

**BEFORE THE
MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

**In the Matter of the Accusation
Against:**

KURT EUGENE JOHNSON, M.D.

Case No. 8002014009678

**Physician's and Surgeon's
Certificate No. G59768**

Respondent

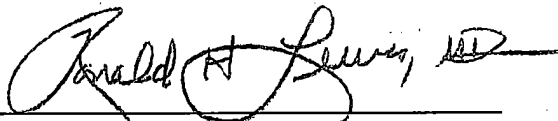
DECISION

The attached Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order is hereby adopted as the Decision and Order of the Medical Board of California, Department of Consumer Affairs, State of California.

This Decision shall become effective at 5:00 p.m. on July 20, 2018.

IT IS SO ORDERED: June 20, 2018.

MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA



**Ronald H. Lewis, M.D., Chair
Panel A**

1 XAVIER BECERRA
Attorney General of California
2 MATTHEW M. DAVIS
Supervising Deputy Attorney General
3 STEVE DIEHL
Deputy Attorney General
4 State Bar No. 235250
California Department of Justice
5 2550 Mariposa Mall, Room 5090
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7 *Attorneys for Complainant*

8 **BEFORE THE**
9 **MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA**
10 **DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS**
11 **STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

12 In the Matter of the Accusation Against:

Case No. 800-2014-009678

13 **KURT EUGENE JOHNSON, M.D.**
1040 Mangrove Ave.
Chico, CA 95926-3598

OAH No. 2017110343

14 **Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No.**
15 **No. G 59768**

**STIPULATED SETTLEMENT AND
DISCIPLINARY ORDER**

16 Respondent.

17 IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED AND AGREED by and between the parties to the above-
18 entitled proceedings that the following matters are true:

19 **PARTIES**

20 1. Kimberly Kirchmeyer (Complainant) is the Executive Director of the Medical Board
21 of California (Board). She brought this action solely in her official capacity and is represented in
22 this matter by Xavier Becerra, Attorney General of the State of California, by Steve Diehl,
23 Deputy Attorney General.

24 2. Respondent Kurt Eugene Johnson, M.D. (Respondent) is represented in this
25 proceeding by attorney Nicole Hendrickson, whose address is: 655 University Avenue, Suite 119
26 Sacramento, CA 95825.

27 3. On or about March 23, 1987, the Board issued Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate
28 No. G 59768 to Kurt Eugene Johnson, M.D. (Respondent). The Physician's and Surgeon's

1 Certificate No. was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought in
2 Accusation No. 800-2014-009678, and will expire on October 31, 2018, unless renewed.

3 JURISDICTION

4 4. Accusation No. 800-2014-009678 was filed before the Board, and is currently
5 pending against Respondent. The Accusation and all other statutorily required documents were
6 properly served on Respondent on October 19, 2017. Respondent timely filed his Notice of
7 Defense contesting the Accusation.

8 5. A copy of Accusation No. 800-2014-009678 is attached as exhibit A and incorporated
9 herein by reference.

10 ADVISEMENT AND WAIVERS

11 6. Respondent has carefully read, fully discussed with counsel, and understands the
12 charges and allegations in Accusation No. 800-2014-009678. Respondent has also carefully read,
13 fully discussed with counsel, and understands the effects of this Stipulated Settlement and
14 Disciplinary Order.

15 7. Respondent is fully aware of his legal rights in this matter, including the right to a
16 hearing on the charges and allegations in the Accusation; the right to confront and cross-examine
17 the witnesses against him; the right to present evidence and to testify on his own behalf; the right
18 to the issuance of subpoenas to compel the attendance of witnesses and the production of
19 documents; the right to reconsideration and court review of an adverse decision; and all other
20 rights accorded by the California Administrative Procedure Act and other applicable laws.

21 8. Respondent voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently waives and gives up each and
22 every right set forth above.

23 CULPABILITY

24 9. Respondent understands and agrees that the charges and allegations in Accusation
25 No. 800-2014-009678, if proven at a hearing, constitute cause for imposing discipline upon his
26 Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate.

27 10. For the purpose of resolving the Accusation without the expense and uncertainty of
28 further proceedings, Respondent agrees that, at a hearing, Complainant could establish a factual

1 basis for the charges in the Accusation, and that Respondent hereby gives up his right to contest
2 those charges.

3 11. Respondent agrees that his Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate is subject to
4 discipline and he agrees to be bound by the Board's probationary terms as set forth in the
5 Disciplinary Order below.

6 CONTINGENCY

7 12. This stipulation shall be subject to approval by the Medical Board of California.
8 Respondent understands and agrees that counsel for Complainant and the staff of the Medical
9 Board of California may communicate directly with the Board regarding this stipulation and
10 settlement, without notice to or participation by Respondent or his counsel. By signing the
11 stipulation, Respondent understands and agrees that he may not withdraw his agreement or seek
12 to rescind the stipulation prior to the time the Board considers and acts upon it. If the Board fails
13 to adopt this stipulation as its Decision and Order, the Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary
14 Order shall be of no force or effect, except for this paragraph, it shall be inadmissible in any legal
15 action between the parties, and the Board shall not be disqualified from further action by having
16 considered this matter.

17 13. The parties understand and agree that Portable Document Format (PDF) and facsimile
18 copies of this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order, including PDF and facsimile
19 signatures thereto, shall have the same force and effect as the originals.

20 14. In consideration of the foregoing admissions and stipulations, the parties agree that
21 the Board may, without further notice or formal proceeding, issue and enter the following
22 Disciplinary Order:

23 DISCIPLINARY ORDER

24 IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. G 59768 issued
25 to Respondent Kurt Eugene Johnson, M.D. is revoked. However, the revocation is stayed and
26 Respondent is placed on probation for five (5) years on the following terms and conditions.

