

**STATE OF RHODE ISLAND  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
BOARD OF MEDICAL LICENSURE AND DISCIPLINE**

**IN THE MATTER OF:**

**David Chronley M.D.**

**License Number MD 04859**

**BMLD Case Number C15-628; C15-672**

**CONSENT ORDER**

David Chronley M.D., (hereinafter "Respondent") is licensed as a physician in Rhode Island. The Board of Medical Licensure and Discipline (hereinafter the "Board") through its investigating committee voted to find Respondent had committed unprofessional conduct and made the following:

**FINDINGS OF FACT**

1. Respondent has been a licensed physician in the State of Rhode Island since July 16<sup>th</sup>, 1975. Respondent's office is located in Wakefield, Rhode Island, and his primary specialty is Pediatrics.
2. The Board was notified of a complaint by the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) regarding concerns about the volume of hydrocodone and other controlled substances ordered for the practice.
3. The Board noted that the dispensation of controlled substances was not documented contemporaneously in a log suitable for inspection separate from the patient medical record.

At various times, Respondent also did not appropriately dispense controlled substances in child safety containers or maintain all contemporaneous wholesale invoices in the office and make them readily available for review and inspection.

4. The Board reviewed the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program and selected the 14 patients who received controlled substance prescriptions from the Respondent during the years 2009 to 2015, which on initial review seemed unusual in quantity and type for patient's age.
5. The Board retained a Pediatrician for review of this matter and to offer an expert opinion.
6. The Board expert noted several issues with treatment of the 14 patients and opined there were multiple prescriptions written for cough medications with codeine as well as other narcotics and that using these types of medications does not appear to be consistent with usual practice
7. Additionally, The Board expert noted in the charts reviewed many of the 14 patients carried a diagnosis of asthma, or this diagnosis was listed in their problem list or stated in the visit diagnosis. The patients who carried this diagnosis were often prescribed antibiotics, guaifenesin-codeine cough medication and sometimes prednisone. From the review of these charts and the cases in question she opined that one could conclude that this is Respondents "standard of care" for patients with asthma, yet this would not be the "standard of care" as recommended by the AAP or the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHLBI). She further opined that

the quantities prescribed were alarming and raised the risk and concern for subsequent diversion, misuse, and/or abuse.


8. The Board believes that Respondent prescribed narcotics improperly and also failed to meet minimum recordkeeping requirements for the dispensation of controlled substances.
9. Respondent is in violation of Rhode Island General Laws § 5-37-5.1(19) for failure to conform to the minimal standards of acceptable and prevailing medical practice.

**Based on the foregoing, the parties agree as follows:**

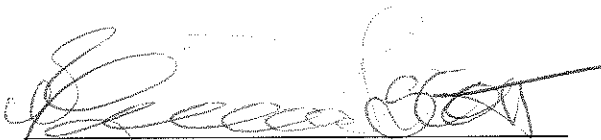
1. Respondent admits to the jurisdiction of the Board;
2. Respondent has reviewed this Consent Order and understands that it is subject to final approval of the Board; and this Consent Order is not binding on Respondent until final ratification by the Board;
3. If ratified by the Board, Respondent hereby 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;
  - h. Any objection that this will be reported to the National Practitioner Data Bank, Federation of State Medical Board or posted on Rhode Island Department of Health web site.
4. Respondent agrees to this Reprimand by the Board based on the above findings. Respondent's license will be on probation for 2 years retroactive to the date of initial complaint of July 15, 2015.
  5. Respondent shall submit to the Board a check payable to the Rhode Island General Treasury in the amount of \$4,425.00 within 120 days of ratification of this order, as an administrative fee in resolving the above-referenced complaint.
  6. Respondent has already completed 20 hours of appropriate CME.
  7. If any conditions of this Consent Order are violated after it is signed and accepted, the Director of the Department of Health shall have the discretion to impose further disciplinary action. If the Director suspends such license, Respondent shall be given notice and shall have the right to request an administrative hearing within twenty (20) days of the suspension. The Director of the Department of Health shall also have the discretion to request an administrative hearing after notice to Respondent of any violation of this Consent Order.

Signed this 2 day of Jan, 2018.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
David Chronley, M.D.

Ratified by the Board of Medical Licensure and Discipline on the 10<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2018.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Nicole Alexander-Scott, M.D., M.P.H.  
Director of Health  
Rhode Island Department of Health  
Cannon Building, Room 401  
Three Capitol Hill  
Providence, RI 02903