

STATE OF ILLINOIS

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL AND PROFESSIONAL REGULATION

DIVISION OF PROFESSIONAL REGULATION

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL AND PROFESSIONAL)
REGULATION of the State of Illinois, Complainant)
v.) No. 200900151
Keith R. Berndtson, M.D.)
License No. 036067274, Respondent)

CONSENT ORDER

The Division of Professional Regulation of the Department of Financial and Professional Regulation (Department) by Susan J. Link, Attorney for the Department, and Keith R. Berndtson, M.D., Respondent, agree to the following:

Respondent Keith R. Berndtson, M.D., is presently the holder of a Certificate of Registration as a Physician and Surgeon in the State of Illinois, License Number 036067274, issued by the Department. Respondent's license is in active status.

At all times material to the matters set forth in this Consent Order, the Department had jurisdiction over the subject matter and parties to this Consent Order.

Information has come to the attention of the Department that Respondent prescribed controlled substances to family members and prescribed excessive quantities of controlled substances to some patients.

If these allegations were proven at a hearing to be true, then these allegations would constitute grounds for suspending or revoking a Physician and Surgeon license on the authority of 225 ILCS 60/22 (A) (17) and (33) (2009, as amended).

As a result of these allegations, an informal conference was held at the Department's

Chicago office on September 21, 2011, the Respondent appearing in person, with his attorney, Dorothy Voss Ward, and Department Attorney Susan J. Link, and Tariq Butt, M.D., a member of the Medical Disciplinary Board, were also in attendance. Additional information was requested from the Respondent and it has now been received and reviewed.

The Respondent for purposes of this Consent Order only, admits the allegations.

The Respondent has been advised of the right to have the pending allegations reduced to writing, the right to a hearing, the right to present evidence, and the right to administrative review of any Order resulting from a hearing. Respondent knowingly waives each of these rights, as well as any right to administrative review of this Consent Order. Such waiver ceases if this Consent Order is rejected by either the Board or Director. The Respondent acknowledges that the Department attorney may be requested to communicate with the Board or Director in furtherance of the approval of this Consent Order.

The Respondent and the Department have agreed, in order to resolve this matter that the Respondent be permitted to enter into a Consent Order with the Department, providing for the imposition of disciplinary measures which are fair and equitable in these circumstances and which are consistent with the best interests of the people of the State of Illinois.

Respondent acknowledges that she has freely and willfully entered into this Consent Order without threat or coercion by any person and that she has not relied upon any statement or representation made by any person on behalf of the Department other than as specifically set forth herein.

CONDITIONS

WHEREFORE, the Department, through Susan J. Link, Attorney for the Department, Keith R. Berndtson, M.D., agree:

A. Respondent's Physician and Surgeon License, Certificate of Registration No. 036067274, shall be placed on Probation for a period of one year with the following conditions:

1. Respondent shall complete 15 hours remedial education related to pain management and/or controlled substances prescribing in addition to any continuing medical education hours required for licensure renewal. The course(s) making up the fifteen (15) hours required by this Consent Order shall require written pre-approval of the Chief Medical Coordinator of the Department.

2. Respondent shall not self-prescribe or prescribe any medications for any family members.

3. Respondent [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

the effective date of this Consent Order and within thirty (30) days of any change.

4. Respondent shall submit quarterly written reports to the Department, which contain the following information: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] whether or not Respondent is practicing as a Physician and Surgeon, the name(s), address(es), and

telephone number(s) of each location where Respondent practices as a Physician and Surgeon.

5. Respondent shall ensure that the following are sent to the Department on a quarterly basis:

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

6. The first reports shall be due between the 20th day and the end of the third full calendar month after the effective date of this Consent Order, and subsequent reports shall be due between the 20th day and the end of each third calendar month thereafter.

7. Respondent shall present proof of completion of the required remedial education hours prior to the end of the one year probationary period and shall ensure that all other reports are submitted to the Probation Compliance Unit of the Department of Financial and Professional Regulation, located at 9511 Harrison Street, Suite LL50, Des Plaines, IL 60016.

8. Respondent agrees that failure to provide proof of completion of the remedial education hours and failure to ensure that all required reports are submitted in a timely manner shall be grounds for the Director to suspend the Physician and Surgeon license of Respondent for a period of six months without a hearing. Respondent shall have the right to request a hearing on the suspension, which shall be waived if Respondent fails to request such a

hearing within fifteen (15) days of Respondent's receipt of an Order suspending the license.

B. This Consent Order shall become effective ten (10) days after its approval by the Director of the Division of Professional Regulation of the Department of Financial and Professional Regulation.

4/5/12
DATE _____
Susan J. Link
Attorney for the Department

4-2-12
DATE _____
Dorothy Voss Ward
Attorneys for the Respondent

4.2.12
DATE _____
Keith R. Berndtson, M.D.
Respondent

5-2-12
DATE _____
Member
Illinois State Medical Disciplinary Board

THIS CONSENT ORDER IS APPROVED IN FULL:

DATED THIS 14th DAY OF June, 2012.

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL AND PROFESSIONAL REGULATION of the State of Illinois; BRENT E. ADAMS, SECRETARY

DIVISION OF PROFESSIONAL REGULATION

JAY STEWART
Director of Professional Regulation

REF: Case No. 200900151
License 036067274