27 1. CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES - PARTIAL RESTRICTION. For the first two
28 years of probation, Respondent shall not order, prescribe, dispense, administer, furnish, or possess

1 any controlled substances as defined by the California Uniform Controlled Substances Act,
2 except for those drugs listed in Schedules III, IV, and V of the Act, and those non-opioid drugs
3 listed in Schedule II which are used to treat Attention Deficit Disorder, subject to review by
4 Respondent's Practice Monitor as described in Condition 5, below. This prohibition shall not
5 apply to medications Respondent administers personally, in office, as part of a medical procedure.
6 Such medications shall be ordered and possessed by another physician in Respondent's practice,
7 and not by Respondent personally.

8 Respondent shall not issue an oral or written recommendation or approval to a patient or a
9 patient's primary caregiver for the possession or cultivation of marijuana for the personal medical
10 purposes of the patient within the meaning of Health and Safety Code section 11362.5. If
11 Respondent forms the medical opinion, after an appropriate prior examination and medical
12 indication, that a patient's medical condition may benefit from the use of marijuana, Respondent
13 shall so inform the patient and shall refer the patient to another physician who, following an
14 appropriate prior examination and medical indication, may independently issue a medically
15 appropriate recommendation or approval for the possession or cultivation of marijuana for the
16 personal medical purposes of the patient within the meaning of Health and Safety Code section
17 11362.5. In addition, Respondent shall inform the patient or the patient's primary caregiver that
18 Respondent is prohibited from issuing a recommendation or approval for the possession or
19 cultivation of marijuana for the personal medical purposes of the patient and that the patient or
20 the patient's primary caregiver may not rely on Respondent's statements to legally possess or
21 cultivate marijuana for the personal medical purposes of the patient. Respondent shall fully
22 document in the patient's chart that the patient or the patient's primary caregiver was so
23 informed. Nothing in this condition prohibits Respondent from providing the patient or the
24 patient's primary caregiver information about the possible medical benefits resulting from the use
25 of marijuana.

26 2. CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES - MAINTAIN RECORDS AND ACCESS TO
27 RECORDS AND INVENTORIES. Respondent shall maintain a record of all controlled
28 substances ordered, prescribed, dispensed, administered, or possessed by Respondent, and any

1 recommendation or approval which enables a patient or patient's primary caregiver to possess or
2 cultivate marijuana for the personal medical purposes of the patient within the meaning of Health
3 and Safety Code section 11362.5, during probation, showing all of the following: 1) the name and
4 address of the patient; 2) the date; 3) the character and quantity of controlled substances involved;
5 and 4) the indications and diagnosis for which the controlled substances were furnished.

6 Respondent shall keep these records in a separate file or ledger, in chronological order. All
7 records and any inventories of controlled substances shall be available for immediate inspection
8 and copying on the premises by the Board or its designee at all times during business hours and
9 shall be retained for the entire term of probation.

10 3. PRESCRIBING PRACTICES COURSE. Within 60 calendar days of the effective
11 date of this Decision, Respondent shall enroll in a course in prescribing practices approved in
12 advance by the Board or its designee. Respondent shall provide the approved course provider
13 with any information and documents that the approved course provider may deem pertinent.
14 Respondent shall participate in and successfully complete the classroom component of the course
15 not later than six (6) months after Respondent's initial enrollment. Respondent shall successfully
16 complete any other component of the course within one (1) year of enrollment. The prescribing
17 practices course shall be at Respondent's expense and shall be in addition to the Continuing
18 Medical Education (CME) requirements for renewal of licensure.

19 A prescribing practices course taken after the acts that gave rise to the charges in the
20 Accusation, but prior to the effective date of the Decision may, in the sole discretion of the Board
21 or its designee, be accepted towards the fulfillment of this condition if the course would have
22 been approved by the Board or its designee had the course been taken after the effective date of
23 this Decision.

24 Respondent shall submit a certification of successful completion to the Board or its
25 designee not later than 15 calendar days after successfully completing the course, or not later than
26 15 calendar days after the effective date of the Decision, whichever is later.

27 4. MEDICAL RECORD KEEPING COURSE. Within 60 calendar days of the effective
28 date of this Decision, Respondent shall enroll in a course in medical record keeping approved in

1 advance by the Board or its designee. Respondent shall provide the approved course provider
2 with any information and documents that the approved course provider may deem pertinent.
3 Respondent shall participate in and successfully complete the classroom component of the course
4 not later than six (6) months after Respondent's initial enrollment. Respondent shall successfully
5 complete any other component of the course within one (1) year of enrollment. The medical
6 record keeping course shall be at Respondent's expense and shall be in addition to the Continuing
7 Medical Education (CME) requirements for renewal of licensure.

8 A medical record keeping course taken after the acts that gave rise to the charges in the
9 Accusation, but prior to the effective date of the Decision may, in the sole discretion of the Board
10 or its designee, be accepted towards the fulfillment of this condition if the course would have
11 been approved by the Board or its designee had the course been taken after the effective date of
12 this Decision.

13 Respondent shall submit a certification of successful completion to the Board or its
14 designee not later than 15 calendar days after successfully completing the course, or not later than
15 15 calendar days after the effective date of the Decision, whichever is later.

16 5. MONITORING - PRACTICE. Within 30 calendar days of the effective date of this
17 Decision, Respondent shall submit to the Board or its designee for prior approval as a practice
18 monitor, the name and qualifications of one or more licensed physicians and surgeons whose
19 licenses are valid and in good standing, and who are preferably American Board of Medical
20 Specialties (ABMS) certified. A monitor shall have no prior or current business or personal
21 relationship with Respondent, or other relationship that could reasonably be expected to
22 compromise the ability of the monitor to render fair and unbiased reports to the Board, including
23 but not limited to any form of bartering, shall be in Respondent's field of practice, and must agree
24 to serve as Respondent's monitor. Respondent shall pay all monitoring costs.

