

P E N N S Y L V A N I A  
S T A T E B O A R D O F  
**MEDICINE**  
N E W S L E T T E R

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COMMONWEALTH  
OF PENNSYLVANIA

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**Governor's Newsletter**

Sign up now at [www.governor.state.pa.us](http://www.governor.state.pa.us)  
to receive the weekly e-newsletter from  
Governor Rendell on important issues facing Pennsylvania.

## Board of Medicine's Purpose

*By Ollice Bates, Jr., M.D., Chairman*

The purpose of the State Board of Medicine is to protect the health, welfare and safety of the citizens of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. This is effected by assuring that individuals have appropriate credentials for licensing, as judged by their training, certifying examinations, experience and something I would refer to as citizenship. It is also done by disciplining unlawful behavior, by issuing warnings to those at risk of being disciplined, and by recommending retraining, when needed. Additionally, the board writes regulations that are guided by statutes that have been passed by our elected officials in Harrisburg.

Our statutory guide is the Medical Practice Act that was passed by the legislature, with subsequent regulations being written by the Board of Medicine over the years, and constantly being amended as changes in society and changes in the practice of medicine dictate.

It is imperative to understand that we are complaint-driven. That is, we can only function once citizens of the commonwealth report undesirable activity. We do not police our board-regulated practitioners. If you do not report undesirable activity, the board cannot act.

It is also important to understand what we are not. We are not advocates for any board-regulated practitioners. Advocacy depends on each group lobbying their elected legislators; not the board.

When I first joined the board, I emphasized educating practitioners as opposed to sanctioning them. In future newsletters, we will help keep our licensees informed of existing regulations and changes in regulations.

Finally, in the future, we as a board are diligently working toward methods of retraining, as opposed to sanctioning, when appropriate. This is a slow process, but we are dedicated to accomplishing this task.

We look forward to continuing our service to the citizens of the commonwealth.

### **FOR YOUR INFORMATION**

## **Voluntary Surrender of Medical License**

*In order to voluntarily surrender your license, you must complete an application form. Once the surrender has been approved, you will be notified of the date your license status will be changed to reflect this voluntary surrender status. Once surrendered, it may not be renewed, reissued, reinstated or restored. If you later decide to become licensed in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, you will be required to apply for a new license and will be subject to the requirements in effect at the time of application. This may include a written and/or oral examination.*

*If disciplinary action has been initiated, or if you are the subject of a disciplinary investigation by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania or another licensing authority, your license will be surrendered as "voluntary surrender — disciplinary" and will be reported as such to the national practitioner data bank/healthcare Integrity and protection data bank.*

## **Physician Assistant Limits**

*In July 2007 (Act 46 of 2007), as part of Governor Rendell's Prescription for Pennsylvania, legislation was put into effect which permits up to four physician assistants for whom a physician has responsibility or supervises. In licensed health care facilities, the attending physician of record for a particular patient shall act as the primary supervising physician for the physician assistant.*

## Suspension of License for Failure to Pay Child Support

Under Section 4355 of the Domestic Relations Code, Act of Dec. 19, 1980, as amended, 23 P.S. §4355, the board is required to suspend the license of any licensee who is in arrears as directed by order of the Court of Common Pleas having jurisdiction over the domestic relations matter to which the licensee is a party. The board must have a reinstatement order from the same court to reinstate the license.

## Upcoming 2008 Meeting Dates

- **Nov. 25**
- **Dec. 16**

*Dates are subject to change.  
Check [www.dos.state.pa.us/med](http://www.dos.state.pa.us/med)  
for updated information.*

## New Public Board Member Sara L. Petrosky, Esq.

Sara is a 1987 cum laude graduate of Temple Law School and a 1982 magna cum laude graduate of Messiah College.

While in law school, Sara was on *Law Review*, won her law school's Moot Court Competition and was a finalist in the National Moot Court Competition.

Early in her career, Sara was associated with Pepper, Hamilton & Sheetz and later Morgan, Lewis & Bockius. From 1993 until 1995, Sara was the executive director of the Philadelphia Volunteers for the Indigent Program, a nationally recognized provider of free legal services for indigent people. Sara joined McCann & Geschke, P.C. in 1995 and she works exclusively in the defense of medical negligence claims.

Sara served on the Board of Commissioners of Nether Providence Township, Delaware County, from 1994 until 2006. She was elected president of that board in 1996, after serving on the board only two years, and she remained president for six years. She is also a member of the Commission on Women in the Profession, sponsored by the Pennsylvania Bar Association.

### Reminder...

## Renew Your License Online

#### You are eligible to renew online if:

- You are currently in your license renewal period
- Your license is delinquent by no more than 30 days

#### First-time users need the following information:

- Pennsylvania License Number
- Registration Code
- Current mailing address
- Credit Card information
- E-mail address
- Continuing Education information

**Go to the Department's Web site at  
[www.dos.state.pa.us](http://www.dos.state.pa.us)**

**Click on RENEW a Professional License  
([www.myLicense.state.pa.us](http://www.myLicense.state.pa.us)).**

**Then simply follow the instructions  
to renew your license online.**

## Improving Highway Safety in Pennsylvania

Pennsylvania law requires physicians to notify PennDOT of all individuals who may be medically incapable of safely operating a motor vehicle. Specifically the law says that physicians and other persons authorized to diagnose or treat disorders or disabilities are required to report the full name, address and date of birth of every person over the age of 15 who is diagnosed with a condition that could impair his or her ability to safely operate a motor vehicle within 10 days of diagnosis. Reports are not required if the condition is not expected to last longer than 90 days.

Healthcare providers who report drivers to the department are immune from civil or criminal liability. Physicians who do not report individuals who have been diagnosed with a condition that could impair their ability to safely operate a motor vehicle may be held responsible as a proximate cause of a crash caused by their patient if it results in a death, injury or property loss. Physicians may also be convicted of a summary criminal offense if they fail to comply with their legal requirement to report medically incapable drivers.

There are two easy ways to report patients who a healthcare provider believes could be a danger on the roads. Use PennDOT's Initial Reporting Form (DL-13), which is available on PennDOT's Driver and Vehicle Services Web site listed below. Reports can also be sent to the department in writing on physician letterhead. Reports can be submitted two ways: they can be mailed to Medical Unit, PO Box 38682, Harrisburg, PA 17106, or faxed to 717-705-4415.

PennDOT keeps every report confidential. The only way a driver could discover who reported them is if the report is subpoenaed as evidence in a judicial review relating to the determination of a driver's competency.

To provide some perspective, in 2006, there were 128,342 reportable traffic crashes in Pennsylvania.

These crashes claimed the lives of 1,525 people and injured another 96,597 people. The 2006 total reportable traffic crashes is the lowest in the last five years. On an average day in Pennsylvania:

- 352 reportable traffic crashes occur (about 15 crashes every hour).
- Four persons are killed in reportable traffic crashes (one death every six hours).
- 265 persons are injured in reportable crashes (about 11 injuries every hour).

Of all those crashes, more than one percent of them involved a driver who investigators determined to be medically impaired at the time of the crash. However, it is believed that the involvement of medically impaired drivers in crashes is highly under reported. One of PennDOT's primary goals is to reduce the number of crashes and fatalities on Pennsylvania's roadways. One of the tools PennDOT has to reduce risk is to recall the licenses of medically incapable drivers. In addition to healthcare providers, initial reports also come from concerned family members and law enforcement. In 2006, PennDOT recalled or suspended more than 11,000 driver's licenses because it was determined that the driver was medically unfit to safely operate a motor vehicle, or they failed to provide requested medical information.

For more information relating to PennDOT's Physician Reporting Program, visit PennDOT's Driver and Vehicle Services Web site and click on Physician Reporting. This information center contains resources for medical providers, as well as information for drivers and their families.

For a copy of the medical regulations used to determine if a driver can obtain or maintain their driving privilege in Pennsylvania, visit: [www.pacode.com/secure/data/067/chapter83/chap83toc.html](http://www.pacode.com/secure/data/067/chapter83/chap83toc.html).

### ATTENTION ATHLETIC TRAINERS

**The rules and regulations of the State Board of Medicine and State Board of Osteopathic Medicine require athletic trainers to maintain current certification with the Board of Certification, Inc. (BOC) for athletic trainers to be eligible for biennial renewal.**

**For more information regarding this certification, please refer to the BOC Web site:**

**[www.bocatc.org](http://www.bocatc.org)**

## PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

# Physician Reporting Fact Sheet

Historically, physician reporting has provided a highly effective mechanism for removing impaired drivers from our roads. In accordance with Section 1518(b) of the Pennsylvania Vehicle Code, all physicians and other people authorized to diagnose or treat disorders and disabilities *must report to PennDOT* any patient 15 years of age or older who has been diagnosed as having a condition that could impair his/her ability to safely operate a motor vehicle.

### FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT PHYSICIAN REPORTING

#### **What is the Purpose of Physician Reporting?**

Physician Reporting assists PennDOT in determining whether those individuals applying for a driver's license or those individuals already possessing a driver's license are medically qualified to safely operate a motor vehicle.

#### **How Effective is Physician Reporting?**

Physician Reporting is a very effective mechanism for identifying medically impaired drivers. More than 20,000 new physician reports are submitted each year to PennDOT. Overall, approximately 14 percent of these individuals have medical impairments significant enough to merit recall of their driving privileges. Twenty-five percent of these recalls are due to seizure disorders and five percent are due to other neurological disorders. An additional 13 percent of physician reports result in restrictions placed on the individuals' driving privilege. These reports also cross the age spectrum — 51 percent involve drivers under 45 years of age.

#### **What Occurs When a Report is Made?**

The receipt of a report triggers an evaluation process. Based on the information submitted, restrictions to the person's driving privilege may be added or deleted; the person's license may be recalled or restored; the person may be asked to provide more specific medical information or complete a driver's examination; or no action may be taken. PennDOT, not the physician, makes the final licensing determination.

#### **Are There Other Reporting Options?**

No other options are as effective as Physician Reporting. Some states have statutory requirements for self-reporting, but research indicates an extremely high rate of noncompliance. Given the enormous social and economic pressure to drive, the impaired driver has a vested interest in not reporting conditions that impair the ability to drive safely when it will result in the recall of his/her license. In addition, the driver is not the most objective judge of his/her own level of impairment.

#### **Are The Reports Confidential?**

Reports submitted to PennDOT are confidential and used solely to determine the qualification of an individual to drive a motor vehicle. PennDOT is compelled by law to honor this provision and will not release information regarding the source or content of the report, even when the inquiry is from the patient.

#### **How Do These Reports Affect Physician/Patient Confidentiality?**

There are many circumstances under which the obligation to maintain patient confidentiality must give way to a duty to protect other persons from harm (e.g., reporting gunshot wounds, child abuse, venereal disease, etc.). The current statement of ethics of the American Medical Association contains the following provision:

**A physician may not reveal the confidences entrusted to him in the course of medical attendance, or the deficiencies he may observe in the character of patients, unless he is required to do so by law or unless it becomes necessary in order to protect the welfare of the individual or of the community.**

Pennsylvania's Physician Reporting Program is consistent with this statement.

