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STATE OF WISCONSIN
BEFORE THE MEDICAL EXAMINING BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF
THE INVESTIGATION OF

YOUNG LEE, M.D.,

Licensee

MEMORANDUM AND ORDER ON SETTLEMENT CONFERENCE

TO: Paul H. Robinson
Attorney at Law
Gunderson Clinic, Ltd.
1836 South Avenue
La Crosse, WI 54601

Pamela M. Stach
Attorney at Law
1400 East Washington Avenue
P.O. Box 8935
Madison, WI 53708

An informal settlement conference was conducted in the above-captioned matter before an informal settlement conference committee of the Medical Examining Board on November 18, 1992. The purpose of the conference was to provide interested parties with an opportunity to discuss allegations received pertaining to the practice of Dr. Lee as a physician, and to attempt to reach a fair and consensual resolution of the matter.

The committee consisted of Drs. Rudolfo Molina and Michael P. Mehr. Dr. Lee appeared in person and by Attorney Paul H. Robinson. Others present included Wayne Austin, the board's legal counsel, and Pamela M. Stach, attorney for the Department of Regulation & Licensing, Division of Enforcement.

The parties orally presented their respective positions regarding the matter to the committee, and the committee deliberated on a possible disposition of the matter. The committee thereafter presented a proposed Stipulation for Dr. Lee's

consideration, a copy of which is attached hereto and made a part hereof. The Stipulation was ultimately executed by Dr. Lee, Mr. Robinson, Ms. Stach and Dr. Clark O. Olsen, board Secretary.

Based upon the proceedings at the conference, and upon the Stipulation of the parties, the board enters the following order.


ORDER

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED, based on the findings and conclusions in this case as set forth in the Stipulation of the parties hereto, that Dr. Lee be reprimanded, and that he complete at least 20 hours of continuing education in risk management in addition to continuing education otherwise required by Wis. Stats. sec. 448.13.

Dated this 27 day of May, 1993.

STATE OF WISCONSIN
MEDICAL EXAMINING BOARD

by _____


Clark O. Olsen, M.D.
Secretary

STATE OF WISCONSIN
BEFORE MEDICAL EXAMINING BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF
THE INVESTIGATION OF

YOUNG LEE, M.D.

Licensee

STIPULATION

Young Lee, M.D. (Dr. Lee), and the Medical Examining Board (board), having reached agreement on disposition of the informal complaint identified as 91 Med 206, agree and stipulate as follows:

1. This Stipulation shall be made a part of a Memorandum and Order on Settlement Conference to be issued by the board, and all terms of the Stipulation shall be binding on Dr. Lee as a part of the board's order.
2. This Stipulation and the board's order shall be placed in Dr. Lee's permanent file, and may be used if there are further complaints against him.
3. Dr. Lee is licensed to practice medicine and surgery in Wisconsin by license #20303, issued on August 24, 1976, and he resides at ~~1836 South Avenue~~, La Crosse, WI 54601. **W5858 Vista Drive**
4. On November 26, 1989, Patient RC, a 62 year old female, was admitted to Lutheran Hospital, La Crosse, Wisconsin, for a surgical procedure consisting of a total knee replacement.
5. Prior to the surgery, Patient RC notified three physicians involved with her care, including Dr. Lee, that she was allergic to morphine, and this information appeared in her medical chart.
6. Dr. Lee reviewed Patient RC's chart and spoke to the patient regarding epidural catheter insertion for pain relief. After taking her history, Dr. Lee reached the conclusion that Patient RC ~~was not in fact allergic to morphine.~~ **may be sensitive to narcotics, but did not have a true allergy to morphine.** Dr. Lee explained to Patient RC that he would be able to manage epidural morphine so as to strike a delicate balance between avoiding respiratory depression and sufficient pain relief to avoid aggravating her heart condition. Following a long discussion with Patient RC, Dr. Lee was under the impression that she had given him verbal consent to the administration of epidural morphine.
7. Approximately 20 minutes prior to surgery, Dr. Lee inserted an epidural catheter and injected 5 mg. of morphine sulfate into the catheter. No preoperative side-effects or problems with the administration of morphine were noted.

8. Following surgery, at approximately 10:50 a.m., Patient RC was complaining of pain. Demerol, 15.5 mg., was administered at 10:50 a.m., and again at 11:42 a.m. As the patient continued to complain of pain, Dr. Lee ordered an epidural morphine drip started at 11:35 a.m., at the rate of 0.2 mg. per hour.

9. At approximately 3:00 p.m., Patient RC experienced respiratory depression and apnea. The morphine drip was shut off and Narcan, a narcotic antagonist, was administered.

10. Dr. Lee did not have Patient RC's written informed consent to administer morphine to her, but believed he had her verbal consent.

11. The parties agree that to have administered morphine to Patient RC without her informed consent in a situation where the patient had previously experienced an adverse reaction to morphine constitutes negligence within the meaning of Wis. Stats. sec. 448.02(3).

12. The parties agree that appropriate discipline to be imposed is a reprimand and a requirement that Dr. Lee complete at least 20 hours of continuing education in risk management in addition to continuing education otherwise required by Wis. Stats. sec. 448.13.

Dated this 14th day of APRIL, 1993.

Young Lee, M.D.
Young Lee, M.D.

Dated this 14th day of APRIL, 1993.

Paul H. Robinson
Paul H. Robinson, Attorney for Dr. Lee

Dated this ___ day of _____, 1992.

Pamela M. Stach, Attorney, Division of Enforcement

Dated this 27 day of MAY, 1993.

STATE OF WISCONSIN MEDICAL EXAMINING BOARD

by Clark Olsen

~~Ann Neviasek~~ Secretary
Clark Olsen, M.D.

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