25 The Board or its designee shall provide the approved monitor with copies of the Decision
26 and Accusation, and a proposed monitoring plan. Within 15 calendar days of receipt of the
27 Decision, Accusation, and proposed monitoring plan, the monitor shall submit a signed statement
28 that the monitor has read the Decision and Accusation, fully understands the role of a monitor,

1 and agrees or disagrees with the proposed monitoring plan. If the monitor disagrees with the
2 proposed monitoring plan, the monitor shall submit a revised monitoring plan with the signed
3 statement for approval by the Board or its designee.

4 Within 60 calendar days of the effective date of this Decision, and continuing throughout
5 probation, Respondent's practice shall be monitored by the approved monitor. Respondent shall
6 make all records available for immediate inspection and copying on the premises by the monitor
7 at all times during business hours and shall retain the records for the entire term of probation.

8 If Respondent fails to obtain approval of a monitor within 60 calendar days of the effective
9 date of this Decision, Respondent shall receive a notification from the Board or its designee to
10 cease the practice of medicine within three (3) calendar days after being so notified. Respondent
11 shall cease the practice of medicine until a monitor is approved to provide monitoring
12 responsibility.

13 The monitor shall submit a quarterly written report to the Board or its designee which
14 includes an evaluation of Respondent's performance, indicating whether Respondent's practices
15 are within the standards of practice of medicine, and whether Respondent is practicing medicine
16 safely. It shall be the sole responsibility of Respondent to ensure that the monitor submits the
17 quarterly written reports to the Board or its designee within 10 calendar days after the end of the
18 preceding quarter.

19 If the monitor resigns or is no longer available, Respondent shall, within 5 calendar days of
20 such resignation or unavailability, submit to the Board or its designee, for prior approval, the
21 name and qualifications of a replacement monitor who will be assuming that responsibility within
22 15 calendar days. If Respondent fails to obtain approval of a replacement monitor within 60
23 calendar days of the resignation or unavailability of the monitor, Respondent shall receive a
24 notification from the Board or its designee to cease the practice of medicine within three (3)
25 calendar days after being so notified. Respondent shall cease the practice of medicine until a
26 replacement monitor is approved and assumes monitoring responsibility.

27 In lieu of a monitor, Respondent may participate in a professional enhancement program
28 approved in advance by the Board or its designee that includes, at minimum, quarterly chart

1 review, semi-annual practice assessment, and semi-annual review of professional growth and
2 education. Respondent shall participate in the professional enhancement program at Respondent's
3 expense during the term of probation.

4 6. SOLO PRACTICE PROHIBITION. Respondent is prohibited from engaging in the
5 solo practice of medicine. Prohibited solo practice includes, but is not limited to, a practice
6 where: 1) Respondent merely shares office space with another physician but is not affiliated for
7 purposes of providing patient care, or 2) Respondent is the sole physician practitioner at that
8 location.

9 If Respondent fails to establish a practice with another physician or secure employment in
10 an appropriate practice setting within 60 calendar days of the effective date of this Decision,
11 Respondent shall receive a notification from the Board or its designee to cease the practice of
12 medicine within three (3) calendar days after being so notified. The Respondent shall not resume
13 practice until an appropriate practice setting is established.

14 If, during the course of the probation, the Respondent's practice setting changes and the
15 Respondent is no longer practicing in a setting in compliance with this Decision, the Respondent
16 shall notify the Board or its designee within five (5) calendar days of the practice setting change.
17 If Respondent fails to establish a practice with another physician or secure employment in an
18 appropriate practice setting within 60 calendar days of the practice setting change, Respondent
19 shall receive a notification from the Board or its designee to cease the practice of medicine within
20 three (3) calendar days after being so notified. The Respondent shall not resume practice until an
21 appropriate practice setting is established.

22 7. NOTIFICATION. Within seven (7) days of the effective date of this Decision, the
23 Respondent shall provide a true copy of this Decision and Accusation to the Chief of Staff or the
24 Chief Executive Officer at every hospital where privileges or membership are extended to
25 Respondent, at any other facility where Respondent engages in the practice of medicine,
26 including all physician and locum tenens registries or other similar agencies, and to the Chief
27 Executive Officer at every insurance carrier which extends malpractice insurance coverage to
28 Respondent. Respondent shall submit proof of compliance to the Board or its designee within 15

1 calendar days.

2 This condition shall apply to any change(s) in hospitals, other facilities or insurance carrier.

3 8. SUPERVISION OF PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS AND ADVANCED PRACTICE
4 NURSES. During probation, Respondent is prohibited from supervising physician assistants and
5 advanced practice nurses.

6 9. OBEY ALL LAWS. Respondent shall obey all federal, state and local laws, all rules
7 governing the practice of medicine in California and remain in full compliance with any court
8 ordered criminal probation, payments, and other orders.

9 10. QUARTERLY DECLARATIONS. Respondent shall submit quarterly declarations
10 under penalty of perjury on forms provided by the Board, stating whether there has been
11 compliance with all the conditions of probation.

12 Respondent shall submit quarterly declarations not later than 10 calendar days after the end
13 of the preceding quarter.

14 11. GENERAL PROBATION REQUIREMENTS.

15 Compliance with Probation Unit

16 Respondent shall comply with the Board's probation unit.

17 Address Changes

18 Respondent shall, at all times, keep the Board informed of Respondent's business and
19 residence addresses, email address (if available), and telephone number. Changes of such
20 addresses shall be immediately communicated in writing to the Board or its designee. Under no
21 circumstances shall a post office box serve as an address of record, except as allowed by Business
22 and Professions Code section 2021(b).

23 Place of Practice

24 Respondent shall not engage in the practice of medicine in Respondent's or patient's place
25 of residence, unless the patient resides in a skilled nursing facility or other similar licensed
26 facility.

27 License Renewal

28 Respondent shall maintain a current and renewed California physician's and surgeon's

1 license.

2 Travel or Residence Outside California

3 Respondent shall immediately inform the Board or its designee, in writing, of travel to any
4 areas outside the jurisdiction of California which lasts, or is contemplated to last, more than thirty
5 (30) calendar days.

6 In the event Respondent should leave the State of California to reside or to practice,
7 Respondent shall notify the Board or its designee in writing 30 calendar days prior to the dates of
8 departure and return.