#### **What is my Liability if I Do or Do Not Report?**

If you DO report, you are immune from any civil or criminal liability. No action may be brought against any person or agency for providing the required information; however, if you DO NOT report, there is a possibility that you could be held responsible as a proximate cause of an accident resulting in death, injury or property loss caused by your patient. Also, physicians who do not comply with their legal requirement to report may be convicted of a summary criminal offense.

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## Patient Safety Authority: Better Communication for Improved Patient Safety

By Michael C. Doering, Executive Director, Patient Safety Authority  
and John R. Clarke, M.D., Editor, Patient Safety Advisory

*Michael C. Doering has served as the executive director of Pennsylvania's Patient Safety Authority since January 2007. In that capacity, he administers an independent state agency, under an 11-member board of directors, that is charged with taking steps to reduce and eliminate medical errors by identifying problems and recommending solutions that promote patient safety.*

*John R. Clarke, M.D. is professor of surgery at Drexel University in Philadelphia. Dr. Clarke has published more than 60 articles on the broad subject of rational decision making in surgery and patient safety and given more than 200 presentations nationally and internationally.*

The Pennsylvania Patient Safety Authority has been collecting data of serious events and near misses from Pennsylvania hospitals, ambulatory surgical facilities and birthing centers since 2004. More than 650,000 reports have been submitted with 97 percent of those events reported as near misses, not causing harm to the patient. The robust database has given the authority the opportunity to educate Pennsylvania's health care facilities about the lessons learned through more than 150 articles in its *Patient Safety Advisory*. Many of the lessons learned through the data directly or indirectly affect you as a physician.

An important theme for all healthcare practitioners is the increased risks to patient safety if caregivers are not communicating effectively. As shown in the authority's 2006 annual report, communication was cited as the most frequent "root cause" in reports submitted with this information. In some of the cases sent to the authority, a nurse or other healthcare practitioner did not feel comfortable speaking up to a physician if they witnessed an unsafe act being performed. In one such case, staff was reluctant to speak up when they witnessed a physician examine a patient with a MRSA infection and neglect to wash his hands before proceeding to examine another patient. Unfortunately, the authority still sees reports of staff reluctance to speak up when at-risk behavior is exhibited by a physician or other staff member.

Other more recent articles published in *Patient Safety Advisory* in June and December 2007 show the importance of effective communication between healthcare staff in regard to wrong-site surgery. Further information about the causes of wrong-site surgery was published in the *Annals of Surgery* in September 2007. From June 2004 until December 2006, the authority reviewed cases of wrong-site surgery submitted to the Pennsylvania Patient Safety Reporting System (PA-PSRS). (The study showed that every other day in Pennsylvania, healthcare facilities a serious event or near miss of a wrong-site surgery occurred, a population-based rate similar to other states for this "never" event.) Communication breakdowns play a major role in wrong-site surgery events.

The root cause in more than 70 percent of the wrong-site surgery sentinel events reported to the Joint Commission involved communication breakdowns. The following were contributing factors involved in wrong-site surgery reported to PA-PSRS: the actions of the surgeon in the OR (e.g., identifying the wrong site); not completing a proper time out; anesthesia interventions prior to a time out; not verifying consents or site markings; inaccurate consents/diagnostic reports/images; and patient positioning (either concealing the surgical mark or promoting site confusion).

Since the first wrong-site surgery article was published, the authority visited several facilities to learn how they prevented a wrong-site surgery from occurring. Surprisingly, some did not follow the time-out protocol established by the joint commission in 2003, even though they were aware that staff from the authority was recording their protocol for further study. The authority noted that in 14 of the 30 cases studied there was a violation of the the facility's own "time out" protocol. Further, in more than half of the cases studied, the activities of the surgeon in the OR contributed to the wrong-site surgery error. However, in almost 20 percent of the cases studied, the surgeon was able to help in the recovery of a near-miss wrong-site surgery. When the protocols are followed correctly, our studies show they work, but the surgeon must be involved. For more information on the wrong-site surgery study and follow-up, go to the June and December 2007 *Patient Safety*

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*Advisory* on the authority's Web site listed below.

As shown in the wrong-site surgery study, reports of near-misses provide healthcare facilities with a bigger picture to view how their processes are or are not working in their institutions. Several articles published by the authority allow facilities to learn from events that often would not have been brought to their attention had it not been for the near-miss reporting and the diligent reporting of facilities. All of these articles, toolkits and additional information can be found on the Authority's Web site at [www.psa.state.pa.us](http://www.psa.state.pa.us). Physicians can also obtain Continuing Medical Education (CME) credits through the Pennsylvania Medical Society by answering a questionnaire about the advisory articles. To receive the quarterly advisories please contact the authority at 717-346-0469 or e-mail [patientsafetyauthority@state.pa.us](mailto:patientsafetyauthority@state.pa.us).

Other Examples of advisory articles include:

“Colon Perforations During Colonoscopy”

Volume 3, Number 4—December 2006

During the first year of reporting, PA-PSRS received 125 reports of perforations of the colon during colonoscopy and another 27 reports in which the diagnosis was uncertain or the situation was otherwise unclear. These results indicate that between 125 to 152 perforations were reported as complications of colonoscopies during the first full year of reporting to PA-PSRS. The actual number is likely higher; we know that perforations may occur in doctors' offices and would not be reported by the hospitals because they did not occur in a defined medical facility. The rate of colon perforations during colonoscopies reported in PA-PSRS (0.039-0.047 percent) is low compared to the rates reported in the literature. However, the number of perforations in the PA-PSRS database is high. In the literature that we reviewed, the largest number of perforations was 77, which occurred in a random sample of five percent of Medicare beneficiaries 65 years old or older in the Surveillance, Epidemiology, and End Results (SEER) program. Because of the number of reports and the morbidity of colon perforations, the Pennsylvania Patient Safety Authority Board of Directors has decided to undertake a focused objective cooperative analysis of perforations during colonoscopy as a special safety improvement project. The initial objective of this special initiative is to reduce the number of perforations during colonoscopies to at least less than 60 within a single year.

“Color-Coded Patient Wristbands Create Unnecessary Risk”

Volume 3, Supplement 1—August 2006

In December 2005, the Pennsylvania Patient Safety Reporting System (PA-PSRS) identified risks associated with using color-coded patient wristbands to communicate clinical information. In an authority survey, while nearly four out of five respondents' facilities use color-coded patient wristbands; there is little consistency among facilities in the meanings associated with different colors. The lack of consistency in wristband meanings and how they are applied presents problems when patients are transferred among facilities and when patients are cared for by clinicians who work in multiple facilities. In one case, a patient was nearly not resuscitated during cardiopulmonary arrest because he was incorrectly designated as “Do Not Resuscitate” with a colored wristband by a nurse who worked in multiple facilities and was confused by the meanings of different colors. Since the release of the December 2005 advisory, a group of healthcare organizations in northeastern and central Pennsylvania started a grassroots effort to meet the challenge of making this practice safer. Facilities participating in “The Colors of Safety Task Force” implemented and standardized a number of safe practices across their facilities. News of their effort spread by word-of-mouth and sparked the interest of facilities in central and western Pennsylvania and even from other states. The Patient Safety Authority was also contacted by other states and national patient safety organizations. Because there is no evidence either for or against the effectiveness of color codes to communicate clinical information, the authority does not advocate that healthcare facilities begin this practice. However, facilities that do use these wristbands may wish to follow the Implementation Manual created by the Colors of Safety Task Force. The manual has been used by other states throughout the country to standardize their wristband colors and meanings.

“Verbal Orders”

Volume 3, Number 2—June 2006

Verbal orders offer more room for error than orders that are written or sent electronically. Interpreting speech is

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## Better Communication for Improved Patient Safety

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inherently problematic because of different accents, dialects, and pronunciations. Background noise, interruptions, and unfamiliar drug names and terminology often compound the problem. Once received, a verbal order must be transcribed as a written order, which adds complexity and risk to the ordering process. When the recipient records a verbal order, the prescriber assumes that the recipient understood correctly. No one except the prescriber, however, can verify that the recipient heard the message correctly. Sound-alike drug names and numbers are easily misheard and affect the accuracy of verbal orders. Numerous reports submitted to PA-PSRS have confirmed this.

The joint commission recently added a National Patient Safety Goal to address the error-prone procedure of verbal orders. The goal states that the receiver of the verbal or telephone order should write down the complete order or enter it into a computer, then read it back, and receive confirmation from the individual who gave the order or test result. Reports submitted to PA-PSRS include errors that could have been prevented if this technique had been used.

The authority developed a toolkit in conjunction with this article, to help facilities implement these safe practices. The toolkit includes: a poster summarizing the read-back procedure, a sample policy on verbal or telephone orders, a survey that can help Patient Safety Officers assess compliance with the safe practices, and other items. The results of the analyses and research are published in the *Patient Safety Advisory*, a quarterly publication containing articles about actual reports submitted to PA-PSRS. Most important, articles include analysis of and lessons learned from those reports and evidence-based risk reduction strategies based on research in the clinical literature. Articles are peer-reviewed, often by outside domain experts and facility managers.

As of October 2006, the authority published 11 quarterly and four supplementary advisories containing more than 150 articles on actual adverse events and near-misses that took place within Pennsylvania facilities. The advisory is sent to managers and some clinicians in all Pennsylvania hospitals, ambulatory surgical facilities and birthing centers and to thousands of other providers, advocates and health industry personnel throughout the state and around the country. (The advisory is also disseminated electronically through numerous national and international news services, LISTSERVs and is accessible through the authority's Web site.) Subscription to the advisory is available at no cost and is recommended.

In addition to publishing the *Patient Safety Advisory*, the authority sponsors patient safety educational sessions and participates in numerous hospital-based meetings of medical and nursing staffs. More than 1,000 physicians, nurses, pharmacists, risk managers, other healthcare workers and administrators have attended or participated in education and training sessions conducted or sponsored by the authority. Authority staff are also frequent speakers at professional association meetings and conferences. In the spring of 2006, the authority offered an intensive two-day training course on root cause analysis and cosponsored the annual Patient Safety Symposium with the Hospital and Healthsystem Association of Pennsylvania, which was attended by 400 clinicians and administrators. Similar events have been planned for 2007, including several courses on failure mode event analysis and other patient safety seminars targeted to individual practitioners and facility-based leadership, trustees and physician-champions.

As readers are aware, Pennsylvania law requires physicians to earn CME credits specifically related to patient safety. Many of the educational programs cited above qualified attendees for CMEs. The authority also partners with professional associations (including the Pennsylvania Medical Society and PA Physicians for the Protection of Specialty Care) to offer CME credits, based on specific advisory articles, through postings on those associations' Web sites.

