/or nail testing to ensure compliance with
15 the PHP. For the purposes of this section, telephonic notice shall be deemed given at the
16 time a message to appear is left at the contact telephone number provided by
17 Respondent. Respondent authorizes any person or organization conducting tests on the
18 collected samples to provide testing results to the PHP Contractor. Respondent shall
19 comply with all requirements for biological fluid, hair, and/or nail collection. Respondent
20 shall pay for all costs for the testing.

21 10. Respondent shall provide the PHP Contractor with written notice of any plans
22 to travel out of state.

23 11. Respondent shall immediately notify the Board and the PHP Contractor in
24 writing of any change in office or home addresses and telephone numbers.

25

1 12. Respondent provides full consent for the PHP Contractor to discuss the
2 Respondent's case with the Respondent's PCP or any other health care providers to
3 ensure compliance with the PHP.

4 13. The relationship between the Respondent and the PHP Contractor is a direct
5 relationship. Respondent shall not use an attorney or other intermediary to communicate
6 with the PHP Contractor on participation and compliance issues. All inquiries must be
7 directed to Board staff.

8 14. Respondent shall be responsible for all costs, including costs associated with
9 participating in the PHP, at the time service is rendered or within 30 days of each invoice
10 sent to the Respondent. An initial deposit of two (2) months PHP fees is due upon
11 entering the program. Failure to pay either the initial PHP deposit or monthly fees 60 days
12 after invoicing will be reported to the Board by the PHP Contractor and may result in
13 disciplinary action.

14 15. Respondent shall appear in person before with the PHP Contractor for
15 interviews upon request, upon reasonable notice.

16 16. Respondent shall immediately provide a copy of this Order to all employers,
17 hospitals and free standing surgery centers where Respondent currently has or in the
18 future gains or applies for employment or privileges. Within 30 days of the date of this
19 Order, Respondent shall provide the PHP with a signed statement of compliance with this
20 notification requirement. Respondent is further required to notify, in writing, all employers,
21 hospitals and free standing surgery centers where Respondent currently has or in the
22 future gains or applies for employment or privileges of a violation of this Order.

23 17. In the event Respondent resides or practices as a physician in a state other
24 than Arizona, Respondent shall participate in the rehabilitation program sponsored by that
25 state's medical licensing authority or medical society. Respondent shall cause the

1 monitoring state's program to provide written quarterly reports to the PHP Contractor
2 regarding Respondent's attendance, participation, and monitoring. The monitoring state's
3 program and Respondent shall immediately notify the PHP Contractor if Respondent is
4 non-compliant with any aspect of the monitoring requirements or is required to undergo
5 any additional treatment.

6 18. The PHP Contractor shall immediately notify the Board if Respondent is non-
7 compliant with any aspect of this Order or is required to undergo any additional treatment.

8 19. In the event of a chemical dependency relapse by Respondent or
9 Respondent's use of controlled substances or alcohol in violation of this Order,
10 Respondent shall promptly enter into an Interim Consent Agreement for Practice
11 Restriction that requires, among other things, that Respondent not practice medicine until
12 such time as Respondent successfully completes long-term inpatient treatment designated
13 by the PHP Contractor and obtains affirmative approval from the Executive Director, in
14 consultation with the Lead Board Member and Chief Medical Consultant, to return to the
15 practice of medicine. Prior to approving Respondent's request to return to the practice of
16 medicine, Respondent may be required to undergo any combination of physical
17 examinations, psychiatric or psychological evaluations. In no respect shall the terms of this
18 paragraph restrict the Board's authority to initiate and taken disciplinary action for any
19 violation of this Order.

20 20. Respondent shall obey all state, federal and local laws, all rules governing
21 the practice of medicine in Arizona, and remain in full compliance with any court ordered
22 criminal probation, payments and other orders.