9 12. INTERVIEW WITH THE BOARD OR ITS DESIGNEE. Respondent shall be
10 available in person upon request for interviews either at Respondent's place of business or at the
11 probation unit office, with or without prior notice throughout the term of probation.

12 13. NON-PRACTICE WHILE ON PROBATION. Respondent shall notify the Board or
13 its designee in writing within 15 calendar days of any periods of non-practice lasting more than
14 30 calendar days and within 15 calendar days of Respondent's return to practice. Non-practice is
15 defined as any period of time Respondent is not practicing medicine as defined in Business and
16 Professions Code sections 2051 and 2052 for at least 40 hours in a calendar month in direct
17 patient care, clinical activity or teaching, or other activity as approved by the Board. If
18 Respondent resides in California and is considered to be in non-practice, Respondent shall
19 comply with all terms and conditions of probation. All time spent in an intensive training
20 program which has been approved by the Board or its designee shall not be considered non-
21 practice and does not relieve Respondent from complying with all the terms and conditions of
22 probation. Practicing medicine in another state of the United States or Federal jurisdiction while
23 on probation with the medical licensing authority of that state or jurisdiction shall not be
24 considered non-practice. A Board-ordered suspension of practice shall not be considered as a
25 period of non-practice.

26 In the event Respondent's period of non-practice while on probation exceeds 18 calendar
27 months, Respondent shall successfully complete the Federation of State Medical Board's Special
28 Purpose Examination, or, at the Board's discretion, a clinical competence assessment program

1 that meets the criteria of Condition 18 of the current version of the Board's "Manual of Model
2 Disciplinary Orders and Disciplinary Guidelines" prior to resuming the practice of medicine.

3 Respondent's period of non-practice while on probation shall not exceed two (2) years.

4 Periods of non-practice will not apply to the reduction of the probationary term.

5 Periods of non-practice for a Respondent residing outside of California will relieve
6 Respondent of the responsibility to comply with the probationary terms and conditions with the
7 exception of this condition and the following terms and conditions of probation: Obey All Laws;
8 General Probation Requirements; Quarterly Declarations; Abstain from the Use of Alcohol and/or
9 Controlled Substances; and Biological Fluid Testing.

10 14. COMPLETION OF PROBATION. Respondent shall comply with all financial
11 obligations (e.g., restitution, probation costs) not later than 120 calendar days prior to the
12 completion of probation. Upon successful completion of probation, Respondent's certificate shall
13 be fully restored.

14 15. VIOLATION OF PROBATION. Failure to fully comply with any term or condition
15 of probation is a violation of probation. If Respondent violates probation in any respect, the
16 Board, after giving Respondent notice and the opportunity to be heard, may revoke probation and
17 carry out the disciplinary order that was stayed. If an Accusation, or Petition to Revoke Probation,
18 or an Interim Suspension Order is filed against Respondent during probation, the Board shall have
19 continuing jurisdiction until the matter is final, and the period of probation shall be extended until
20 the matter is final.

21 16. LICENSE SURRENDER. Following the effective date of this Decision, if
22 Respondent ceases practicing due to retirement or health reasons or is otherwise unable to satisfy
23 the terms and conditions of probation, Respondent may request to surrender his or her license.
24 The Board reserves the right to evaluate Respondent's request and to exercise its discretion in
25 determining whether or not to grant the request, or to take any other action deemed appropriate
26 and reasonable under the circumstances. Upon formal acceptance of the surrender, Respondent
27 shall within 15 calendar days deliver Respondent's wallet and wall certificate to the Board or its
28 designee and Respondent shall no longer practice medicine. Respondent will no longer be subject

1 to the terms and conditions of probation. If Respondent re-applies for a medical license, the
2 application shall be treated as a petition for reinstatement of a revoked certificate.

3 17. PROBATION MONITORING COSTS. Respondent shall pay the costs associated
4 with probation monitoring each and every year of probation, as designated by the Board, which
5 may be adjusted on an annual basis. Such costs shall be payable to the Medical Board of
6 California and delivered to the Board or its designee no later than January 31 of each calendar
7 year.

8 ACCEPTANCE

9 I have carefully read the above Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order and have fully
10 discussed it with my attorney, Nicole Hendrickson. I understand the stipulation and the effect it
11 will have on my Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate. I enter into this Stipulated Settlement and
12 Disciplinary Order voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently, and agree to be bound by the
13 Decision and Order of the Medical Board of California.

14
15 DATED:

16 4/3/18

17 
KURT EUGENE JOHNSON, M.D.

18 Respondent

19
20 I have read and fully discussed with Respondent Kurt Eugene Johnson, M.D. the terms and
21 conditions and other matters contained in the above Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order.
22 I approve its form and content.

23
24 DATED:

25 4/6/18

26 
NICOLE HENDRICKSON

27 Attorney for Respondent
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ENDORSEMENT

The foregoing Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order is hereby respectfully submitted for consideration by the Medical Board of California.

Dated: 5/9/18

Respectfully submitted,

XAVIER BECERRA
Attorney General of California
MATTHEW M. DAVIS
Supervising Deputy Attorney General


STEVE DIEHL
Deputy Attorney General
Attorneys for Complainant

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Exhibit A

Accusation No. 800-2014-009678

1 XAVIER BECERRA
Attorney General of California
2 MATTHEW M. DAVIS
Supervising Deputy Attorney General
3 STEVE DIEHL
Deputy Attorney General
4 State Bar No. 235250
California Department of Justice
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Fresno, CA 93721
6 Telephone: (559) 477-1626
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7 *Attorneys for Complainant*

FILED
STATE OF CALIFORNIA
MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA
SACRAMENTO Oct. 19 20 17
BY [Signature] ANALYST

8 **BEFORE THE**
9 **MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA**
10 **DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS**
11 **STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

12 In the Matter of the Accusation Against:

Case No. 800-2014-009678

13 **KURT EUGENE JOHNSON, M.D.**
1040 Mangrove Ave.
Chico, CA 95926-3598

A C C U S A T I O N

14 **Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate**
15 **No. G 59768,**

Respondent.