While some reports in the PA-PSRS database involve sophisticated or complex procedures or equipment, numerous reports of adverse events and near-misses can be attributed to such routine procedures as failure to comply with accepted hand washing protocols, poor communication, misuse of abbreviations, use of incomplete or inadequate patient identification and failure to identify problems associated with high alert medications. In fact, many of the reports submitted to PA-PSRS reflect situations that are well documented in the literature, in some cases prominently highlighted by national organizations like the joint commission's annual National Patient Safety Goals or the Institute for Healthcare Improvement's "100,000 Lives Campaign."

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## Better Communication for Improved Patient Safety

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Examples of articles published in the *Patient Safety Advisory* follow:

- “Improving the Safety of Telephone or Verbal Orders” (*Patient Safety Advisory*, June 2006). Because patients are at greater risk of medication errors when drugs are ordered verbally or over the telephone, the article advocates a read-back procedure in which the person receiving the order writes it down, reads it back, and gets confirmation that they understood the order correctly. The article includes a multi-media tool kit for education and training.
- “Bioburden on Surgical Instruments” (*Patient Safety Advisory*, March 2006). Pennsylvania hospitals have submitted reports describing cases in which sterilized surgical instruments have been contaminated with organic material from a prior procedure—called “bioburden.” These soiled instruments can contaminate the sterile field.
- “Clostridium Difficile: A Sometimes Fatal Complication of Antibiotic Use” (*Patient Safety Advisory*, June 2005). The article details fatalities attributed to C. diff sepsis in patients who had earlier received antibiotic therapy for an unrelated condition or as a prophylaxis in anticipation of an upcoming procedure. This article includes clinical guidance on both treatment and prevention.
- “Who Administers Propofol in Your Organization?” (*Patient Safety Advisory*, March 2006). Many problems are associated with the use of propofol, widely administered in hospitals, ASFs and physician offices during endoscopic, radiologic and other procedures. Questions have been raised about the training of practitioners involved in administering the drug.
- “Unanticipated Care after Discharge from Ambulatory Surgical Facilities” (*Patient Safety Advisory*, Dec. 2005). Patients who required hospital-level care within hours or days after treatment at an ASF may have benefited from more detailed discharge instructions and more structured patient-provider communication. Clinical recommendations are targeted to ASF and office settings.
- “Skin Tears: The Clinical Challenge” (*Patient Safety Advisory*, Sept. 2006). While the literature dealing with skin tears focuses on the long-term care experience, the problem is also potentially serious in acute-care and office settings. The article describes risk factors, preventative interventions and evidence-based treatment protocols, including a “Skin Tears Toolkit” to help providers implement procedures to prevent patient injury.
- “Overdoses Caused by Confusion Between Tuberculin and Insulin Syringes” (Supplementary Advisory, Oct. 2004). The article documents several examples of insulin overdose due to look-alike packaging.
- “Hidden Sources of Latex in Healthcare Products” (*Patient Safety Advisory*, June 2004). The article identifies numerous examples of healthcare products that contain unlabeled latex that resulted in harm to latex-sensitive patients or providers.
- “Risk of Overdose from Multiple Transdermal Patches” (*Patient Safety Advisory*, Sept. 2004). The article identifies several examples of overdose caused by failure to remove a transdermal patch prior to applying a new patch.
- “Dangers Associated with Unlabeled Basins, Bowls and Cups” (*Patient Safety Advisory*, March 2005). The article documents situations where patients received an incorrect, and potentially lethal product or solution because of unlabeled containers within the sterile field.

PA-PSRS research, as documented through the advisories, has generated national attention and recognition. In fact, in October 2006 the authority was awarded a prestigious John Eisenberg Award, given jointly by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations and the National Quality Forum, for innovation and the promotion of patient safety throughout Pennsylvania and around the country.

Because patient safety is everyone’s business, we invite you to join in our efforts to improve healthcare outcomes. While the PA-PSRS reporting system is focused on facilities, the authority itself is a “learning” organization committed to collaborating with all members of the healthcare community, including individual practitioners. After all, individual physicians are central to the delivery of healthcare and to the development of a “culture of safety” within our healthcare system. Let’s work together to reduce the potential for harm and enhance patient safety.

**More information about the authority, links to references cited within this article and information about free subscriptions to the *Patient Safety Advisory* can be found on the authority Web site: [www.psa.state.pa.us](http://www.psa.state.pa.us).**

# PennDOT Physician Reporting Fact Sheet

*Continued from page 5*

## **How Do These Reports Affect Physician/Patient Confidentiality?**

There are many circumstances under which the obligation to maintain patient confidentiality must give way to a duty to protect other persons from harm (e.g., reporting gunshot wounds, child abuse, venereal disease, etc.). The current statement of ethics of the American Medical Association contains the following provision:

**A physician may not reveal the confidences entrusted to him in the course of medical attendance, or the deficiencies he may observe in the character of patients, unless he is required to do so by law or unless it becomes necessary in order to protect the welfare of the individual or of the community.**

Pennsylvania's Physician Reporting Program is consistent with this statement.

## **What is my Liability if I Do or Do Not Report?**

If you DO report, you are immune from any civil or criminal liability. No action may be brought against any person or agency for providing the required information; however, if you DO NOT report, there is a possibility that you could be held responsible as a proximate cause of an accident resulting in death, injury or property loss caused by your patient. Also, physicians who do not comply with their legal requirement to report may be convicted of a summary criminal offense.

## **Are There Established Medical Criteria?**

PennDOT has a Medical Advisory Board that is responsible for the formulation of physical and mental criteria, including vision standards, for the licensing of drivers. The board consists of a neurologist, a cardiologist, an internist, a general practitioner, an ophthalmologist, a psychiatrist, an orthopedic surgeon, an optometrist and members from PennDOT, Department of Justice, Department of Health and the Pennsylvania State Police. The formulation of these regulations is open for public review and comment through the commonwealth's Regulatory Review process.

## **How Do I Submit Reports to PennDOT?**

According to Section 1518(b) of the Pennsylvania Vehicle Code, all physicians and other persons authorized to diagnose or treat disorders and disabilities shall report within 10 days, in writing, the full name, address and date of birth of every person over 15 years of age diagnosed as having a condition that could impair their ability to drive. It is helpful to PennDOT in making a licensing determination if you include the conditions and any specific information about the conditions. The report may be made by writing a letter or by using PennDOT's Initial Reporting Form (DL-13).

Without the cooperation of physicians, thousands of impaired drivers would remain undetected by PennDOT. The public has a right to protection from death, injury or property loss caused by impaired drivers. Physician Reporting plays a vital role in providing this protection.

For more information, please contact:

Bureau of Driver Licensing  
Driver Qualifications Section  
PO Box 68682  
Harrisburg, PA 17106-8682  
717-787-9662

or

Fax your initial reports to PennDOT's Medical Unit at:  
717-705-4415

## Provide Important Information When Prescribing

*By Pauline R. Montgomery, R.Ph.  
Board Member, State Board of Pharmacy*

Many patients are having problems getting their prescriptions filled due to the lack of written information. The unavailability of certain necessary information makes it impossible to have the administrators for the insurance prescription plans accept and pay for the medication.

Although medical regulations (Section 16.91) clearly say that the state license number and the printed name of the prescriber will be on the prescription, this does not always happen. The worst offenders are the practitioners in emergency rooms and residents. Although the names of all the practitioners in the emergency room usually appear on the prescription, the prescriber should circle his or her name and number.

Many times, residents write the discharge prescriptions with no information about his or her

name or license. Because the patient has no idea who wrote the prescription, the pharmacist has to spend locating the prescribing physician. Not only does this cost the pharmacist time, but it also costs the hospital staff additional time and money trying to search for the correct person and information.

One suggestion to help remedy the situation would be to have a rubber stamp made with the practitioner's printed name and number.

Another problem that is occurring is computer-generated prescriptions that are not sending proper directions and proper amounts.

Because it is illegal for the pharmacist to fill some of the prescriptions, it is the patient who is suffering. Hopefully, this situation will be corrected.

### REMINDERS

**Licensees must contact the board office with any changes in name or address.**

Name changes require a copy of a court order, marriage certificate, divorce decree or other official document.

**Licensees must also notify the board within 90 days if another state board takes disciplinary action against them.**

Criminal convictions must be reported to the board within 30 days.

**Mail information to:  
State Board of Medicine  
PO Box 2649  
Harrisburg, PA 17105-2649**

**If You  
Or A  
Licensed Professional  
You Know  
Needs Help...**

**Call the Voluntary  
Recovery Program**

**1-800-554-3428  
or  
717-783-4857**

**When a report of his or her possible impairment is received by the program, the licensed professional will be contacted and offered the opportunity to participate.**

## Disciplinary Actions

*The following is a chronological listing of disciplinary actions taken by the board from Sept. 2005 through Feb. 2007. Each entry includes the name, certificate or registration number (if any) and last known address of the respondent; the disciplinary sanction imposed; a brief description of the basis of the disciplinary sanction and the effective date of the disciplinary sanction.*

*Every effort has been made to ensure that the following information is correct. However, this information should not be relied on without verification from the Prothonotary's Office of the Bureau of Professional and Occupational Affairs. One may obtain verification of individual disciplinary action by writing or telephoning the Prothonotary's Office at P.O. Box 2649, Harrisburg, PA 17105-2649; (717) 772-2686. Please note that the names of persons listed below may be similar to the names of persons who have not*

**Scott Kenneth Cunningham**, license no. MD042493E, of Denver, CO, had his license to practice medicine indefinitely suspended until such time as his license is reinstated without restriction in Colorado, and he affirmatively demonstrates his fitness to practice medicine with reasonable skill and safety to patients, based on his license to practice medicine being disciplined by the proper licensing authority of Colorado. (11-30-06)

**Edward Robert Kofsky**, of New York, NY, was denied his application to practice medicine and surgery, based on having allegedly practiced medicine in New York in a manner that departs from a quality standard of the practice. (11-29-06)

**Gerald John Scallion**, license no. MD052200L, of New York, NY, was assessed a \$1,000 civil penalty based on disciplinary action taken against his license to practice medicine by the proper licensing authority of California. (11-30-06)

**India Love VanBebber**, license no. MD040439L, of Wartburg, TN, had her license revoked based on disciplinary action taken against her license by the proper licensing authority of another state and failure to report such action to the board within 60 days. (11-30-06)

**Bradley Alan Schwartz**, of Tuscon, AZ, license no. MD055329L, had his license to practice medicine revoked for having been convicted of a felony. (12-11-06)

**Edward Cornfeld**, license no. MD025002L, of Potomac, MD, was suspended based on disciplinary action being taken against his license by Maryland. (01-11-07)

