



**NORTH CAROLINA
MEDICAL BOARD**

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January 13, 2015

Via Certified Mail, Return Receipt Requested

Pradip Chimanlal Thakkar, M.D.
1201 School Street, Suite F
Wilkesboro, NC 28697-2629

Dear Dr. Thakkar:

The North Carolina Medical Board ("Board") has concluded its investigation regarding a complaint made against you. It is the Board's decision not to commence formal proceedings against your license to practice medicine at this time. However, the Board did vote to issue you this public letter of concern.

You provided primary care to Patient A beginning in March 2007 for diabetes, hypertension, and dyslipidemia.

On July 16, 2013, Patient A presented to you for evaluation of oral lesions and painful swallowing. At the time, Patient A was being prescribed lisinopril, clonidine, triamterene/hydrochlorothiazide and metformin. You diagnosed Patient A as having oral and possible esophageal candidiasis and started her on Mycelex and Diflucan. Patient A returned the next week with continued complaints of throat and mouth soreness. You continued the Mycelex and Diflucan. Patient A returned the following week with poor appetite and weight loss. The laboratory work obtained at this visit was not reviewed by you until two days later and showed Patient A's BUN, creatinine, and potassium levels were elevated, and her TSH was low. All of these results were significantly changed from previous values. You asked Patient A to return to the office and informed her that she needed to go to the hospital.

When Patient A arrived to the emergency room she was told she required transfer to another hospital for treatment. While en route, Patient A coded. Patient A stayed on life support for nine days before succumbing to acute renal failure and thyroid storm.

The Board is concerned the care you provided to Patient A may have failed to conform to acceptable and prevailing standards of medical practice. Additionally, assessment of the care you provided to Patient A was made difficult due to disorganized documentation and missing information in your medical record, including the failure to obtain an adequate history or consistently document relevant physical findings during Patient A's acute terminal illness, which proved to be thyroid storm. It is the position of the North Carolina Medical Board that an accurate and appropriately detailed

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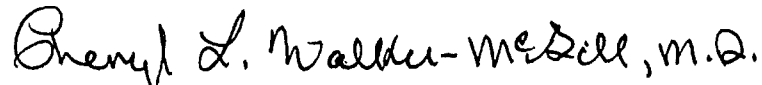
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medical record is an essential component of patient care. Medical providers are expected to maintain adequate legible medical records containing, at a minimum, sufficient information to support the diagnosis, justify the treatment, accurately document the care provided, and indicate advice and cautionary warnings provided to the patient. Patient A's medical records failed to conform to these principles in several respects.

The Board urges you to take steps to ensure the conduct giving rise to the Board's concerns does not happen again. Otherwise, the Board may vote to commence formal disciplinary proceedings against your license to practice as a physician. If that happens, this letter may be entered into evidence in determining the appropriate discipline.

This letter is a public record within the meaning of Chapter 132 of the North Carolina General Statutes and is subject to public inspection and dissemination as required by that law. It will be reported to the Federation of State Medical Boards and may be reported to the National Practitioner Data Bank.

Sincerely,


Cheryl L. Walker-McGill, M.D.
Board President

CWM/BB/bjs

Consent and Waiver

I, Pradip Chimanlal Thakkar, M.D., would like to resolve this matter without the need for more formal proceedings and consent to the Board's issuance of this public letter of concern in resolution of the matter referenced above.

Consented to this the 2nd day of January, 2015 Ⓟ

Pradip Chimanlal Thakkar Pradip Chimanlal Thakkar
Pradip Chimanlal Thakkar, M.D.

State of North Carolina

County of Wilkes

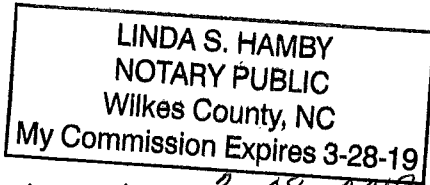
I, Linda S. Hamby, a Notary Public for the above named County and State, do hereby certify that Pradip Chimanlal Thakkar, M.D. personally appeared before me this day and acknowledged the due execution of the foregoing instrument.

Witness my hand and official seal

this the 2 day of January, 2015.

Linda S. Hamby
Notary Public

(SEAL)



My Commission expires: 3-28-2019