16
17
18 Complainant alleges:

19 **PARTIES**

20 1. Kimberly Kirchmeyer (Complainant) brings this Accusation solely in her official
21 capacity as the Executive Director of the Medical Board of California, Department of Consumer
22 Affairs (Board).

23 2. On or about March 23, 1987, the Medical Board issued Physician's and Surgeon's
24 Certificate Number G 59768 to Kurt Eugene Johnson, M.D. (Respondent). The Physician's and
25 Surgeon's Certificate was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought
26 herein and will expire on October 31, 2018, unless renewed.

27 \\\n

28 \\\n

JURISDICTION

3. This Accusation is brought before the Board, under the authority of the following laws. All section references are to the Business and Professions Code unless otherwise indicated.

4. Section 2227 of the Code provides that a licensee who is found guilty under the Medical Practice Act may have his or her license revoked, suspended for a period not to exceed one year, placed on probation and required to pay the costs of probation monitoring, or such other action taken in relation to discipline as the Board deems proper.

5. Section 2234 of the Code, states:

"The board shall take action against any licensee who is charged with unprofessional conduct. In addition to other provisions of this article, unprofessional conduct includes, but is not limited to, the following:

"(a) Violating or attempting to violate, directly or indirectly, assisting in or abetting the violation of, or conspiring to violate any provision of this chapter.

"(b) Gross negligence.

"(c) Repeated negligent acts. To be repeated, there must be two or more negligent acts or omissions. An initial negligent act or omission followed by a separate and distinct departure from the applicable standard of care shall constitute repeated negligent acts.

"(1) An initial negligent diagnosis followed by an act or omission medically appropriate for that negligent diagnosis of the patient shall constitute a single negligent act.

"(2) When the standard of care requires a change in the diagnosis, act, or omission that constitutes the negligent act described in paragraph (1), including, but not limited to, a reevaluation of the diagnosis or a change in treatment, and the licensee's conduct departs from the applicable standard of care, each departure constitutes a separate and distinct breach of the standard of care.

"(d) Incompetence.

"(e) The commission of any act involving dishonesty or corruption which is substantially related to the qualifications, functions, or duties of a physician and surgeon.

"(f) Any action or conduct which would have warranted the denial of a certificate.

1 “(g) The practice of medicine from this state into another state or country without meeting
2 the legal requirements of that state or country for the practice of medicine. Section 2314 shall not
3 apply to this subdivision. This subdivision shall become operative upon the implementation of the
4 proposed registration program described in Section 2052.5.

5 “(h) The repeated failure by a certificate holder, in the absence of good cause, to attend and
6 participate in an interview by the board. This subdivision shall only apply to a certificate holder
7 who is the subject of an investigation by the board.”

8 6. Section 2242 of the Code states:

9 “(a) Prescribing, dispensing, or furnishing dangerous drugs as defined in Section 4022
10 without an appropriate prior examination and a medical indication, constitutes unprofessional
11 conduct.

12 “(b) No licensee shall be found to have committed unprofessional conduct within the
13 meaning of this section if, at the time the drugs were prescribed, dispensed, or furnished, any of
14 the following applies:

15 “(1) The licensee was a designated physician and surgeon or podiatrist serving in the
16 absence of the patient's physician and surgeon or podiatrist, as the case may be, and if the drugs
17 were prescribed, dispensed, or furnished only as necessary to maintain the patient until the return
18 of his or her practitioner, but in any case no longer than 72 hours.

19 “(2) The licensee transmitted the order for the drugs to a registered nurse or to a licensed
20 vocational nurse in an inpatient facility, and if both of the following conditions exist:

21 “(A) The practitioner had consulted with the registered nurse or licensed vocational nurse
22 who had reviewed the patient's records.

23 “(B) The practitioner was designated as the practitioner to serve in the absence of the
24 patient's physician and surgeon or podiatrist, as the case may be.

25 “(3) The licensee was a designated practitioner serving in the absence of the patient's
26 physician and surgeon or podiatrist, as the case may be, and was in possession of or had utilized
27 the patient's records and ordered the renewal of a medically indicated prescription for an amount
28 not exceeding the original prescription in strength or amount or for more than one refill.

“(4) The licensee was acting in accordance with Section 120582 of the Health and Safety Code.”

7. Section 2266 of the Code states: "The failure of a physician and surgeon to maintain adequate and accurate records relating to the provision of services to their patients constitutes unprofessional conduct."

FIRST CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Gross Negligence)

8. Respondent Kurt Eugene Johnson, M.D. is subject to disciplinary action under section 2234, subdivision (b), in that he engaged in acts of gross negligence. The circumstances are as follows:

9. Respondent is a family practice physician who has practiced pain management with respect to several long-term patients.

10. The standard of care for pain management requires a medical history and physical examination to include assessment of the patient's pain including physical and psychological status and function, substance abuse history, and history of prior pain treatments and assessment of underlying or co-existing conditions. Finally, it should include documentation of recognized medical indications for the use of controlled substances such as opiates for pain control.

11. The standard of care for pain management requires that medical records contain stated objectives that may include relief from pain or improved physical or psychological function or ability to perform certain tasks or activities of daily living. This should also include any plans for further diagnostic evaluations and treatments, such as a rehabilitation program.

12. The standard of care for pain management requires the medical records document that the physician discussed the risks and benefits of the use of controlled substances along with other treatment modalities. An actual written consent is not required but is recommended.

13. The standard of care for pain management requires that the medical records reflect that the physician is periodically reviewing the course of pain management for the patient and making appropriate modifications in the treatment based on the patient's progress or lack of progress.

1 14. The standard of care for pain management requires that the physician consider
2 additional evaluations or consultations, especially with complex pain problems. Special attention
3 should be given to patients who are at risk for misusing their medications or have a history of
4 drug addiction or substance abuse. Such patients require extra care and monitoring along with
5 documentation and consultation with an addiction medicine specialist and pain management
6 specialist.