23 21. Prior to the termination of Probation, Respondent must submit a written
24 request to the Board for release from the terms of this Order. Respondent's request for
25 release will be placed on the next pending Board agenda, provided a complete submission

1 is received by Board staff no less than 30 days prior to the Board meeting. Respondent's
2 request for release must provide the Board with evidence establishing that she has
3 successfully satisfied all of the terms and conditions of this Order. The Board has the sole
4 discretion to determine whether all of the terms and conditions of this Order have been
5 met or whether to take any other action that is consistent with its statutory and regulatory
6 authority.

7 22. This Order supersedes any and all Consent Agreements previously entered
8 into by Respondent and the Board regarding this matter.

9 23. The Board retains jurisdiction and may initiate new action against
10 Respondent based upon any violation of this Order. A.R.S. § 32-1401(27)(r).

11 DATED AND EFFECTIVE this 14th day of June, 2018.

12 ARIZONA MEDICAL BOARD

13
14 By Patricia E. McSorley
15 Patricia E. McSorley
16 Executive Director

17 **CONSENT TO ENTRY OF ORDER**

18 1. Respondent has read and understands this Consent Agreement and the
19 stipulated Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order ("Order"). Respondent
20 acknowledges he has the right to consult with legal counsel regarding this matter.

21 2. Respondent acknowledges and agrees that this Order is entered into freely
22 and voluntarily and that no promise was made or coercion used to induce such entry.

23 3. By consenting to this Order, Respondent voluntarily relinquishes any rights to
24 a hearing or judicial review in state or federal court on the matters alleged, or to challenge
25 this Order in its entirety as issued by the Board, and waives any other cause of action
related thereto or arising from said Order.

1 4. The Order is not effective until approved by the Board and signed by its
2 Executive Director.

3 5. All admissions made by Respondent are solely for final disposition of this
4 matter and any subsequent related administrative proceedings or civil litigation involving
5 the Board and Respondent. Therefore, said admissions by Respondent are not intended
6 or made for any other use, such as in the context of another state or federal government
7 regulatory agency proceeding, civil or criminal court proceeding, in the State of Arizona or
8 any other state or federal court.

9 6. Upon signing this agreement, and returning this document (or a copy thereof)
10 to the Board's Executive Director, Respondent may not revoke the consent to the entry of
11 the Order. Respondent may not make any modifications to the document. Any
12 modifications to this original document are ineffective and void unless mutually approved
13 by the parties.

14 7. This Order is a public record that will be publicly disseminated as a formal
15 disciplinary action of the Board and will be reported to the National Practitioner's Data
16 Bank and on the Board's web site as a disciplinary action.

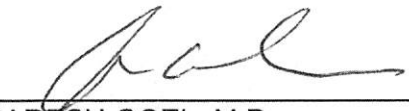
17 8. If any part of the Order is later declared void or otherwise unenforceable, the
18 remainder of the Order in its entirety shall remain in force and effect.

19 9. If the Board does not adopt this Order, Respondent will not assert as a
20 defense that the Board's consideration of the Order constitutes bias, prejudice,
21 prejudgment or other similar defense.

22 10. Any violation of this Order constitutes unprofessional conduct and may result
23 in disciplinary action. A.R.S. § § 32-1401(27)(r) ("[v]iolating a formal order, probation,
24 consent agreement or stipulation issued or entered into by the board or its executive
25 director under this chapter.") and 32-1451.

1 11. Respondent acknowledges that, pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-2501(16), he
2 cannot act as a supervising physician for a physician assistant while his license is on
3 probation.

4 12. ***Respondent has read and understands the conditions of Probation.***

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8 PARESH GOEL, M.D.

DATED: 5/15/2018

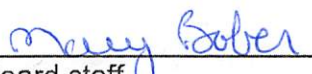
9 EXECUTED COPY of the foregoing mailed
10 this 14th day of June, 2018 to:

11 Paresh Goel, M.D.
12 Address of Record

13 Attorney for Respondent

14 ORIGINAL of the foregoing filed
15 this 14th day of June, 2018 with:

16 Arizona Medical Board
17 1740 West Adams, Suite 4000
18 Phoenix, Arizona 85007

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20 _____
21 Board staff

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