

State of Rhode Island
Department of Health
Board of Medical Licensure and Discipline



IN THE MATTER OF:
Erik Purins, MD
License No.: MD 07641
Case No.: 200542

SURRENDER OF LICENSE

Erik Purins, MD ("Respondent") is licensed as a physician in Rhode Island. After review of the above-referenced complaint, the Board of Medical Licensure and Discipline ("Board") makes the following

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Respondent has been a licensed physician in the State of Rhode Island since October 4, 1989. He is a 1985 graduate of the Wayne State School of Medicine. His practice was located at 340 Main Street, Worcester, Massachusetts.
2. On June 8, 2016, Respondent entered into a consent order ("2016 Consent Order") with the Board, resolving Complaint Nos. C13-207 and C16-002. Pursuant to the 2016 Consent Order, Respondent agreed to an active, restricted license. Respondent was "allowed to practice medicine within the confines of his current practice of medical reviews of disability evaluations," but was not permitted to examine patients, prescribe medications, or apply for a controlled substance registration. Respondent agreed to remain on probation for five years and, during that time, to continue to follow the recommendations of Massachusetts Physician Health Services,

Inc ("PHS").

3. On January 16, 2019, Respondent self-reported a January 6, 2019 relapse of his underlying condition and resultant violation of the terms the 2016 Consent Order.

4. On January 24, 2019, pursuant to his admitted violation of the 2016 Consent Order, Respondent entered into an Amended Consent Order with the Board, voluntarily surrendering his license "until he has obtained substantial evidence of remediation of the underlying condition to the Board's satisfaction."

5. On April 10, 2019, after demonstrating "substantial evidence of remediation since he surrendered his license," and obtaining the support of the Rhode Island Medical Society's Physician Health Program ("PHP") for his reinstatement, Respondent entered into a further Amended Consent Order with the Board ("2019 Consent Order"), pursuant to which Respondent's restricted license was reinstated. Respondent's practice was limited to disability evaluations and medical record reviews; he was not to treat, examine, or prescribe to any patient. Respondent agreed to follow the recommendations of the PHP.

6. On April 10, 2020, the PHP reported to the Board that it had been notified by the PHS that Respondent, on March 17, 2020, had failed a drug screen for metabolites of tetrahydrocannabinols. It was the further recommendation of the PHS that Respondent cease the practice of medicine and undertake residential treatment.

7. Respondent admits that by failing the drug screen he failed to comply with the PHP and PHS and, as a result, violated the terms of both the 2016 and 2019 Consent Orders. Respondent, therefore, violated R.I. Gen. Laws § 5-37-5.1(24), which defines "unprofessional conduct" as including, "*Violating any provision or provisions of [R.I. Gen. Laws Ch. 5-37] or the rules and regulations of the board or any rules or regulations promulgated by the director or of an action,*

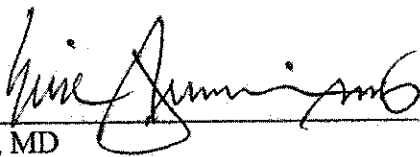
stipulation, or agreement of the board.”

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 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 to the fact that this Consent Order will be reported to the National Practitioner Data Bank and Federation of State Medical Boards and posted to the Rhode Island Department of Health (“RIDOH”) public website.
4. Respondent agrees to surrender his license to practice medicine, effective April 15, 2020, at 6:00PM.
5. Respondent will follow the recommendations of the PHP.
6. In the event that any term of this Consent Order is violated, the Director of RIDOH (“Director”) shall have the discretion to impose further disciplinary action, including immediate suspension. If the Director imposes further disciplinary action, Respondent shall be given notice


and shall have the right to request an administrative hearing within twenty (20) days of the 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 15 day of April, 2020.



Erik Purins, MD

Ratified by the Board of Medical Licensure and Discipline on the 15th day of April, 2020.



Nicole Alexander-Scott, MD, MPH
Director
Rhode Island Department of Health
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