**Bernard Rottschaefer**, license no. MD013537E, of Oakmont, Allegheny County, had his license revoked for having been convicted of 153 felony counts of illegally prescribing controlled substances. (01-17-07)

**William Cage Stevenson**, license no. MD027747E, of Mequon, WI, was suspended, immediately stayed in favor of probation to run concurrently with the probationary period of Stevenson's license in Ohio. Stevenson was also assessed a \$250 civil penalty based on findings disciplinary action was taken against his license by Ohio authorities and Stevenson failed to report disciplinary action against him. (01-18-07)

**Vincent W. Amigh**, license no. RT002318A, of Shippensburg, Cumberland County, was assessed a \$500 civil penalty. Amigh practiced as an athletic trainer from Dec. 31, 2002 to March 1, 2005 while his license was expired. (01-23-07)

**Richard J. Apple**, license no.

MD043824L, of Brooklyn, NY, was assessed a \$500 civil penalty because Apple had a license disciplined by New York. (01-23-07)

**Craig R. Bardell**, license no. MD043602E, of Forrest City, AK, had his license to practice medicine reinstated to probationary status based on the payment of his civil penalty. (01-23-07)

**Bridget Colleen Calhoun**, license no. MA001632L, of Sewickley, Allegheny County, was placed on probation for one year and assessed a \$1,000 civil penalty. Calhoun, a physician assistant, independently prescribed drugs. (01-23-07)

**Joel I. Franck**, license no. MD035273E, of Lewiston, ME, was reprimanded because Franck had disciplinary action taken against his license to practice by a proper licensing authority of another state. (01-23-07)

**William W. Frost**, license no. MD024287E, of Washington, Washington County, voluntarily and permanently surrendered his license, because Frost had been charged with indecent assault with respect to female patients. (01-23-07)

**Michael R. Glass**, license no. MD039100E of Ithaca, NY, consented to the immediate and permanent voluntary surrender of his license to practice in Pennsylvania. Glass had a license or other authorization to practice the profession revoked or suspended or had other disciplinary action taken, or an application for a license or other authorization refused, revoked or suspended by a proper licensing authority of another state, territory, possession or country, or a branch of the federal government. (01-23-07)

**Daniel P. Haney**, license no. RT003926 of Philadelphia, Philadelphia County, was assessed a \$500 civil penalty because Haney practiced as an

## Disciplinary Actions

athletic trainer prior to obtaining a license from Jan. 2004 to March 2006. (01-23-07)

**Cynthia L. Harrell**, license no. MD071091L, of Cherry Hill, NJ, was assessed a \$1,000 civil penalty because Harrell failed to report to the board within 60 days of receipt of notice of a complaint in a medical professional liability action that was filed against her. (01-23-07)

**Suzannah M. Hoffman**, license no. RT001515A of Pittsburgh, Allegheny County, was assessed a \$500 civil penalty because Hoffman continued to practice while his license to practice as a certified athletic trainer was expired. (01-23-07)

**Raymond T. Knorr**, license no. RT000174A, of Elizabethtown, Lancaster County, was assessed a \$500 civil penalty because Knorr practiced as an athletic trainer when he was not currently licensed and registered. (01-23-07)

**Aron S. Lantz**, license no. MD-017724E, of Woodmere, NY, was ordered to surrender his license, because Lantz was unable to practice his profession with reasonable skill and safety. (01-23-07)

**Veronica M. Pratt**, license no. MD063162L, of Pittsburgh, Allegheny County, paid a \$1,000 civil penalty because Pratt failed to report to the board within 60 days of receipt of notice of a complaint in a medical professional liability action that was filed against her. (01-23-07)

**Maurice Raynard Roulhac**, license no. MD047999L of Fayetteville, NC, was reprimanded and shall comply with the terms of the North Carolina consent agreement. Roulhac had disciplinary action taken against his license to practice the profession by a proper licensing authority of another state. (01-23-07)

**David John Sedor**, license no. MD038409E of Wilkes-Barre, Luzerne County, was assessed a

\$1,000 civil penalty because Sedor failed to report to the board within 60 days of receipt of notice of a complaint in a medical professional liability action that was filed against him. (01-23-07)

**Harry W. Sell**, license no. MD-026375-E of Pittsburgh, Allegheny County, was assessed a \$1,000 civil penalty because Sell failed to report to the board within 60 days of receipt of notice of a complaint in a medical professional liability action that was filed against him. (01-23-07)

**Joan H. Shapiro**, license no. MD014421E, of Farmington Hills, MI, was assessed a \$250 civil penalty because Shapiro had her license or other authorization to practice the profession revoked or suspended or had other disciplinary action taken by a proper licensing authority of another state, territory, possession or country, or a branch of the federal government. (01-23-07)

**Kathleen J. Smith**, license no. MD428004, of Atlanta, GA, was assessed a \$500 civil penalty and a public reprimand was placed on Smith's permanent board record because Smith had disciplinary action taken against her license by the proper licensing authority of another state. (01-23-07)

**Angela Dumitrache**, license no. MD419411, of Frederick, MD, was assessed a \$200 civil penalty based on disciplinary action imposed by the state of West Virginia. (01-24-07)

**Alfonso Rodriguez**, license no. MD038750E, of Wilkes-Barre, Luzerne County, was suspended for one year with one month of the suspension active and the remaining period stayed in favor of probation, based on his conviction of a misdemeanor relating to the health profession. (01-24-07)

**Jesus Enrique Pacheco**, license no. YM010239, of Wilmerding, Allegheny County, had his license to practice respiratory care revoked for being guilty of immoral conduct. (01-26-07)

**Vu T. Nguyen**, license no.

MD421028, of Lancaster, Lancaster County, had his license placed on probation for one year and was assessed a \$2,000 civil penalty. Nguyen was convicted of a felony. (01-31-07)

**Mark E. Farmer**, license no. MD046704L, of Ft. Myers, FL, was assessed a \$2,500 civil penalty because Farmer had disciplinary action taken against his license to practice the profession by the proper licensing authority of another state. (02-27-07)

**Billy H. Ford**, license no. MD048607L, of Metuchen, NJ, consented to the immediate and permanent voluntary surrender of his license. Ford had disciplinary action taken against his license by a proper licensing authority of another state. (02-27-07)

**Steven B. Gilman**, license no. MD031020E of West Chester, Chester County, was assessed a \$1,000 civil penalty because Gilman failed to report to the board within 60 days of receipt of notice of a complaint in a medical professional liability action that was filed against him. (02-27-07)

**Robert W. Harrington**, license no. MD046928L of Green Bay, WI, voluntarily surrendered his license because Harrington had a license or other authorization to practice the profession revoked or suspended or had other disciplinary action taken by a proper licensing authority of another state, territory, or possession. (02-27-07)

**Jennifer A. Katz**, license no. MW008571L, of Mohnton, Berks County, was assessed a \$1,000 civil penalty. Katz practiced as a midwife from Jan. 1, 2005, to Oct. 12, 2005, when her license was expired. (02-27-07)

**Adam D. Koenigsberg**, license no. MD061465L, of Jacksonville, FL, has permanently and voluntarily surrendered his license. Koenigsberg had disciplinary action taken against his license by the proper licensing authority of another state. (02-27-07)

**Edward L. Lancaster, Jr.**,

license no. MD222634L of Lancaster, Lancaster County, was suspended permanently because Lancaster was convicted of a felony or misdemeanor relating to the health profession in a court of the commonwealth. (02-27-07)

**Lola T. Margron**, license no. MA001345L, of Stroudsburg, Monroe County, was assessed a \$500 civil penalty and had a public reprimand placed on her permanent board record. Margron practiced as a physician assistant while her license was expired. (02-27-07)

**Burton V. Silverstein**, license no. MD-012784-E of Gainesville, FL, had a public reprimand placed on his permanent board record because Silverstein had disciplinary action taken against his license by a proper licensing authority of another state. (02-27-07)

**Roger D. Sutton**, license no. MD-027961-L of Pittsburgh, Allegheny County, permanently and voluntarily surrendered his license because Sutton engaged in unprofessional conduct. (02-27-07)

**Samuel P. Fleisher**, license no. YM010137, of McComb, MS, formerly of York County, had his license to practice respiratory care indefinitely suspended until such time as he provides documentary evidence to submitting to a physical and mental examination verifying that he is fit to practice his profession safely. (02-28-07)

**Jeffery Allen Prosser**, license no. MD070337L, of Tarpon Springs, FL, was assessed a \$1,000 civil penalty based on disciplinary action taken against his license to practice medicine by the proper licensing authority of Florida. (03-05-07)

**Alfonso Rodriguez**, license no. MD038750E, of Wilkes-Barre, Luzerne County, had his license reinstated to probationary status based on the completion of the terms outlined in a previous board order. (03-05-07)

**Nicholas A. DiCarlo**, of Mingo Junction, OH, was denied licensure to practice as a respiratory care practitioner based on disciplinary action taken by the proper licensing authority of another state. (03-20-07)

**Kevin J. Blankenship**, license no. MD418610, of Morgantown, WV, was assessed a \$1,000 civil penalty and had a public reprimand placed on his board record because Blankenship had disciplinary action imposed by a proper licensing authority of another state and failed to report to the board within 60 days of the occurrence of the disciplinary action. (03-27-07)

**Jay S. Bonovitz**, license no. MD014885E of Merion Station, Montgomery County, was assessed a \$2,000 civil penalty and ordered to complete 10 hours of continuing medical education (CME) credits within six months. Bonovitz departed from, or failed to conform to, standards of acceptable and prevailing medical practice. (03-27-07)

**Muhammed H. Jawadi**, license no. MD015096E, of Springfield, OH, was publicly reprimanded and assessed a \$1,000 civil penalty because Jawadi's license or other authorization to practice the profession was revoked or suspended or other disciplinary action was taken against him by the proper licensing authority of Ohio, and Jawadi failed to report disciplinary action instituted against him by the licensing authority of Ohio. (03-27-07)

**Elisabeth M. Montague**, license no. MD027666E, of Mooresville, NC, consented to the indefinite suspension, lasting no less than one year from the adoption of her consent agreement and order, of her license to practice medicine and surgery in Pennsylvania. Montague had a license revoked or suspended by a proper licensing authority of another state, territory, possession or country, or a branch of the federal government. (03-27-07)

**Anil S. Patil**, license no. MD067305L, of Melville, NY, was issued a public reprimand and assessed a \$1,000 civil penalty because Patil had disciplinary action taken against his license to practice

the profession by the proper licensing authority of another state. (03-27-07)

**Reginald J. Pereira**, license no. MD039734L, of Flushing, NY, was publicly reprimanded and assessed a \$2,000 civil penalty because Pereira had a license revoked or suspended or had other disciplinary action taken, or an application for a license or other authorization refused, revoked or suspended by a proper licensing authority of another state, territory, possession or country, or a branch of the federal government; and he failed to report two disciplinary actions instituted against him by a licensing authority of another state, territory, or possession of the United States, another branch of the federal government within 60 days after its occurrence. (03-27-07)

