

WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES



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STATE OF WISCONSIN
BEFORE THE MEDICAL EXAMINING BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF DISCIPLINARY
PROCEEDINGS AGAINST

CHARLES D. PRATT, M.D.,
RESPONDENT.

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FINAL DECISION AND ORDER

0004205

Division of Legal Services and Compliance Case No. 13 MED 482

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

Charles D. Pratt, M.D.
1035 W. Ravine Lane
Bayside, WI 53217

Wisconsin Medical Examining Board
P.O. Box 8366
Madison, WI 53708-8366

Division of Legal Services and Compliance
Department of Safety and Professional Services
P.O. Box 7190
Madison, WI 53707-7190

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

Accordingly, the Board in this matter adopts the attached Stipulation and makes the following Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Order.

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Respondent Charles D. Pratt, M.D. (dob November 4, 1965), is licensed in the state of Wisconsin to practice medicine and surgery, having license number 35785-20, first issued on July 22, 1994, with registration current through October 31, 2015. Respondent's most recent address on file with the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services (Department) is 1035 W. Ravine Lane, Bayside, Wisconsin 53217.

2. On November 7, 2009, Patient A, a 20 year-old female, presented to a hospital emergency room (ER) with a frontal headache, which was causing constant pain and vomiting. Respondent examined her, diagnosed her with a "headache," noting "she states she has never had a headache before," and discharged her with Vicodin® and instructions to rest and avoid "TV/reading/texting/computer." Patient A was given a handout on cluster headaches when she left the facility.

3. On November 16, 2009, Patient A visited her primary care provider (PCP) complaining of continuing headaches. The PCP reviewed the November 7th ER record and noted, "It sounds like she was diagnosed with cluster headaches." She dispensed Treximet[®] to Patient A, and wrote her a prescription for Imitrex[®] and verapamil. In her assessment and plan, PCP wrote, "Advised that if she feels dizzy, lightheaded or has slow pulse needs to stop the medication and call me, otherwise she will be seen in 2 weeks. At that time will arrange for imaging since that was never done."

4. On November 25, 2009, Patient A called PCP's clinic complaining of worsening headaches. The PCP prescribed Treximet[®], returned Patient A's call and scheduled a follow-up visit for November 30.

5. On November 27, 2009, Patient A called the clinic indicating she "has had headaches for the past 2 weeks since she has IUD placed." The nurse wrote in her record of the encounter "Advised pt. it is good to give it some time. She wanted to have [the IUD] taken out. Pt. will give it some time and call if headaches don't go away." The PCP was not notified of this phone call.

6. On November 29, 2009, Patient A returned to the hospital ER at 12:45 a.m. complaining of severe headache pain, nausea and vomiting. She indicated her belief that a recent IUD implant was causing her migraines. She was again seen by Respondent who took her history, writing:

This is a 20-year-old female who had a Mirena IUD placed 2 weeks ago. Since then, she has had episodic migraine headaches. These have now become constant and today she has been in bed all day with nausea and vomiting. She has not had any p.o. intake. She complains of pain all over her head. She is nauseated and photophobic.

Respondent diagnosed Patient A with a migraine headache, and treated her with Depacon[®], Phenergan[®], and Toradol[®] before discharging her with instructions to rest quietly without TV, texting, computer usage, or reading, and to contact her PCP about removing the IUD. Respondent did not order any imaging studies.¹

7. Later the afternoon, Patient A returned to the ER again complaining of severe headache. The treating provider ordered a CT scan which revealed an obstructive hydrocephalus and mild to moderate downward transtentorial herniation of the brain. Patient A was subsequently transported to another facility where a MRI of the brain revealed a two-centimeter colloid cyst between the 3rd and 4th ventricles, causing hydrocephalus.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The Wisconsin Medical Examining Board has jurisdiction to act in this matter pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 448.02(3), and is authorized to enter into the attached Stipulation pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 227.44(5).

¹ In his response to the Department, Respondent notes that the patient's headache was so severe that she was "lying on a cart moaning and unable to answer questions."

2. By the conduct described in the Findings of Fact, Respondent Charles D. Pratt, M.D., engaged in unprofessional conduct as defined by Wis. Admin. Code § Med 10.02(2)(h) (Nov. 2002) by engaging in conduct which tends to constitute a danger to the health, welfare, or safety of a patient.

3. As a result of the above conduct, Charles D. Pratt, M.D., is subject to discipline pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 448.02(3).

