

## NORTH CAROLINA MEDICAL BOARD

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James R. Biddle, M.D. Asheville Integrative Medicine 832 Hendersonville Road Asheville, NC 28803-1710

Dear Dr. Biddle:

The North Carolina Medical Board ("Board") has concluded its review of several of your patient medical records. It is the Board's decision not to commence formal proceedings against your license to practice medicine at this time. However, the Board did vote to issue this public letter of concern.

Following receipt of a complaint, the Board reviewed the medical records of five patients you treated for autism. In each of the five cases, your medical records did not adequately document the basis for your diagnosis of autism. In several cases, it was reported the patient had been previously diagnosed with autism; however, it was unclear what documentation you reviewed to confirm the diagnosis.

The Board is pleased you have agreed to take certain steps to address the concerns raised in the Board's review. Specifically, you have agreed to conduct and document a thorough diagnostic assessment of each patient to determine whether the patient has autism spectrum disorder (ASD). If a diagnosis of ASD is made, you will establish and document the patient's baseline functioning regarding the core symptoms of ASD and neurodevelopment to assist assessment of treatment response. Finally, you will periodically examine the patient and document your assessment of the child's response to treatment. When the patient or his/her guardian has consented, you will document your efforts to coordinate treatment with the patient's primary care physician or other treating physicians.

The Board does not consider a public letter of concern to constitute disciplinary action, nor does it constitute a restriction or limitation on your license to practice medicine.

This public letter of concern shall become a public record within the meaning of Chapter 132 of the North Carolina General Statutes and shall be subject to public inspection and dissemination pursuant to the

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provisions thereof. Additionally, it will be reported to the Federation of State Medical Boards. It will not be reported to the National Practitioner Data Bank or the Healthcare Integrity and Practitioner Data Bank.

Sincerely,

Donald E. Jablonski, D.O.

**Board President** 

DEJ/BB/lt

cc: Jean Winborne Boyles, Attorney