**Leon Rozin**, license no. MD029410E of Pittsburgh, Allegheny County, was assessed a \$3,000 civil penalty and his license was placed on probation for one year subject to terms and conditions. Rozin received disposition in lieu of trial in the disposition of felony charges in a federal court. (03-27-07)

**Fortunato O. Sunio**, license no. MD030177L of Denton, TX, had his license suspended for a minimum of one year, because Sunio had disciplinary action taken on his license by the Texas State Board of Medical Examiners. (03-27-07)

**John Varghese**, license no. MD051492Y, of Horseheads, NY, has agreed to a restriction of his license in Pennsylvania. because Varghese had his license to practice the profession restricted and had other disciplinary action taken by the proper licensing authority of another state. (03-27-07)

**Yasser F. Zeid**, license no. MD057581L, of Brooklyn, NY, was assessed a \$2,500 civil penalty because Zeid had a license or other authorization to practice disciplined by a proper licensing authority of another state. (03-27-07)

**L. Alan Egleston**, license no. MD014972E, of Camp Hill, Cumberland County, had his

## Disciplinary Actions

license indefinitely suspended for his conviction of a felony. (04-04-07)

**Wilfred Brown**, license no. MD056049L, of Middlebury, CT, had his license reprimanded and was assessed a \$1,000 civil penalty based on disciplinary action taken against his license to practice medicine by the proper licensing authority of another state. (04-16-07)

**Peter J. Delenick**, license no. MD023991E, of McLean, VA, had his license indefinitely suspended based on disciplinary action taken against his license by the proper licensing authority of another state. (04-17-07)

**D. L. Narayana**, of Flossmoor, IL, was denied licensure to practice medicine and surgery based on Narayana having practiced medicine in a manner that departs from a quality standard of the practice. (04-18-07)

**Caroline Margaret Apovian**, license no. MD048445L, of Boston, MA, was assessed a \$1,000 civil penalty and had a public reprimand placed on her permanent board record. Apovian had disciplinary action taken against her medical license by the licensing authority of the Massachusetts board. (04-24-07)

**Floriel P. Diaz**, license no. MD027669L, of Lehigh, Carbon County, was assessed a \$1,000 civil penalty because Diaz failed to report to the board within 60 days of receipt of notice of a complaint in a medical professional liability action that was filed against her. (04-24-07)

**Kazi Mahmudul Hassan**, license no. MD048216L, of St. Petersburg, FL, was assessed a \$5,000 civil penalty because his license was disciplined by the proper licensing authority of another state. (04-24-07)

**Timothy K. Giel**, license no. RT000127A, of Pittsburgh, Allegheny County, had a public reprimand placed on his permanent board record and was assessed a \$1,000 civil penalty because he continued to practice as an athletic trainer while his

certificate was expired from Jan. 1, 1999, to Dec. 16, 2004. (04-24-07)

**Nimer Iskandarani**, license no. MD035688L of Cedar Grove, NJ, was assessed a \$5,000 civil penalty and a public reprimand was placed on his license because Iskandarani had disciplinary action taken against his license to practice the profession by a proper licensing authority of another state. (04-24-07)

**Barry A. Janoff**, license no. MD025751E of Wyncote, Montgomery County, was assessed a \$1,000 civil penalty because Janoff failed to maintain medical records for a patient for a period of at least seven years from the date of the last medical service. (04-24-07)

**Ella McElwee**, of New Enterprise, Bedford County, was assessed a \$6,500 civil penalty because McElwee violated the act by the unauthorized practice of medicine through the use of the title "doctor" and by diagnosing and treating patients. (04-24-07)

**Mark R. Mouritsen**, license no. MD072229L of Sierra Vista, AZ, was placed on no less than five years probation because Mouritsen had disciplinary action taken against his license to practice medicine and surgery by the proper licensing authority of another state. (04-24-07)

**Joseph V. Nicolosi**, license no. MD042883L, of Aledo, TX, was assessed a \$5,000 civil penalty because Nicolosi had disciplinary action imposed on his license to practice the profession by a proper licensing authority of another state. (04-24-07)

**Harold Pascal**, license no. MD038958L, of East Stroudsburg, Monroe County, voluntarily surrendered his license while his criminal case is pending in the Monroe County Court of Common Pleas. Pascal has been charged with drug law violations relating to his practice of medicine. (04-24-07)

**Jasmin Soucie**, of Atlanta, GA, was assessed a \$500 civil penalty because Soucie fraudulently misrepresented herself as a certified athletic trainer without

being certified or licensed to be an athletic trainer. (04-24-07)

**Kimberly M. Telmanik**, license no. MA001369L of Elyria, OH, agreed to the permanent voluntary surrender of her license because Telmanik engaged in unprofessional conduct by departing from, or failing to conform to, an ethical or quality standard of the profession whereby actual injury to a patient need not be established. (04-24-07)

**Dhvanit K. Vijapura**, license no. MD043045L, of Panama City, FL, permanently and voluntarily surrendered his license because Vijapura had disciplinary action taken against his license by the proper licensing authority of another state. (04-24-07)

**Laura Gerhardt**, license no. YM010658, of Clarks Summit, Lackawanna County, was suspended by the Lackawanna County Court of Common Pleas on April 17, 2007. The court issued the suspension, which was effective immediately, under section 4355 of the Domestic Relations Code. (04-25-07)

**Robert Peter Heuermann**, license no. MD015982E, of Hartselle, AL, had his license indefinitely suspended and was assessed a \$500 civil penalty based on disciplinary action taken against his license by the proper licensing authority of Alabama. (04-30-07)

**Jorge A. Martinez**, license no. MD039186L, of Poland, OH, had his license indefinitely suspended based on findings he was convicted of felonies under the Controlled Substance, Drug, Device and Cosmetic Act. (04-30-07)

**Larkin R. Misplay**, license no. YM006828L, of Pittsburgh, Allegheny County, was publicly reprimanded based on having been convicted of a misdemeanor relating to a health profession. (04-30-07)

**John L. Turner**, license no. MD013068E, of Deptford, NJ, had his license indefinitely suspended for being unable to practice medicine with reasonable skill and safety to patients by reason of illness or addiction to drugs or

alcohol. (05-01-07)

**Janet Marie Basinger**, license no. MD073427L, of Alamosa, CO, voluntarily and permanently surrendered her license to practice medicine and surgery in Pennsylvania. Basinger's license or other authorization to practice the profession was suspended and other disciplinary action was taken against her by the proper licensing authority of another state. (05-22-07)

**Frank W. Bregar**, license no. MD025300E, of Pittsburgh, Allegheny County, was automatically suspended based on the fact that he pled guilty to two felony counts of acquiring and obtaining possession of controlled substances by misrepresentation in violation of the Controlled Substance, Drug, Device and Cosmetic Act. (05-10-07)

**Robert James Close**, of Greensboro, NC, was granted licensure to practice respiratory care, with his license to be placed on probation until his North Carolina license is returned to unrestricted status. (05-10-07)

**David Krasnopolsky**, license no. MD038379E, of Lexington, KY, had his license indefinitely suspended based on disciplinary action taken by the proper licensing authority of Kentucky. (05-11-07)

**Mark Leon Grams**, license no. MD070227L, of Ganado, AZ, had his license reprimanded based on disciplinary action taken against his license to practice medicine by the proper licensing authority of another state. (05-14-07)

**Milan John Smolko**, license no. MD030578E, of Clarks Summit, Lackawanna County, had his license automatically suspended for at least 10 years based on findings he was convicted of a felony under the Controlled Substance, Drug, Device and Cosmetic Act. (05-17-07)

**Mario Candal**, license no. MD035292L, of Easton, Northampton County, was ordered to cease practicing obstetrics because Candal violated the Act at 63 P.S. §422.42(8) (unprofessional conduct)

relating to his standard of care in an obstetrics case. (05-22-07)

**Aziz Ur Rehma Chaudhry**, license no. MD036094E, of Philadelphia, Philadelphia County, was ordered to voluntarily and permanently surrender his license because he has been charged with drug law violations relating to his practice of medicine. (05-22-07)

**Angel R. Findlay**, license no. YM011777, of Follansbee, WV, was assessed a \$500 civil penalty because Findlay practiced as a respiratory care provider from on or about May 20, 2005 until on or about Nov. 13, 2006, without a valid, current certificate. (05-22-07)

**M.A. Jafarzadeh-Davani**, license no. MD033997L, of Woodland Hills, CA, permanently and voluntarily surrendered his license to practice medicine because Jafarzadeh-Davani failed to report to the board within 60 days of receiving notice of a complaint in a medical professional liability action filed against him. (05-22-07)

**Michael R. Keri**, license no. YM005617L, of Johnstown, Cambria County, agreed to the immediate and permanent voluntary surrender of his respiratory care practitioner's certificate because Keri committed unprofessional or immoral conduct. (05-22-07)

**Conrad Kriklyn King, Jr.**, license no. MD038326L, of Newark, DE, had a public reprimand placed on his board record because he had disciplinary action taken against his license by the proper licensing authority of another state. (05-22-07)

**Alan Yale Newhoff**, license no. MD006801E, of Phoenix, AZ, had a public reprimand placed on his board record. Newhoff had disciplinary action taken against his license by the proper licensing authority of another state. (05-22-07)

**Scott J. Realey**, license no. YM003236L, of Mt. Ephraim, NJ, was indefinitely suspended

for no less than three years, immediately stayed in favor of no less than three years of probation. Realey was convicted of driving under the influence of alcohol and he was unable to practice the profession with reasonable skill and safety to patients by reason of illness, addiction to drugs or alcohol ("impairment"). (05-22-07)

**Nancy Ellyn Sanderson**, license no. MD047672L, of Carthage, NY, was placed on two years' probation and had a public reprimand placed on her permanent board record. Limitations were placed on Sanderson's license and she shall not engage in the practice of emergency or urgent care medicine. Sanderson had disciplinary action taken against her license by the proper licensing authority of another state. (05-22-07)

**Chris E. Schrum**, license no. YM011414, of Bedford, Bedford County, was suspended for no less than three years, immediately stayed in favor of no less than three years of probation. Schrum is unable to practice the profession with reasonable skill and safety to patients by reason of illness, addiction to drugs or alcohol, or mental incompetence. (05-22-07)

**Joel I. Wagman**, license no. MD051924L, of Amherst, NH, paid a \$1,000 civil penalty. Wagman's license to practice medicine was disciplined by the proper licensing authority of another state. (05-22-07)

**Javier Martinez Torres**, license no. MD048061L, of Culver City, CA, had his license indefinitely suspended and was assessed a \$500 civil penalty based on disciplinary action taken against his license to practice medicine and surgery imposed by the proper licensing authority of another state. (06-05-07)