7 15. The standard of care requires that a physician maintain accurate and complete
8 records, demonstrating a history and exam along with evaluations and consultations, treatment
9 plans and objectives, informed consent, medications prescribed and periodic review
10 documentation.

11 Circumstances related to B.B.

12 16. B.B. was a female patient whom Respondent treated for chronic pain since at least
13 2001, until she died in October, 2014. She was 73 years old at the time of death. During the time
14 that Respondent was her treating physician, Respondent prescribed a wide variety of controlled
15 substances to B.B. on a continuing basis.

16 17. On or about September 5, 2011, B.B. was hospitalized for a left hip fracture. She had
17 open reduction and internal fixation, and was discharged on or about September 10, 2011.

18 18. On or about October 12, 2011, B.B. saw Respondent for a follow-up appointment.
19 Respondent documented a medication list consisting of 32 different medications. Respondent
20 documented a psychiatric examination showing that B.B. was oriented as to time, place, and
21 person, and had an appropriate mood. Respondent documented a focused examination of the
22 extremities, showing generalized tenderness and foot onychomycosis (a fungal infection of the
23 toenails or fingernails.) However, Respondent failed to document a physical examination related
24 to the patient's chronic pain, to include range of motion and muscle spasm, or any examination of
25 the patient's shoulder or back. Nonetheless, Respondent diagnosed B.B. with osteoarthritis,
26 shoulder pain, discogenic disease, and Lyme disease. Respondent's documented treatment plan
27 with respect to chronic pain was simply to continue the patient's medication, without any stated
28 objectives. Respondent failed to document a rationale for prescribing two different opiates at the

1 same time: Kadian¹, and Percocet.² Respondent gave B.B. a refill of most of her medications,
2 including Kadian, Percocet, and Adderall.³ She was to return in two to three months.

3 19. On or about June 6, 2012, B.B. was seen for follow-up for chronic pain and general
4 fatigue. Respondent documented a medication list with 27 different medications. Respondent
5 again failed to document any examination of the spine or shoulders. Respondent gave B.B. refills
6 of Adderall, Clonazepam⁴, Kadian, and Promethazine⁵.

7 20. On or about October 17, 2012, B.B. signed a pain management agreement.

8 21. On or about February 20, 2013, B.B. was seen by Respondent for refills on her
9 medications. Respondent documented chronic pain and general fatigue. Respondent failed to
10 document any examination of the shoulders or back.

11 22. On or about April 3, 2013, Respondent saw B.B. for follow-up regarding arthritis
12 pain in her wrists, hips, back, and shoulders. Respondent documented examination of the
13 extremities based on generalized arthritic changes. Respondent documented a neurological
14 examination. Respondent refilled B.B.'s prescriptions for Adderall, morphine, and Fentanyl.⁶

15 23. On or about January 15, 2014, Respondent saw B.B. for complaints of chronic back
16 pain and excessive sleeping. Respondent documented shoulder arthritis. Respondent
17 documented an unremarkable neurological and psychiatric examination. Respondent's
18 assessment was opioid-induced sleep disorder, attention deficit disorder, and osteoarthritis.

20
21 ¹ Kadian is a brand name for extended release morphine sulphate, an opioid medication
22 for the treatment of moderate to severe pain used when around the clock pain relief is needed.

23 ² Percocet is the brand name for a preparation of acetaminophen and the opioid
24 oxycodone, used for the treatment of pain.

25 ³ Adderall is the brand name for amphetamines, a stimulant used to treat attention deficit
26 hyperactivity disorder.

27 ⁴ Clonazepam is a benzodiazepine medication used to treat seizures and panic disorder.

28 ⁵ Promethazine is an antihistamine medication used as a sedative and to treat nausea.

⁶ Fentanyl is an extremely powerful opioid medication used to treat severe pain.

1 Respondent gave B.B. a refill of Percocet and Prochlorperazine,⁷ and prescriptions for
2 methamphetamine and hyoscyamine sulfate.⁸

3 24. On or about July 23, 2014, B.B. saw Respondent for refill of her chronic pain
4 medication. B.B. signed a second pain management agreement. Respondent noted 37
5 medications in B.B.'s medication list. Respondent documented moderate chronic fatigue
6 arthralgias, daytime somnolence, diarrhea, chronic back pain, chronic joint pain, chronic muscle
7 aches, shoulder pain, and severe right foot pain. Respondent suspected gastroenteritis, and
8 diagnosed osteoarthritis, discogenic disease, Lyme disease, opioid-induced sleep disorder,
9 attention deficit hyperactivity disorder, and hypothyroidism. Respondent prescribed
10 hyoscyamine, Aricept, Fentanyl, Lomotil⁹, and methamphetamine. Respondent made a referral to
11 a gastroenterologist, and ordered stool studies. Respondent failed to document an abdominal
12 examination, a back examination, or an examination of the shoulders.

13 Departures related to B.B.

14 25. Respondent saw B.B. periodically for follow-up visits over the course of many years.
15 From 2010, until the patient expired in 2014, Respondent never documented a complete history
16 and physical examination regarding the patient's chronic pain. Such a physical examination
17 should have included range of motion and touching the patient to examine for spasm and/or
18 tenderness. Respondent's failure to perform a complete history and physical examination over a
19 period of years constitutes gross negligence.

20 26. From 2010, until the patient expired in 2014, Respondent failed to document a
21 treatment plan for his opiate prescribing, or objectives of treatment. This failure constitutes gross
22 negligence.

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25 ⁷ Prochlorperazine is a highly potent antipsychotic medication, also used for the treatment
of nausea, vertigo, and migraine headaches.

26 ⁸ Hyoscyamine Sulfate is a medication used to treat muscle cramps in the bowels or
27 bladder, related to irritable bowel syndrome, colitis, and other digestive problems.

28 ⁹ Lomotil is a diarrhea medication.