ORDER

1. The attached Stipulation is accepted.
2. Respondent Charles D. Pratt, M.D., is REPRIMANDED.
3. Within 90 days from the date of this Order, Charles D. Pratt, M.D., shall pay COSTS of this matter in the amount of \$1,456.90.
4. Payment of costs shall be made payable to the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services and sent to the Department Monitor at the address below:

Department Monitor
Division of Legal Services and Compliance
Department of Safety and Professional Services
P.O. Box 7190, Madison, WI 53707-7190
Telephone (608) 267-3817; Fax (608) 266-2264
DSPSMonitoring@wisconsin.gov

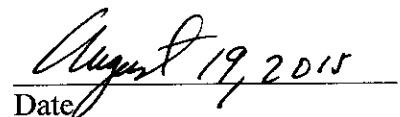
5. Violation of any of the terms of this Order may be construed as conduct imperiling public health, safety and welfare and may result in a summary suspension of Respondent's license. The Board in its discretion may in the alternative impose additional conditions and limitations or other additional discipline for a violation of any of the terms of this Order. In the event Respondent fails to timely submit payment of costs as ordered, Respondent's license (35785-20) 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.

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

WISCONSIN MEDICAL EXAMINING BOARD

by:


A Member of the Board


Date

STATE OF WISCONSIN
BEFORE THE MEDICAL EXAMINING BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF DISCIPLINARY
PROCEEDINGS AGAINST

CHARLES D. PRATT, M.D.,
RESPONDENT.

STIPULATION

0004205

Division of Legal Services and Compliance Case No. 13 MED 482

Respondent Charles D. Pratt, M.D., and the Division of Legal Services and Compliance, Department of Safety and Professional Services stipulate as follows:

1. This Stipulation is entered into as a result of a pending investigation by the Division of Legal Services and Compliance. Respondent consents to the resolution of this investigation by Stipulation.
2. Respondent understands that by signing this Stipulation, Respondent voluntarily and knowingly waives the following rights:
 - the right to a hearing on the allegations against Respondent, at which time the State has the burden of proving those allegations by a preponderance of the evidence;
 - the right to confront and cross-examine the witnesses against Respondent;
 - the right to call witnesses on Respondent's behalf and to compel their attendance by subpoena;
 - the right to testify on Respondent's own behalf;
 - the right to file objections to any proposed decision and to present briefs or oral arguments to the officials who are to render the final decision;
 - the right to petition for rehearing; and
 - all other applicable rights afforded to Respondent under the United States Constitution, the Wisconsin Constitution, the Wisconsin Statutes, the Wisconsin Administrative Code, and other provisions of state or federal law.
3. Respondent is aware of Respondent's right to seek legal representation and has been provided an opportunity to obtain legal counsel before signing this Stipulation. Respondent is represented by Attorney James A. Friedman.
4. Respondent agrees to the adoption of the attached Final Decision and Order by the Wisconsin Medical Examining Board (Board). The parties to the Stipulation consent to the entry of the attached Final Decision and Order without further notice, pleading, appearance or consent of the parties. Respondent waives all rights to any appeal of the Board's order, if adopted in the form as attached.


Stipulation
In re the disciplinary matter against
Charles D. Pratt, M.D., Case No. 13 MED 482

5. If the terms of this Stipulation are not acceptable to the Board, the parties shall not be bound by the contents of this Stipulation, and the matter shall then be returned to the Division of Legal Services and Compliance for further proceedings. In the event that the Stipulation is not accepted by the Board, the parties agree not to contend that the Board has been prejudiced or biased in any manner by the consideration of this attempted resolution.

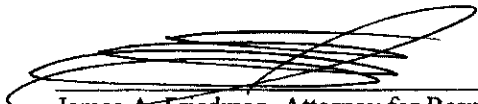
6. The parties to this Stipulation agree that the attorney or other agent for the Division of Legal Services and Compliance and any member of the Board ever assigned as an advisor in this investigation may appear before the Board in open or closed session, without the presence of Respondent or Respondent's attorney, for purposes of speaking in support of this agreement and answering questions that any member of the Board may have in connection with deliberations on the Stipulation. Additionally, any such advisor may vote on whether the Board should accept this Stipulation and issue the attached Final Decision and Order.

7. Respondent is informed that should the Board adopt this Stipulation, the Board's Final Decision and Order is a public record and will be published in accordance with standard Department procedure.


9. The Division of Legal Services and Compliance joins Respondent in recommending the Board adopt this Stipulation and issue the attached Final Decision and Order.


Charles D. Pratt, M.D., Respondent
1035 W. Ravine Lane
Bayside, WI 53217
License no. 35785-20

8/11/15
Date


James A. Friedman, Attorney for Respondent
Godfrey & Khan S.C.
One E. Main Street, Suite 500
Madison, WI 53703

8/11/15
Date


Yolanda Y. McGowan, Attorney
Division of Legal Services and Compliance
P.O. Box 7190
Madison, WI 53707-7190

8/12/15
Date