

## 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  
MARIA R. DORIA, M.D., :  
RESPONDENT. : ORDER 0001210

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Division of Enforcement Case No. 10MED022

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

Maria R. Doria, M.D.  
c/o Gundersen Lutheran  
1900 South Avenue  
La Crosse, WI 54601

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

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

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. Maria R. Doria, M.D. (Respondent), date of birth July 1, 1966, is licensed by the Wisconsin Medical Examining Board and is currently registered to practice medicine and surgery in the state of Wisconsin, pursuant to license number 50900-20. Her license was first granted in the state of Wisconsin on September 14, 2007.

2. Respondent's last address reported to the Department of Safety and Professional Services is c/o Gundersen Lutheran, 1900 South Avenue, La Crosse, WI, 54601.

3. On May 7, 2006, Patient A.O. presented to Respondent at Eisenhower Army Medical Center in Fort Gordon, Georgia for a planned induction of labor with a pregnancy-induced hypertension complication.

4. Between May 8, 2006 and the baby's delivery on May 9, 2006, fetal heart rate tracings indicated four (4) instances of fetal bradycardia (heartbeat deceleration). After each deceleration, the fetal heart rate recovered and Respondent determined the heart rate to be reassuring.

5. At approximately 7:20 a.m. on May 9, 2006, when significant decelerations with minimal movement was noted, Respondent made the determination that a vaginal delivery was not an option and an obstetrical consult would be necessary. However, because Respondent felt reassured by the fetal heart rate tracing, Respondent did not contact an obstetrical team until after the hospital shift-change at 7:40 a.m.

6. The baby was born via emergency cesarean section at 8:06 a.m., and was found to have suffered perinatal asphyxia and anoxic encephalopathy.

7. On January 19, 2010, the Division of Enforcement received a Malpractice Report from the National Practitioner Databank regarding Respondent's aforementioned conduct. Subsequently, the Division opened the matter for investigation on March 16, 2010.

8. On May 2, 2011, the Georgia Composite Medical Board issued a Public Consent Order to Respondent for failing to respond emergently to signals of fetal distress and for being inconsistent in her interpretation of the fetal heart rate tracing. The Public Consent Order required Respondent to complete 40 hours of continuing medical education in the areas of obstetrics and gynecology before she returned to the practice of obstetrics or gynecology.

9. On June 8, 2011, the Georgia Composite Medical Board terminated the terms of the Public Consent Order because Respondent was fully compliant with the required terms. Consequently, Respondent's medical license in the state of Georgia has been fully reinstated.

10. In order to fulfill the requirements of the Georgia disciplinary order, Respondent has successfully completed the following educational courses, which equal 42 CME credits:

- a. "Practical Approach to Common Obstetrical Dilemmas: Art and Evidence" (6 credits);
- b. "Best Practices in High Risk Pregnancy" (6 credits);
- c. "Patient Safety: What Can I Do on Monday?" (3 credits);
- d. General Session Credits relating to Obstetrics (15 credits); and
- e. The American Board of Family Medicine's "Maternity Care Self-Assessment Module" (12 credits).

11. Respondent is certified by the American Board of Family Medicine and is currently working at Gundersen Lutheran in Occupational Health Services. She is no longer practicing obstetrical deliveries, and has no intention of resuming the practice of obstetrics in the state of Wisconsin at anytime in the future.

#### CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

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

2. Respondent, by having an adverse action taken against her license by the Georgia Composite Medical Board, is in violation of Wis. Admin. Code § Med 10.02(2)(q) and is subject to discipline pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 448.02(3).

#### ORDER

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that:

1. The attached Stipulation of the parties is accepted.
2. Maria R. Doria, M.D. is hereby REPRIMANDED for the above conduct.
3. The Board recognizes the aforementioned continuing medical education courses as the equivalent of the education the Board would have otherwise required.
4. Due to the successful completion of the aforementioned courses, no additional discipline is required by this Board.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that:

5. Respondent shall, within 90 days of this Order, pay costs of this proceeding in the amount of ONE THOUSAND (\$1,000.00) dollars. Payment shall be made to the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services, and mailed to:

Department Monitor  
Department of Safety and Professional Services  
Division of Enforcement  
1400 East Washington Ave.  
P.O. Box 8935  
Madison, WI 53708-8935  
Telephone: (608) 267-3817  
Fax: (608) 266-2264

6. 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, the Respondent's license (No. 50900-20) 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.

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

Wisconsin Medical Examining Board

By:   
A Member of the Board

11/16/11  
Date

10MED022/Doria/Stach/AH/10-27-11