

# WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF REGULATION & LICENSING



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STATE OF WISCONSIN  
BEFORE THE MEDICAL EXAMINING BOARD

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In the Matter Of Disciplinary Proceedings Against :  
: FINAL DECISION AND ORDER  
MARGARET P. COCHRANE, M.D., :  
Respondent. : LS0405191MED

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

Margaret P. Cochrane, M.D.  
705 Cherokee Ave.  
St. Paul, MN 55107

Wisconsin Medical Examining Board  
P. O. Box 8935  
Madison, WI 53708-8935

Department of Regulation and Licensing  
Division of Enforcement  
P. O. Box 8935  
Madison, WI 53708-8935

The Wisconsin Medical Examining Board received a Stipulation submitted by the parties to the above-captioned matter. The Stipulation, a copy of which is attached hereto, was executed by Margaret P. Cochrane, M.D., personally on her own behalf, and by Arthur K. Thexton, attorney for the Department of Regulation and Licensing, Division of Enforcement. Based upon the Stipulation of the parties, the Wisconsin Medical Examining Board makes the following Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Order.

#### FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Margaret P. Cochrane, M.D., 705 Cherokee Ave., St. Paul, Minnesota, 55107, was born June 22, 1960, and is licensed to practice medicine in the State of Wisconsin license #20-36006, which was originally granted on September 23, 1994.
2. Since 1994, Dr. Cochrane has resided in and has practiced medicine in the State of Minnesota. Dr. Cochrane is a pathologist.
3. On January 10, 2004 Dr. Cochrane entered into a Stipulation and Order with the State of Minnesota Board of Medical Practice that reprimanded Dr. Cochrane.
4. The factual basis for the imposition of discipline against Dr. Cochrane in Minnesota involved: 1) Respondent mistakenly switched the breast needle core biopsy specimens of two patients. 2) Respondent evaluated Patient # 2's specimen and found evidence of malignancy. The Respondent thought that it was Patient # 1's specimen and therefore, mistakenly diagnosed Patient # 1 with breast cancer. 3) Patient # 1 underwent a bilateral mastectomy with reconstruction surgery although she did not have breast cancer. 4) Respondent failed to adequately check the specimen and accompanying identification material to prevent this type of error.
5. A true and correct copy of Minnesota's Stipulation and Order is attached to this document as Exhibit A. Exhibit A is incorporated into this document by reference.

#### CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The Wisconsin Medical Examining Board has jurisdiction to act in this matter, pursuant to Wis. Stats sec. 448.02(3), and is authorized to enter into the attached Stipulation and Order, pursuant to Wis. Stats sec. 227.44(5).
2. By having been disciplined as set forth in Finding of Fact 3, the Respondent has violated Wis. Adm. Code sec. Med 10.02(2)(q).

#### ORDER

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that the stipulation of the parties is approved.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Margaret P. Cochrane, M.D. is REPRIMANDED.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Dr. Cochrane shall pay costs in the amount of \$200.00, within 60 days of the date of this Final Decision and Order to be paid to the Department of Regulation and Licensing, 1400 E. Washington Avenue, P.O. Box 8935, Madison, Wisconsin, 53708-8935.

The rights of a party aggrieved by this Final Decision and Order to petition the Wisconsin Medical Examining Board for rehearing and to petition for judicial review are set forth in the attached "Notice of Appeal Information."

This Order shall become effective on the date of its signing.

Dated at Madison, Wisconsin, this 19<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2004.

WISCONSIN MEDICAL EXAMINING BOARD

Alfred Franger  
Member, Medical Examining Board