

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



**IN THE MATTER OF:**  
**Robert Gordon M.D.**  
**License # MD 04002**  
**Controlled substance registration CMD 04002**  
**Complaint # C170480**

**CONSENT ORDER**

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

**FINDINGS OF FACT**

1. Respondent is a licensed physician in Rhode Island and was issued his license on July 24th, 1968.
2. The Board received a complaint regarding Respondents controlled substance prescribing. The Board learned via review of Prescription Monitoring Program (PMP) staff that respondent had not registered for the PMP and had therefore not utilized the PMP.
3. Review of Respondents PMP as a prescriber revealed in the therapeutic class summary that since June 1, 2015 to June 1, 2016 Respondent had initiated opioids on 269 patients. Respondent did not check the PMP before prescribing any of these prescriptions.
4. Respondent has a controlled substance registration (CSR) that was supposed to be renewed when his license was renewed. Physicians renew their license before end of June on even years.

5. Respondent renewed his medical license prior to June of 2016 as required. Respondent unintentionally did not renew his CSR at the appointed time and continued to prescribe controlled substances.
6. Respondent unintentionally has violated The Rules and Regulations for Pain Management, Opioid Use and the Registration of Distributors of Controlled Substances in Rhode Island R-21-28 section 3.5 *The prescription monitoring program shall be reviewed prior to starting an opioid.* Respondent unintentionally has also violated RIGL 5.37.5.1 for prescribing controlled substances without renewing his controlled substance registration.

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

1. Respondent admits to 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; and
  - 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 Consent Order will be reported to the National Practitioner Data Bank, Federation of State Medical Boards as well as posted on the department's public web site.
4. Respondent agrees to pay within (60) days of the ratification of this Consent Order an administrative fee to the Board with a check for \$850 dollars made payable to the Rhode Island General Treasurer for costs associated with investigating the above-referenced complaint.
  5. Respondent hereby agrees to this reprimand on his physician license.
  6. Respondent agrees to meet with RIDOH PMP outreach staff and become trained in the PMP within 30 days of ratification of this order.
  7. Respondent will check the PMP before prescribing any controlled substance.
  8. Respondent will send to the Board monthly summaries of his controlled substance prescribing from the PMP.
  9. If any term of this Consent Order is 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 imposes further disciplinary action, Respondent shall be given notice and shall have the right to request a hearing within twenty (20) days of the suspension and/or further discipline. The Director of the Department of Health shall also have the discretion to request a hearing after notice to Respondent of a violation of any term of this Consent Order. The Board may suspend Respondent's license, or impose further discipline, for the remainder of Respondent's licensing period if any alleged violation is proven by a preponderance of evidence.

Signed this 12 day of Oct., 2017.

  
Robert Gordon, M.D.

Ratified this 8<sup>th</sup> day of November 2017 by the Board of Medical Licensure and Discipline.

 (Delegated Authority)

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

Director

Rhode Island Department of Health

3 Capitol Hill, Room 401

Providence, Rhode Island 02908