

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



**IN THE MATTER OF:**  
**Mohammad Faizul Suhail, MD**  
**License No.: MD 15056**  
**Case No.: C190057A**

**CONSENT ORDER**

Mohammad Faizul Suhail, MD ("Respondent") is licensed as a physician in Rhode Island.

The Rhode Island Board of Medical Licensure and Discipline ("Board") makes the following

**FINDINGS OF FACT**

1. Respondent graduated from the Jawaharlal Nehru Medical Center on February 17, 2007, and has been a licensed physician in Rhode Island since June 1, 2015.
2. Respondent was one of three attending physicians for Patient A (alias) at Landmark Medical Center ("LMC"). Respondent, a hospitalist, was responsible for Patient A's hospital care and discharge. Patient A's other attending physicians were Physician 1 (alias), the emergency department physician who performed an initial evaluation of Patient A, and Physician 2 (alias), the nocturnist who admitted Patient A.
3. The Board received a complaint from a parent of Patient A alleging that Patient A had been discharged without being diagnosed or treated for Lithium Toxicity, despite an elevated lithium level and passed away approximately two weeks later.
4. There is no evidence to suggest that Patient A's death was causally related to an alleged failure to treat Patient A's lithium toxicity.

5. Patient A was an 18-year-old male with a history of medical problems, including autism and another significant behavioral health diagnosis. Patient A took various medications, including lithium, which was prescribed for management of Patient A's symptoms relative to the co-occurring behavioral health diagnosis. Lithium is a medication that must be monitored periodically to ensure that serum levels of the medication are therapeutic; levels that exceed the therapeutic level can cause toxicity, which is potentially fatal.

6. Patient A presented to the LMC emergency department on October 15, 2018 for problems related to vomiting and diarrhea. In the emergency department, Physician 1 determined that Patient A was dehydrated and needed to be admitted to the hospital for medical management and rehydration. Physician 1 ordered several appropriate diagnostic tests, including a complete blood count (CBC), and metabolic panel. Physician 2 subsequently ordered a lithium level.

7. As stated above, Respondent was the hospitalist caring for Patient A during his admission at LMC. Respondent submitted a written response to the Board relative to his care of Patient A and, on July 2, 2020, appeared before the Investigative Committee. Respondent admitted that he did not review or become aware of Patient A's lithium level test results prior to Patient A's discharge.

8. Respondent discharged Patient A home under the care of his parents, on lithium, without reviewing the lithium level test results or arranging a follow-up test. The Investigative Committee noted that Patient A's lithium level was 4.69, which is significantly elevated.

9. The Investigative Committee concluded that Respondent failed to meet the standard of care in that he should have but did not consider lithium toxicity as part of his differential diagnosis of Patient A and should have but did not check the lithium level test results, or seek a

nephrology consult, or order subsequent tests on Patient A.

10. Based on the foregoing, the Investigative Committee concluded that Respondent violated R.I. Gen. Laws § 5-37-5.1(19), which defines "unprofessional conduct" as including, "*[i]ncompetent, negligent, or willful misconduct in the practice of medicine, which includes the rendering of medically unnecessary services, and any departure from, or the failure to conform to, the minimal standards of acceptable and prevailing medical practice in his or her area of expertise as is determined by 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 pay, within five days of the ratification of this Consent Order, an administrative fee of \$1100.00 for costs associated with investigating the above-referenced complaint. Such payment shall be made by certified check, made payable to "Rhode Island General Treasurer," and sent to Rhode Island Department of Health, 3 Capitol Hill, Room 205, Providence, RI 02908, Attn: Lauren Lasso. Respondent shall send notice of compliance with this condition to [DOH.PRCCompliance@health.ri.gov](mailto:DOH.PRCCompliance@health.ri.gov) within 30 days of submitting the above-referenced payment.

5. Respondent hereby agrees to this reprimand on his physician license.

6. Within 180 days of ratification of this Consent Order, Respondent shall, at his own expense, arrange for and pass the Center for Personalized Education for Physicians (CPEP); PROBE Ethics and Boundaries Course. Respondent shall ensure that the results of the evaluation are sent directly to the Board. Respondent agrees to follow any resulting recommendations of the evaluating body.

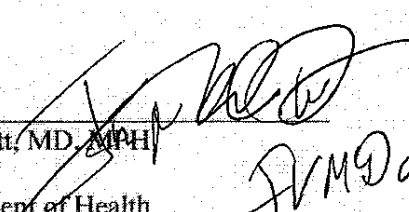
7. If Respondent violates any term of this Consent Order after it is signed and accepted, the Director of RIDOH ("Director") shall have the discretion to impose further disciplinary action, including immediate suspension of Respondent's medical license. If the Director imposes further disciplinary action, 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 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 6<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2020.



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Mohammad Suhail, MD

Ratified by the Board of Medical Licensure and Discipline on the 12 day of Sept, 2020.



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Nicole Alexander-Scott, MD, MPH  
Director  
Rhode Island Department of Health  
3 Capitol Hill, Room 401  
Providence, RI 02908