**Layne J. Molmen**, license no. YM005495L, of Plymouth Meeting, Montgomery County,

**Check [www.dos.state.pa.us](http://www.dos.state.pa.us) for updated disciplinary action reports.**



## Disciplinary Actions

had his license indefinitely suspended based on findings that he is unable to practice with reasonable skill and safety to patients by reason of mental or physical illness or condition or physiological or psychological dependence upon alcohol, hallucinogenic or narcotic drugs or other drugs which tend to impair judgment or coordination. (06-06-07)

**David Clinton Blocker**, license no. MD044976E, of Centerville, OH, was assessed a \$500 civil penalty. Blocker had disciplinary action taken against his license by the proper licensing authority of another state. A public reprimand was placed on Blocker's permanent board record. (6-26-07)

**Musya Branovan**, license no. MD034822E, of Los Angeles, CA, voluntarily, irrevocably and permanently surrendered his license because he had his license disciplined in another state, and failed to report a disciplinary action taken on his license to practice medicine and surgery by another state. (06-26-07)

**Zhivko N. Daskalov**, license no. MD040639E, of Westwood Hills, KS, has permanently and voluntarily surrendered his license. Daskalov had his license or other authorization to practice the profession revoked or suspended or had other disciplinary action taken against his license by the proper licensing authority of another state. (06-26-07)

**Neal Hall**, license no. MD038426E, of Flourtown, Montgomery County, was assessed a \$5,000 civil penalty and had a reprimand placed on his board record. Hall was convicted of a crime which involved moral turpitude directly or indirectly affecting the welfare of citizens of this commonwealth. (06-26-07)

**George C. Ibars**, license no. MD031993E, of Miami, FL, was assessed a \$5,000 civil penalty.

Ibars had disciplinary action taken against his license by the proper licensing authority of another state. (06-26-07)

**Steven W. Klinman**, license no. MD013436E, of Elkins Park, Montgomery County, agreed to the permanent, voluntary surrender of his license because he failed to carry out the minimum standards for the prescribing of controlled substances which include a physical examination of the patient. (06-26-07)

**Richard Allen Koff**, license no. MD040042L, of Richboro, Bucks County, was suspended indefinitely for a period of not less than two years, immediately stayed in favor of probation subject to terms and conditions set forth in the order. Koff was assessed a \$5,000 civil penalty after he pled guilty to a felony in a federal court. (06-26-07)

**Daniel Luczkow**, license no. MD058942L, of West Barnstable, MA, was assessed a \$500 civil penalty because he had a license or other authorization to practice the medical profession revoked or suspended or had other disciplinary action taken, or an application for a medical license or other authorization refused, revoked or suspended by a proper licensing authority of another state, territory, possession or country, or a branch of the federal government. (06-26-07)

**John F. McIntyre, Jr.**, license no. MD014415E of Tunkhannock, Wyoming County, was assessed a \$2,000 civil penalty and had a reprimand placed on his board record. McIntyre engaged in unprofessional conduct by departing from, or failing to conform to, an ethical or quality standard of the profession, whereby actual injury to a patient need not be established. (06-26-07)

**Dennis L. Mickleson**, license no. MD027662E, of Palmer, AR, voluntarily surrendered his license. Mickleson had his license revoked or suspended or had other disciplinary action taken, or an application for a license or other

authorization refused, revoked, or suspended by a proper licensing authority of another state, territory, possession, or country, or a branch of the federal government. (06-26-07)

**Ramsey N. Nassar**, license no. MD034808E, of Louisville, KY, agreed to the permanent voluntary surrender of his license. Nassar failed to complete 100 clock hours of continuing education in timely and acceptable courses and programs in the profession during the preceding biennial period. (06-26-07)

**Manuel Pagalilauan**, license no. MD036065L of Bensalem, Bucks County, voluntarily and permanently surrendered his license. Pagalilauan was charged with drug law violations relating to his practice of medicine. (06-26-07)

**Robert Dean Phillips**, license no. MD008140E, of Morris, AL, agreed to permanently and voluntarily surrender his license because he had disciplinary action taken against his license by the proper licensing authority if another state. (06-26-07)

**Santiago L. Roig**, license no. MD039915E, of Oakdale, Allegheny County, was assessed a \$1,000 civil penalty and a public reprimand was placed on his permanent board record. Roig had a license or authorization to practice revoked or suspended or had other disciplinary action taken, or an application for a license or other authorization refused, revoked or suspended by a proper licensing authority of another state, territory, possession or county, or a branch of the federal government, and failed to report disciplinary action instituted against him by a licensing authority of another state, territory, possession or county, or a branch of the federal government. (06-26-07)

**Jay Schwartz**, license no. MD071013L, of Natchez, MS, was placed into the Disciplinary Monitoring Unit for five years

because Schwartz voluntarily surrendered his registration, and was in the past unable to practice with reasonable skill and safety to patients by reason of his abuse of alcohol and benzodiazopene. (06-26-07)

**Vincent Joseph Thompson, III**, license no. MD426812, of Browns Mills, NJ, was placed on indefinite probation for no less than five years and had a public reprimand placed on his permanent board record. In addition, Thompson was ordered to complete the Medical Review and Accreditation Council Inc.'s postevaluative medical education program and abide by any recommendation proposed by or as a result of any such programming because he had disciplinary action taken against his license by the proper licensing authority of another state. (06-26-07)

**Aldino L. Pierotti**, license no. MD053983L of Pittsburgh, Allegheny County, was assessed a \$10,000 civil penalty and was suspended for one year, 15 days active and the remaining 11 ½ months stayed in favor of probation. Pierotti is also required to complete six hours of continuing education by Dec. 31, 2007. Pierotti made misleading, deceptive or fraudulent representations in the practice of the profession. (07-01-07)

**Mounir Mekhail**, license no. MD057269L, of Garland, TX, had his license publicly reprimanded and was assessed a \$1,000 civil penalty based on disciplinary action taken against his license by the proper licensing authority of another state. (07-06-07)

**Richard B. Manis**, license no. MD047847L, of Huntington, WV, had his license publicly reprimanded based on disciplinary action taken against his license in Missouri. (07-20-07)

**Derek L. Chew**, license no. RT003001 of Erie, Erie County, was assessed a \$500 civil penalty. Chew practiced as an athletic trainer while his license was expired from Feb. 1, 2003, to Aug. 25, 2005. (07-24-07)

**Thomas F. Clauss**, license no. MD023503L, of Throop, Lackawanna County, immediately and permanently voluntarily surrendered his license. Clauss is unable to practice the profession with reasonable skill and safety to patients by reason of his health condition. (07-24-07)

**Ralph W. Crawford**, license no. MD008718E of Altoona, Blair County, voluntarily and permanently surrendered his license. Crawford has been charged with drug law violations relating to his practice of medicine. (07-24-07)

**John G. Kenney**, license no. MD018602E, of Charlottesville, VA, permanently, voluntarily surrendered his license to practice medicine in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania because Kenney had his license to practice medicine disciplined by the proper licensing authority of another state and he failed to report the disciplinary action within sixty days after its occurrence. (07-24-07)

**Francisco A. Ramos-Caro**, license no. MD037615E, of Gainesville, FL, was assessed a \$2,500 civil penalty, had a public reprimand placed on his permanent board record, and was ordered to submit evidence that he complied with the terms and conditions of a Florida order. Ramos-Caro had a license or other authorization to practice the profession revoked or suspended or had other disciplinary action taken, or an application for a license or other authorization refused, revoked or suspended by a proper licensing authority of another state, territory, possession or country, or a branch of the federal government. (07-24-07)

**Edsel A. Rodriguez**, license no. MD003777E, of Elysburg, Northumberland County, agreed to have his license placed on active retired status because Rodriguez's current medical condition renders him unable to actively practice medicine at this time with reasonable skill and safety. (07-24-07)

**Juan Carlos Rondon**, license no. MD071766L, of Pembroke Pines, FL, was assessed a \$5,000

civil penalty and must submit proof of compliance with the Florida final order on or before Dec. 31, 2007, because he had disciplinary action taken by a proper licensing authority of another state. (07-24-07)

**Joan M. Stroud**, license no. MA000346L, of Gastonia, NC, voluntarily surrendered her license because Stroud's license was disciplined by the proper licensing authority of another state. (07-24-07)

**Doyle L. Tarwater**, license no. MD030235E, of Charleroi, Washington County, had his license revoked. Tarwater practiced medicine and surgery by ordering an x-ray on or about June 11, 2005 when he was not authorized to do so because his license was suspended as of May 21, 2004. Tarwater practiced medicine in Pennsylvania without maintaining the requisite professional liability insurance, namely tail coverage for Jan. 9, 1984, to Dec. 31, 2002. (07-24-07)

**David W. Wiedeman**, license no. YM005257L, of Peach Bottom, Lancaster County, was assessed a \$1,000 civil penalty and his license to practice respiratory therapy was publicly reprimanded. Wiedeman made an untrue representation, practiced deceit in obtaining renewal of his respiratory therapy license, and made a false or deceptive biennial registration with the board. (07-24-07)

**Karen A. Wunderlich**, license no. MD045316L of Brooksville, FL, was assessed a \$1,500 civil penalty. Wunderlich failed to report disciplinary action taken by the proper licensing authority of another state within 60 days of its occurrence. (07-24-07)

**L. Alan Egleston**, license no. MD014972E, of New Wilmington, Lawrence County, had his license revoked based on findings that he has been convicted of a felony relating to the medical profession; his actions presented an immediate and clear danger

## Disciplinary Actions

to public health and safety; he committed an act of immoral conduct that directly affected the health, welfare or safety of the citizens of the commonwealth; he is guilty of immoral or unprofessional conduct because his actions constitute a departure from ethical and quality standards of the profession; and he possessed, used, prescribed for use or distributed a controlled substance or legend drug in a way other than for an acceptable medical purpose. (07-25-07)

**David M. Leach**, license no. MD039284E, of Newtown, Bucks County, was granted reinstatement of his license to practice medicine and surgery, said license to be placed on probation for two years based on findings that he had met all requirements of a previous board order. (07-25-07)

**John Christopher Luke**, of Brooklyn, NY, had his application for licensure to practice medicine and surgery denied based on indications of negligence in the practice of medicine. (07-27-07)

**Richard A. Hellander**, license no. MD067371L, of Laurel Springs, NJ, had his license indefinitely suspended, immediately stayed in favor of probation, and was assessed a \$500 civil penalty based on disciplinary action taken against his license to practice medicine and surgery imposed by the proper licensing authority of another state. (07-30-07)

**Ira Stephen Saposnik**, license no. MD025784E, of Nashville, TN, had his license indefinitely suspended based on disciplinary action taken against his license to practice medicine and surgery imposed by the proper licensing authority of another state. (07-31-07)

