

## WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES



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STATE OF WISCONSIN  
BEFORE THE MEDICAL EXAMINING BOARD

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IN THE MATTER OF THE DISCIPLINARY	:	
PROCEEDINGS AGAINST	:	
	:	FINAL DECISION AND ORDER
GOPE HOTCHANDANI, M.D.,	:	<b>ORDER 0001966</b>
RESPONDENT.	:	

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Division of Enforcement Case No. 11MED197

The parties to this action for the purposes of Wis. Stat. § 227.53 are:

Gope Hotchandani, M.D.  
2771 Ramada Way  
Green Bay, WI 54304

Division of Enforcement  
Department of Safety and Professional Services  
1400 East Washington Avenue  
P.O. Box 8935  
Madison, WI 53708-8935

Wisconsin Medical Examining Board  
Department of Safety and Professional Services  
1400 East Washington Avenue  
P.O. Box 8935  
Madison, WI 53708-8935

The parties in this matter agree to the terms and conditions of the attached Stipulation as the final decision of this matter, subject to the approval of the Medical Examining Board. The Board has reviewed this Stipulation and considers it acceptable.

Accordingly, the Board adopts the attached Stipulation and makes the following:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Gope Hotchandani, M.D., Respondent, date of birth September 2, 1947, is licensed and currently registered by the Wisconsin Medical Examining Board to practice medicine and surgery in the state of Wisconsin pursuant to license number 41587-20, which was first granted August 27, 1999.

2. The Respondent's last address reported to the Department of Safety and Professional Services is 2771 Ramada Way, Green Bay, Wisconsin, 54304.

3. At the time of the events set forth below, the Respondent provided services as a physician at Hotchandani Laser Vein Cosmetic Surgery, Green Bay, Wisconsin. The Respondent is board certified in general surgery.

4. On June 28, 2007, an 18 year old female Patient A, who had Fitzpatrick VI skin type, presented to Respondent for possible facial hair removal by laser treatment. Respondent advised the patient that he had special laser equipment that could be used on her skin type. After consultation, Respondent performed the facial hair removal by Apogee Elite Laser System (1064 nm wavelength) treatment on that date. Respondent recommended a sun screen for protection of the facial skin.

5. On July 1, 2007, Patient A presented at the Aurora Health Center's Emergency Department with complaints of blisters and swelling on the right cheek. Patient A was prescribed oral steroids and topical Hydrocortisone. Patient A was diagnosed with thermal energy burn to the right face and was referred for possible plastic surgery.

6. On July 2, 2007, Patient A called Respondent's office and was advised to continue the oral steroids for swelling and to use Neosporin instead of the prescribed topical Hydrocortisone for more effective scar prevention and pigmentation changes. Patient A cancelled the July 3, 2007 follow-up appointment with Respondent.

7. On July 3, 2007, Patient A presented at Bay Care Clinic for evaluation by a plastic surgeon. Patient A continued treatments with the plastic surgeon through February 28, 2011, for the right facial burn and permanent scarring.

8. Respondent offers that he should have minimized chances of this complication by lowering energy levels and using a wider pulse width, especially since the time of treatment occurred in the summer.

9. Since this event, Respondent voluntarily ceased hair removal services for patients with Fitzpatrick VI skin type.

10. Respondent's conduct as set forth above fell below the minimum standards in the medical profession in that he failed to properly perform the facial hair removal by laser procedure for a Fitzpatrick VI skin type resulting in the unacceptable risk of burns to the patient's face on the right side.

11. Respondent's conduct as herein described tended to constitute a danger to the health, welfare and safety of Patient A.

#### CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The Wisconsin Medical Examining Board has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 448.02(3), and has authority to enter into this stipulated resolution of this matter pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 227.44(5).

2. Respondent conduct as set forth in paragraph 10 above constitutes a violation of Wis. Stat. § 448.02 (3) and Wis. Admin. Code § Med 10.02(2) (h).

ORDER

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the attached Stipulation of the parties is accepted.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Gope Hotchandani, M.D. is hereby REPRIMANDED.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the license of Gope Hotchandani, M.D. to practice medicine and surgery in the State of Wisconsin shall be LIMITED with the following restrictions:

1. Gope Hotchandani, M.D. shall not, at any time in the future, perform any laser hair removal procedures on individuals with Fitzpatrick VI skin type.
2. Gope Hotchandani, M.D. may petition the Board for removal of this limitation on the following conditions:
  - a. Respondent shall provide proof sufficient to the Board that he has completed four (4) hours of additional training in the use of laser procedures for hair removal in patients with Fitzpatrick VI skin type and satisfy the Board that he may safely resume laser procedures on this skin type.
  - b. Whether to remove the limitation on the license of Gope Hotchandani, M.D. shall be within the sole discretion of the Board.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that:

3. Respondent shall within 90 days of this Order pay costs of this proceeding in the amount of Nine Hundred forty five (\$945.00) dollars. Payment shall be made to the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services, and mailed to:

Department Monitor  
Division of Enforcement  
Department of Safety and Professional Services  
P.O. Box 8935  
Madison, WI 53708-8935  
Telephone (608) 267-3817  
Fax (608) 266-2264

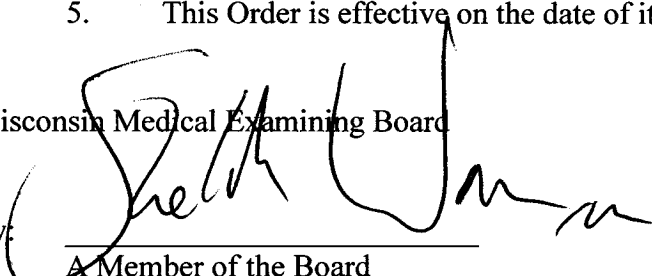
4. Violation of any terms of this Order may be construed as conduct imperiling public health, safety and welfare and may result in a summary suspension of Respondent's license. The Board in its discretion may in the alternative impose additional conditions and limitations or other additional discipline for a violation of any of the terms of this Order. In the

event Respondent fails to timely submit payment of the costs as ordered, Respondent's license (No. 41587-20) may, in the discretion of the board or its designee, be SUSPENDED, without further notice or hearing, until Respondent has complied with payment of the costs.

5. This Order is effective on the date of its signing.

Wisconsin Medical Examining Board

By:

  
A Member of the Board

8/15/12  
Date

11MED197/Hotchandani/STACH/MC/07-16-12 revised