

IN THE MATTER OF: Walter Uyesugi, D.O. License Number DO 00644 Case # C19-0322

CONSENT ORDER

The Rhode Island Board of Medical Licensure and Discipline (hereinafter "Board") has reviewed and investigated the above-referenced complaint pertaining to Dr. Walter Uyesugi (hereinafter "Respondent") through its Investigative Committee. The Board makes the following

FINDINGS OF FACT

- Respondent has been a licensed physician in the State of Rhode Island since April 8,
 Respondent is a graduate of Western University of Health Sciences. Respondent's specialty is Radiology.
- 2. The Board received a notice of a disciplinary action regarding Respondent in other jurisdictions.
- 3. Respondent was the attending physician for Patient A (alias), who had a CT of the head interpreted by Respondent on February 4, 2010. Respondent interpreted the CT via teleradiology and Respondent issued a report stating no acute intracranial findings. Thereafter, Patient A deteriorated and a subsequent CT demonstrated a large right-sided bleed in an entirely different region of the brain. Patient A was transferred to a tertiary medical center in Pittsburg, PA and subsequently expired.

- 4. A malpractice action was undertaken on behalf of Patient A and a jury returned a verdict which attributed 85% of responsibility to the Respondent and 15% of responsibility to another entity.
- 5. Respondent is licensed in 37 states, including Rhode Island. The North Carolina Medical Board reviewed the matter and had Respondent undergo an assessment of clinical competency from the Physician Assessment and Clinical Education Program at the University of California, San Diego, which Respondent successfully completed. On August 31, 2018, the North Carolina Medical Board issued a reprimand and fine based on Respondent's actions in the underlying matter. The Maryland Board of Physicians issued a reprimand as a reciprocal action on October 5, 2018. The Osteopathic Board of California issued a reprimand and required additional CME on February 21, 2019, also as a reciprocal action. The Pennsylvania State Board of Osteopathic Medicine issued a reprimand on April 10, 2019, also as a reciprocal action.
- 6. The Investigative Committee reviewed the facts and circumstances of this complaint and concluded Respondent is guilty of unprofessional conduct, in violation of R.I. Gen. Laws § 5-37-5.1(21), which defines "unprofessional conduct" as "[s]urrender, revocation, suspension, limitation of privilege based on quality of care provided, or any other disciplinary action against a license or authorization to practice medicine in another state or jurisdiction."

Based on the foregoing, the parties agree as follows:

- 1. Respondent admits to and agrees to remain under the jurisdiction of the Board.
- 2. Respondent has agreed to this Consent Order and understands that it is subject to final approval of the Board, and this Consent Order is not binding on Respondent until final ratification by the Board.
- 3. If ratified by the Board, Respondent hereby acknowledges and waives:

- a. The right to appear personally or by counsel or both before the Board;
- b. The right to produce witnesses and evidence on his behalf at a hearing;
- c. The right to cross examine witnesses;
- d. The right to have subpoenas issued by the Board;
- e. The right to further procedural steps except for those specifically contained herein;
- f. Any and all rights of appeal of this Consent Order;
- g. Any objection to the fact that this Consent Order will be presented to the Board for consideration and review; and
- h. Any objection that this Consent Order will be reported to the National Practitioner

 Date Bank and Federation of State Medical Boards and posted on the Rhode Island

 Department of Health ("RIDOH") public website.
- 4. Respondent agrees to pay, within 60 days of the ratification of this Consent Order, an administrative fee of \$850 for costs associated with investigating the above-referenced complaint. Such payment shall be made by certified check, made payable to "Rhode Island General Treasurer." Respondent will send notice of compliance with this condition to DOH.PRCompliance@health.ri.gov within 30 days of submitting the above-referenced payment.
- 5. Respondent hereby agrees to this reprimand on her physician license.
- 6. In the event that any term of this Consent Order is violated, after it is signed and accepted, the RIDOH Director ("Director") shall have the discretion to impose further disciplinary action. If the Director imposes further disciplinary action, Respondent shall be given notice and shall have the right to request an administrative hearing within 20 days of the suspension and/or further discipline. The Director shall also have the discretion to request an

suspension and/or further discipline. The Director shall also have the discretion to request an administrative hearing after notice to Respondent of a violation of any term of this Consent Order. The Administrative Hearing Officer may suspend Respondent's license, or impose further discipline, for the remainder of Respondent's licensing period if the alleged violation is proven by a preponderance of evidence.

Signed this 28 day of Jone, 2019.

Walter Uyesugi, M.D.

Nicole Atexander-Scott, M.D., M.P.H.

Director

Rhode Island Department of Health

3 Capitol Hill, Room 401

Providence, Rhode Island 02908