**James M. Stanch**, license no. MD029722E, of Manahawkin, NJ, had his license revoked

based on findings that he has been convicted of a felony in a federal court. (07-31-07)

**Claude E. Hartman**, of Elkhart, IN, had his application for license to practice medicine and surgery denied based on Hartman having practiced medicine in a manner that departs from a quality standard of the practice. (08-15-07)

**William Mangino, II**, license no. MD037889L, of Wayne, Delaware County, had his license indefinitely suspended based on findings he was convicted of felonies under the Controlled Substance, Drug, Device and Cosmetic Act. (08-15-07)

**Robert P. Ditizio**, license no. MD047027L, of Collegeville, Montgomery County, had his license reinstated to probationary status based on findings that he has completed the terms of a previous board order. (08-27-07)

**Robyn L. Alexander**, license no. MA000726L, of Cherry Hill, NJ, had her license to practice as a physician assistant indefinitely suspended for no less than three years, immediately stayed in favor of no less than three years of probation, subject to terms and conditions under the Disciplinary Monitoring Unit. Alexander was unable to practice the profession with reasonable skill and safety to patients by reason of illness, addiction to drugs or alcohol and that she violated a lawful order of the board. (08-28-07)

**Eric J. Burrous**, license no. YM011882 of Galeton, Potter County, was assessed a \$250 civil penalty because he practiced or offered to practice as a respiratory care practitioner without having a valid, current temporary permit or certificate from June 1, 2006 through March 1, 2007. (08-28-07)

**Gaston F. DaCosta**, license no. MD072824L, of Carthage, NY, was suspended for two years, immediately stayed in favor of probation because he was disciplined by the proper licensing authority of another state. (08-28-07)

**Ralph A. DiGiacomo**, license no. MD039630L of West Kingston, RI,

was immediately and indefinitely suspended because DiGiacomo had disciplinary action taken against his license by the proper licensing authority of another state. (08-28-07)

**Curtis George Kelly**, license no. YM000366L of Pittsburgh, Allegheny County, was suspended for no less than one year because he is unable to practice with reasonable skill and safety to patients because of illness, addiction to drugs or alcohol. (08-28-07)

**Cheryl B. Langerman**, license no. YM004604L of Oakdale, Allegheny County, had her license to practice respiratory care indefinitely suspended for no less than three years, immediately stayed in favor of no less than three years of probation subject to terms and conditions. Langerman was unable to practice the profession with reasonable skill and safety to patients by reason of illness or addiction to drugs or alcohol. (08-28-07)

**Gregory A. Nelson**, license no. MD024997E, of Philadelphia, Philadelphia County, was assessed a \$5,000 civil penalty and had a reprimand placed on his board record because Nelson was convicted of willful failure to pay taxes, in violation of federal law. (08-28-07)

**Lovsho Phen**, license no. MD037401E of Portola, CA, voluntarily surrendered her license to practice medicine and surgery in Pennsylvania because Phen had disciplinary action imposed by a proper licensing authority of another state. (08-28-07)

**Peter W. Ross, Jr.**, license no. MD014843E, of Louisville, KY, voluntarily and permanently surrendered his license because his license to practice medicine and surgery was disciplined by the proper licensing authority of another state. (08-28-07)

**John J. Ryan, Jr.**, license no. MA001825L of Glassboro, NJ, was suspended for no less than three years, immediately stayed in favor of no less than three years of probation because he had a license or other authorization to

practice the profession revoked or suspended or had other disciplinary action taken, or an application for a license or other authorization refused, revoked or suspended by a proper licensing authority of another state, territory, possession or country, or a branch of the federal government. (08-28-07)

**Gregory J. Salko**, license no. MD013922E, voluntarily surrendered his license to practice medicine while his criminal cases are pending in the Lackawanna County Court of Common Pleas and the U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Pennsylvania. Salko was arrested on July 31, 2007, in Lackawanna County and charged with illegally prescribing controlled substances and with two counts of neglect of a care-dependant person. Additionally, Salko was indicted on 19 charges in the U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Pennsylvania, which included two counts of health care fraud and 17 counts of false statements in health care matters. The voluntary surrender of Salko's license was effective Sept. 7, 2007, due to the board's concern about continuity of patient care and to afford the opportunity for patients to choose a new treating physician. The consent agreement provided that on Aug. 9, 2007, Salko surrendered his DEA registration, agreed not to assume the care of any new patients and would only provide treatment to those existing patients requiring care until they could appropriately be transferred to another physician. Salko last practiced in Carbondale, Lackawanna County. (08-28-07)

**Nicholas Frank Sapienza**, license no. MD427705, of Utica, NY, was assessed a \$500 civil penalty; his license was placed on indefinite probation for no less than five years; he was ordered not to write prescriptions for himself or members of his immediate family; a public reprimand was placed on his permanent board record. Sapienza had disciplinary action taken against his license by the proper licensing authority of another state. (08-28-07)

**Vladimir P. Shurlan**, license no. MD042098E of Cambridge, MA, permanently and voluntarily surrendered his license to practice

medicine in Pennsylvania because he pled guilty to one count of health care fraud and because he was disciplined by the Board of Registration in Medicine in Massachusetts in that he was permitted to resign his license to practice. (08-28-07)

**Dwight Stansbury**, of Marlton, NJ, was assessed a \$5,000 civil penalty and ordered to cease and desist from practicing as an athletic trainer in Pennsylvania until he is properly certified to do so. Stansbury practiced without being certified under the Medical Practice Act. (08-28-07)

**Wendy Michele Thrasher**, license no. YM005311L, of Greenville, Mercer County, was retroactively suspended for 60 days. In addition, two years' probation and a public reprimand were imposed because Thrasher had disciplinary action taken against her license by the proper licensing authority of another state. (08-28-07)

**Ashutosh Virmani**, license no. MD041128E of Charlotte, NC, had a public reprimand placed on his board record because Virmani had disciplinary action imposed on his license to practice medicine by a proper licensing authority of another state. (08-28-07)

**Abdolhossein Hafizi**, license no. MD033962L, of Washington, D.C., had his license revoked based on findings that he has been convicted of a misdemeanor relating to the medical profession in a U.S. court. (08-29-07)

**Masoom M. Kandahari**, license no. MD029951E, of McLean, VA, had his license publically reprimanded based on disciplinary action taken against his license by the proper licensing authority of another state. (09-14-07)

**Richard A. Hellander**, license no. MD067371L, of Philadelphia, Philadelphia County, had his license suspended based on his failure to pay a civil penalty assessed in a previous board order. (09-18-07)

**Noel N. Chua**, license no. MD062544L of Woodbine, GA, was indefinitely suspended. Chua had a license suspended by a proper licensing authority of another state, i.e. the State of Georgia Composite

State Board of Medical Examiner, as a result of pending criminal charges against Chua. (09-25-07)

**Harjot Deol**, license no. MD054570L, of Skaneateles, NY, had his license suspended, immediately stayed in favor of probation during such time as Deol's license to practice medicine in the State of New York is on probation subject to all terms and conditions imposed by a consent agreement and order issued by the New York State Board for Professional Medical Conduct. (09-25-07)

**Douglas F. Greer**, license no. MD014062E of Washington, D.C., agreed to the permanent voluntary surrender of his license because Greer was convicted of a felony in a federal court. (09-25-07)

**John R. Kearney**, license no. MD032163L, of Johnstown, NY, has permanently, voluntarily surrendered his license. Kearney had a license or other authorization to practice the profession revoked or suspended or had other disciplinary action taken, or an application for a license or other authorization refused, revoked or suspended by a proper licensing authority of another state, territory, possession or country, or a branch of the federal government. (09-25-07)

**Aldino L. Pierotti**, license no. MD053983L, of Pittsburgh, Allegheny County, was assessed a \$10,000 civil penalty, was suspended for one year, 15 days active and the remaining 11 ½ months stayed in favor of probation, and must complete six hours of continuing education by Dec. 31, 2007. Pierotti made misleading, deceptive or fraudulent representations in the practice of the profession. (07-01-07)

**Robert E. Trump**, license no. MD017422E of Philadelphia, Philadelphia County, agreed to the permanent voluntary surrender of his license. Trump's license was disciplined by the proper licensing authority of another state. (09-25-07)

**Garen Tchen-Tsiu Vong**, license

## Disciplinary Actions

no. MD049407L, of Garden Grove, CA, permanently, voluntarily surrendered his license because his license was disciplined by the proper licensing authority of another state. (09-25-07)

**Jason M. Mazza**, license no. MA051255, of Kingwood, WV, had his license publicly reprimanded based on disciplinary action taken against his license to practice as a physician assistant by the proper licensing authority of another state. (09-27-07)

**Thomas E. Radecki**, license no. MD015591E, of Clarion, Clarion County, had his license placed on probation based on disciplinary action taken against his license by the proper licensing authority of the State of Illinois. (09-27-07)

**Henry Fred Stacherski, Jr.**, license no. RT001835A, of Feasterville, Bucks County, had his license revoked based on findings that he was criminally convicted of two misdemeanors directly related to his practice as an athletic trainer and he committed immoral and unprofessional conduct, which included departure from or failure to conform to generally accepted ethical standards of conduct for athletic trainers. (10-18-07)

**Philip A. Keller**, license no. MA000877L, of Currituck, NC, had his license indefinitely suspended based on disciplinary action taken against his license to practice as a physician's assistant imposed by the proper licensing authority of another state. (10-19-07)

**Emily L. Cooper**, license no. MD045918L, of Seattle, WA, was assessed a \$1,000 civil penalty because Cooper had a license or other authorization to practice the profession disciplined by the proper licensing authority of another state. (10-23-07)

**Charles A. Corley**, license no. MD060575L, of Fleetwood, NC, voluntarily surrendered his license while his criminal case is pending in the State of Georgia because Corley has been charged with child molestation, enticing a child, and sexual battery of a minor. (10-23-07)

**Lee G. Dante**, license no. MD014206E, of Merion Station, Montgomery County, was suspended for three years, retroactive to Jan. 25, 2006. The suspension was immediately stayed in favor of probation, because Dante had a license or other authorization to practice revoked or suspended or had other disciplinary action taken, or an application for a license or other authorization refused, revoked, or suspended by a proper licensing authority of another state, territory, possession or country, or a branch of the federal government. Dante failed to report disciplinary action institution against him by a licensing authority of another state, territory or possession of the United States, another country or a branch of the federal government within 60 days after its occurrence. (10-23-07)

**Savtanter S. Dillon**, license no. MD419876, of Falls Church, VA, was reprimanded for having disciplinary action imposed by a proper licensing authority of another state. (10-23-07)

**Dan Duryea**, unlicensed, of Lancaster, Lancaster County, was assessed a \$2,000 civil penalty and ordered to cease and desist from using titles "Dr.," "Dr. Dan Duryea," or "doctor," verbally, in his literature or in any advertisements because Duryea does not hold a license as a medical doctor and is not exempted from the requirement of licensure. (10-23-07)