1 27. From 2010, until the patient expired in 2014, Respondent prescribed a wide variety of
2 medications, in high dosages. During this time, Respondent failed to document any periodic
3 review of his opiate treatment plan, in particular with respect to potential interactions between the
4 many medications the patient was taking. This constitutes gross negligence.

5 28. Respondent referred B.B. for pain management consultation on two occasions.
6 However, even while the patient was being treated by pain management specialists, she continued
7 to receive opiate medication from Respondent. Respondent failed to coordinate care with the
8 pain management specialists to whom B.B. was referred. Respondent's failure to coordinate care
9 with the specialists to whom he referred B.B. constitutes gross negligence.

10 29. Respondent failed to document objective findings supporting the need for increased
11 dosages of opiate medication for B.B. This failure represents inadequate recordkeeping and
12 constitutes gross negligence.

13 Circumstances related to S.H.

14 30. S.H. was a female patient whom Respondent treated for chronic pain since 2006.

15 31. On or about June 1, 2011, S.H. presented to Respondent for follow-up regarding her
16 chronic pain. Respondent did not document what body parts were in pain. Respondent failed to
17 document any examination. Respondent prescribed Fentanyl patches and oxycodone. On or
18 about July 6, 2012, Respondent renewed S.H.'s prescription for oxycodone and Fentanyl.

19 32. On or about June 12, 2014, Respondent documented a diagnosis of back pain and
20 lumbago in S.H. Respondent failed to document any back examination. Respondent prescribed
21 Fentanyl, methadone, methylphenidate¹⁰, and oxycodone

22 33. On or about September 4, 2015, Respondent documented that S.H. had seen another
23 physician, a pain management specialist who had advised her to stop all of her medications, and
24 to begin treatment with suboxone.¹¹ Respondent documented diagnoses of lumbago, back pain,
25

26 ¹⁰ Methylphenidate (Ritalin) is a medication used to treat attention deficit hyperactivity
27 disorder and narcolepsy.

28 ¹¹ Suboxone is a medication used to treat opiate dependency.

undifferentiated attention deficit disorder, and ulcerative colitis. Respondent continued the patient's medications without change, including methadone, oxycodone, and promethazine.

34. On or about April 27, 2016, Respondent saw S.H. following hospitalization for a small bowel obstruction. Respondent prescribed clonazepam, promethazine, and oxycodone. Respondent documented a normal abdominal examination. Respondent failed to document any back examination.

Departures related to S.H.

35. During his entire course of treatment of S.H., Respondent never documented a complete history and physical examination. This failure constitutes gross negligence.

36. Respondent made a referral to a pain management specialist for S.H. This physician recommended that S.H. stop all of her medications and begin suboxone treatment. Respondent failed to communicate with the pain management specialist or to follow the specialist's recommendation. Respondent's failure to follow the recommendation of the pain management specialist constitutes gross negligence.

37. The majority of Respondent's notes fail to document a specific body part that was the source of S.H.'s pain, and Respondent failed to assess changes such as increased range of motion or increased strength. These failures represent inadequate recordkeeping and constitutes gross negligence.

Circumstances related to M.H.

38. M.H. was a male patient whom Respondent treated for chronic pain and other issues beginning in 2008, and continuing through 2016. M.H. presented to Respondent on a roughly monthly basis, and Respondent prescribed opiate medication which increased in dosage and strength over time.

39. Beginning in 2011, Respondent prescribed Norco¹² for right shoulder pain. On or about August 31, 2011, M.H. was seen for bilateral shoulder pain. Respondent failed to

¹² Norco is a preparation of acetaminophen and the opioid hydrocodone.

1 document any physical examination. Respondent injected Kenalog¹³ into both shoulders, gave
2 shots of Demerol¹⁴ and promethazine, and refilled the patient's Norco prescription.

3 40. On or about November 16, 2011, the patient reported that his father had disposed of
4 all of his medications. The patient was given refills of diazepam¹⁵ and Norco, among other
5 medications.

6 41. On or about December 28, 2011, Respondent increased M.H.'s Norco prescription at
7 the patient's request.

8 42. On or about January 16, 2012, M.H. was seen for chronic back pain, and reported that
9 his father had again disposed of all of his medications. Respondent failed to document any back
10 examination.

11 43. On or about February 22, 2012, M.H. presented for perirectal pain and shoulder pain.
12 Respondent documented a rectal examination but no musculoskeletal examination. Respondent
13 was given injections of Demerol and promethazine, and his Norco prescription was refilled.
14 Respondent documented that the patient was taking "too many" of his pain medications.

15 44. On or about March 21, 2012, M.H. was seen for bilateral shoulder pain. Respondent
16 failed to document a shoulder examination. Respondent gave injections of Demerol and
17 promethazine.

18 45. On or about April 16, 2012, Respondent documented a plan to "start cutting down"
19 on the patient's Norco intake. Respondent failed to actually reduce the patient's Norco
20 prescription.

21 46. On or about July 30, 2012, M.H. reported that his medication had been stolen.
22 Respondent provided a refill of the patient's Norco prescription.

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25 ¹³ Kenalog is a corticosteroid used to reduce inflammation.

26 ¹⁴ Demerol (meperidine) is an opioid medication used to treat pain.

27 ¹⁵ Diazepam (Valium) is a benzodiazepine medication used to treat anxiety, muscle
28 spasm, and seizures.

1 47. On or about September 5, 2012, the patient was seen for right shoulder pain, and
2 reported that he had lost his medications while camping. Respondent failed to document any
3 shoulder or back examination, but provided the patient with a refill of his Norco prescription.

4 48. On or about April 4, 2013, M.H. reported that his mother had thrown away his Norco.
5 Respondent provided a Demerol shot but did not refill the patient's Norco.

6 49. On or about May 8, 2013, M.H. again reported that his mother had disposed of his
7 Norco. Respondent provided a refill.

8 50. On or about June 19, 2013, M.H. reported that his medications had been lost.
9 Respondent provided a refill of Norco and clonazepam.