**Jaime Chung Lim**, license no. MD039309L, of Wichita Falls, TX, was assessed a \$1,000 civil penalty and suspended for two years, immediately stayed in favor of probation, because his license was disciplined by the proper licensing authority of another state. (10-23-07)

**Rebecca L. Mutich**, license no. YM002830L, of Belle Vernon, Fayette County, was assessed a \$500 civil penalty for practicing as a respiratory care practitioner when she was not currently licensed. (10-23-07)

**Hemant H. Shah**, license no. MT185142, of Hershey, Dauphin

County, was assessed a \$1,000 civil penalty for practicing as a graduate medical trainee when he was not currently licensed. (10-23-07)

**Raymond M. Shapiro**, license no. MD042741L, of Gaithersburg, MD, was reprimanded because Shapiro received other disciplinary action by the licensing authority of another state. (10-23-07)

**Daniel Voelker**, license no. YM005616L, of Butler, Butler County, had his license revoked based on findings that he acted in a manner as to present an immediate and clear danger to public health or safety and that he was convicted of a felony. (10-26-07)

**Esther Murrie McKenzie**, license no. MD050858L, of Miami Beach, FL, had disciplinary action against her license dismissed based on findings that she maintained accurate, legible and complete medical records and did not engage in unprofessional conduct; and she did not engage in immoral or unprofessional conduct in the treatment of a patient. (10-31-07)

**Theodore B. Thomas**, license no. MD022360L, of Bethel Park, Allegheny County, had disciplinary action against his license dismissed based on findings that his treatment and care of a patient did not constitute incompetence. (10-31-07)

**Samuel G. Leather**, license no. MD418299, of Glenmore, Montgomery County, was temporarily suspended, pending a hearing, based on the finding of probable cause that Leather presents a clear and immediate danger to the public health and safety. (11-14-07)

**Refatt K. Abo-Freka**, license no. MD035624L, of Annandale, VA, was ordered to voluntarily surrender his license for having had a license or other authorization to practice the profession revoked or suspended or had other disciplinary action taken, or an application for a license or other authorization refused, revoked or suspended by a proper licensing authority of another state, territory, possession or country, or a branch

of the federal government. (11-18-07)

**David Peter Russo**, license no. MD 043941L, of East Stroudsburg, Monroe County, was temporarily suspended of his medical license pending a hearing, based upon evidence that he is a clear and immediate danger to the public health and safety. Specifically, Russo admitted to personal abuse of Hydrocodone and Tylenol #3. (11-20-07)

**Robert P. Andelman**, license no. MD031316E, of Dallas, TX, was assessed a \$500 civil penalty because Andelman's license was disciplined by the proper licensing authority of another state. (11-27-07)

**Latif A. Bajwa**, license no. K000286L, of Trenton, NJ, immediately and voluntarily surrendered his registration to practice acupuncture because Bajwa was convicted of a misdemeanor relating to a health profession and engaged in immoral or unprofessional conduct. Bajwa last practiced in Yardley, Pa. (11-27-07)

**Gloria Boonswang**, unlicensed, of Easton, Northampton County, was assessed a \$2,500 civil penalty and ordered to cease and desist from prescribing medication and/or practicing medicine without a license, because Boonswang practiced medicine without a license. (11-27-07)

**Michael Chasin**, license no. MD010531E, of Mesa, AZ, was ordered to voluntarily and permanently surrender his license because Chasin had other disciplinary action taken on his license by a proper licensing authority of another state. (11-27-07)

**Subrahmanyam Chivukula**, license no. MD034229E, of Bristol, Bucks County, was assessed a \$5,000 civil penalty and his license was indefinitely suspended for three years, immediately stayed in favor of probation, because Chivukula

engaged in unprofessional conduct by departing from, or failing to conform to, an ethical standard of the profession. (11-27-07)

**James L. Cox**, license no. MD025441L, of Philadelphia, Philadelphia County, was permanently and voluntarily suspended and was ordered to cease and desist from the practice of medicine on or before Feb. 1, 2008, because Cox engaged in unprofessional and immoral conduct with respect to his care and treatment of several patients and failed to maintain accurate and complete records in accordance with accepted standards of care and practice with these patients. (11-27-07)

**Richard L. Davis**, license no. MD032778E, of Enola, Cumberland County, was suspended for no less than three years, immediately stayed in favor of no less than three years of probation, because Davis obtained controlled substances by fraud. (11-27-07)

**Jonathan E. DiCandilo**, license no. RT002231A, of Pottstown, Montgomery County, was assessed a \$500 civil penalty because DiCandilo continued to practice as an athletic trainer while his certificate was expired. (11-27-07)

**Denise L. Dunlap**, license no. MD041419L, of North East, MD, was suspended for six months, immediately stayed in favor of six months probation, because Dunlap had disciplinary action taken against her license to practice the profession by the proper licensing authority of another state. (11-27-07)

**Mohammad A. Hamedani**, license no. MD031087L, of Fostoria, OH, permanently and voluntarily surrendered his license to practice medicine and surgery because Hamedani was convicted of a felony in a federal court. (11-27-07)

**Marisa A. Mastropietro**, license no. MD-060168-L, of Brooklyn, NY, was ordered to complete 24 credit hours of American Medical Association-accredited or approved remedial education because Mastropietro departed from a quality standard of the profession. (11-27-07)

**Valerie M. Pricener**, license no. MD044748E, of Ruffs Dale, Westmoreland County, was indefinitely suspended for a minimum of period of one year, immediately stayed in favor of probation subject to the board's terms and conditions because Pricener violated a lawful

### UNETHICAL OR UNLICENSED ACTIVITY

If you believe the practice or service provided by a licensed professional to be unethical, below an acceptable standard or out of the scope of the profession; or if you are aware of unlicensed practice, please call the Bureau of Professional and Occupational Affairs compliance hotline at:

**In Pennsylvania: 1-800-822-2113**

**Out of State: 1-717-783-4854**

A complaint form is available on the Department of State's Web site at [www.dos.state.pa.us](http://www.dos.state.pa.us)

## Disciplinary Actions

disciplinary order of the board. (11-27-07)

**Alan B. Storrow**, license no. MD044793L, of Nashville, TN, voluntarily surrendered his license to practice medicine and surgery because Storrow had a license or other authorization to practice the profession revoked or suspended or had other disciplinary action taken by a proper licensing authority of another state. (11-27-07)

**Judith Wilson**, unlicensed, of Portersville, Butler County, was assessed a \$1,000 civil penalty and ordered to cease and desist from providing antepartum, intrapartum, postpartum and/or nonsurgically related gynecological care without a license to practice medicine and/or license to practice as a nurse/midwife because Wilson engaged in the practice of medicine when she was not licensed to do so by providing antepartum, intrapartum, postpartum, and/or nonsurgically related gynecological care. (11-27-07)

**Charlotte R. Wrublewski**, license no. YM005093L, of Churchville, MD, was assessed a \$150 civil penalty and ordered to complete six hours of continuing education because she failed to complete 20 hours of continuing education in timely and acceptable courses and programs in the profession offered by approved providers and provide information to document certification of compliance with continuing education requirements. (11-27-07)

**Jennifer Zampogna**, license no. MD418381, of Camp Hill, Cumberland County, was indefinitely suspended, immediately stayed in favor or probation, because Zampogna was unable to practice the profession with reasonable skill and safety to patients due to addiction to drugs. Zampogna was placed in the Disciplinary Monitoring Unit pending the resolution of her criminal charges in Cumberland County Court. (11-27-07)

**Donna Marie Torbeck**, license no. MA001902L, of Exton, Chester County, had her license indefinitely suspended based on findings that she engaged in misconduct in practice as a physician assistant. (11-29-07)

**Lawrence Glen Adams**, license no. MD040592L, of Philipsburg, Centre County, was assessed a \$2,000 civil penalty because Adams failed to report to the board within 60 days of an arrest for a violation of the Controlled Substance, Drug, Device and Cosmetic Act. (12-18-07)

**Neena Agarwala**, license no. MD071087L, of Omaha, NE, was placed on five months probation because Agarwala had disciplinary action taken against her license to practice medicine and surgery by the proper licensing authority of another state. (12-18-07)

**Jose R. Capiro**, license no. MD040987L, of Nassau, DE, had a public reprimand placed on his board record because Capiro had disciplinary action taken against his license to practice the profession by a proper licensing authority of another state. (12-18-07)

**Gregory David Dischman**, license no. MD045198L, of Cranberry Township, Venango County, voluntarily and indefinitely surrendered his license because an illness rendered Dischman unable to practice with reasonable skill and safety to patients due to a mental and/or physical condition. (12-18-07)

**Nicholas G. Herr**, license no. MD030235L, of Burbank, CA, was ordered to voluntarily and permanently surrender his license and to cease and desist from the practice of medicine, and shall not represent himself as a Pennsylvania Board of Medicine licensee in any manner whatsoever. Within 10 days of adoption of his consent agreement and order, he shall surrender his wall certificate, registration and wallet card to the prosecuting attorney, because Herr failed to report disciplinary action taken on his license by a proper licensing authority of another state. (12-18-07)

**Robert F. Lemert**, license no. MD071287L, of Kissimmee, FL,

agreed to the permanent voluntary surrender of his license to practice medicine and surgery because Lemert had disciplinary action taken against his license by a proper licensing authority of another state. (12-18-07)

**Harold Pascal**, license no. MD038956L, of East Stroudsburg, Monroe County, permanently and voluntarily surrendered his license because he was charged with drug law violations relating to his practice of medicine. (12-18-07)

**Francis M. Powers, Jr.**, license no. MD017804E, of Williamsport, Lycoming County, had a public reprimand placed on his permanent board record and his license to practice medicine and surgery was placed on probation for one year, effective Feb. 7, 2007, to run concurrently with the federal criminal probation assessed as part of his guilty plea, because Powers was convicted of a felony. (12-18-07)

**Jennifer L. Raquet**, license no. MA052350, of Harleysville, Montgomery County, was suspended for no less than three years because Raquet was unfit to practice as a physician assistant unless she had at least three years of documented therapy. (12-18-07)

**David P. Russo**, license no. MD043941L, of East Stroudsburg, Monroe County, was indefinitely suspended for no less than three years, immediately stayed in favor of no less than three years of probation because Russo admitted to personal abuse of Hydrocodone and Tylenol #3. (12-18-07)

**Carlos F. Torres**, license no. MD043786L, of Rochester, N.Y., agreed to the permanent voluntary surrender of his license to practice medicine and surgery because Torres had disciplinary action taken against his license by a proper licensing authority of another state. (12-18-07)

**Mohammad Yaseen**, license no. MD047193L, of Moline, Ill., voluntarily surrendered his license because Yaseen had disciplinary action taken against his license by a proper licensing authority of another state. (12-18-07)

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