10 51. On or about July 5, 2013, Respondent was notified by a pharmacy that M.H. had
11 received 2000 Norco tablets in two months.

12 52. On or about July 15, 2013, M.H. provided a urine drug screen that was negative for
13 narcotics. Respondent failed to discuss the negative urine screen in any note.

14 53. On or about August 14, 2013, Respondent prescribed Percocet. M.H. reported that
15 Norco was providing no pain relief.

16 54. On or about September 22, 2013, M.H. reported that his wife had taken some of the
17 Percocet he had previously been prescribed.

18 55. On or about October 3, 2013, M.H. was seen for bilateral shoulder pain. Respondent
19 failed to document any shoulder or back examination. M.H. was taking 9-10 Percocet tablets per
20 day. Respondent refilled M.H.'s Percocet prescription.

21 56. On or about November 9, 2014, Respondent saw M.H. for follow-up after
22 hospitalization for narcotic withdrawal. The patient reported that his medication had been stolen.

23 57. On or about June 29, 2015, M.H. requested early refills because of a trip. Respondent
24 provided early refills.

25 58. On or about August 3, 2015, M.H. again requested early refills because of an
26 upcoming vacation, and Respondent provided early refills. On or about August 25, 2015, M.H.
27 reported that his medication had been stolen while he was on vacation, and Respondent provided
28 additional refills.

1 Departures related to M.H.

2 59. Respondent's notes regarding pain control with opiates lack consistency and
3 rationale. Respondent ignored evidence of diversion, including failed drug screens, consistent
4 early refills, and multiple instances of "lost" or stolen medication. Respondent's failure to act on
5 this evidence constitutes gross negligence.

6 60. Respondent failed to periodically review the pain treatment he provided to M.H. This
7 failure constitutes gross negligence.

8 61. Respondent sought consultation from both an orthopedic specialist regarding M.H.'s
9 shoulder pain, and a neurosurgeon regarding M.H.'s cervical spine. However, there is no
10 evidence that Respondent consulted with these specialists regarding the opiate therapy he
11 provided to M.H. Respondent's failure to discuss his opiate treatment of M.H. with the
12 specialists he consulted with constitutes gross negligence.

13 62. Respondent's notes lacked documentation of objective findings regarding the body
14 part for which opiates were prescribed to M.H. Respondent's failure to document such findings
15 represents inadequate recordkeeping and constitutes gross negligence.

16 Circumstances related to S.G.

17 63. S.G. was a female patient whom Respondent treated for chronic pain and other issues
18 beginning in 1989, and continuing through 2014.

19 64. On or about May 16, 2011, S.G. presented to Respondent for follow-up regarding her
20 fibromyalgia and polyarthralgias. Respondent documented an examination of the neck and spine
21 as well as a neurological evaluation. Respondent continued the patient on a heavy prescription of
22 Oxycontin.¹⁶

23 65. Through 2012, and until February 22, 2013, S.G. returned to Respondent for regular
24 follow-ups, and Respondent gradually increased her Oxycontin prescription, to a peak of 2869
25 milligram equivalents of morphine per day. On or about February 22, 2013, Respondent began
26 tapering S.G.'s Oxycontin intake. S.G.'s final visit occurred on or about August 27, 2014.

27
28 ¹⁶ Oxycontin is a controlled release formulation of the opioid oxycodone.

1 Departures related to S.G.

2 66. Respondent failed to document a treatment plan and objectives that would justify the
3 large quantity of opiates he prescribed to S.G. This failure constitutes gross negligence.

4 67. Respondent failed to document objective findings, including range of motion of the
5 spine and tenderness and spasm, at most of S.G.'s visits. This failure constitutes inadequate
6 recordkeeping and gross negligence.

7 Circumstances related to W.W.

8 68. W.W. was a male patient whom Respondent treated for chronic pain beginning in
9 1999, and continuing through 2016. Between 2011 and 2016 Respondent prescribed Dilaudid¹⁷
10 and Methadone on a regular basis. Beginning on or about October 10, 2014, Respondent began to
11 slowly taper the patient's opioid intake.

12 Departures related to W.W.

13 69. Respondent failed to document any periodic review of W.W.'s opiate treatment. This
14 failure constitutes gross negligence.

15 70. Respondent failed to seek a pain management consultation for W.W., despite the
16 patient's receiving multiple concurrent opiate prescriptions over a long period of time. This
17 failure constitutes gross negligence.

18 71. Many of Respondent's notes simply state that the patient was receiving a refill
19 without documenting the source of the pain or any physical examination, such as range of motion
20 or muscle spasm. This constitutes inadequate recordkeeping and gross negligence.

21 Circumstances related to B.W.

22 72. B.W. was a male patient whom Respondent treated for chronic pain beginning in
23 2009, and continuing through 2016.

24 73. On or about June 15, 2011, B.W. reported that he was "struggling" with chronic pain
25 and depression. Respondent prescribed methadone and Xanax.¹⁸

26
27 ¹⁷ Dilaudid is an opioid medication used to treat moderate to severe pain.

28 ¹⁸ Xanax (alprazolam) is a benzodiazepine used to treat anxiety and panic disorder.

1 74. On or about August 15, 2011, B.W. presented for follow-up regarding his chronic
2 pain. Respondent failed to document any physical examination. Respondent prescribed Fentanyl
3 and methadone.

4 75. On or about September 28, 2011, Respondent more than doubled B.W.'s Fentanyl
5 prescription, and additionally prescribed Norco for breakthrough pain. Respondent failed to
6 document any examination, and failed to document the source of B.W.'s pain.

7 76. On or about October 12, 2011, B.W. again reported that he was struggling with
8 chronic pain. Respondent did not document the source of B.W.'s pain, nor any examination.
9 Respondent prescribed Oxycontin, and again doubled B.W.'s Fentanyl prescription.

10 77. On or about November 7, 2011, B.W. presented to Respondent following a
11 consultation with a pain management specialist. Based on the specialist's concern regarding the
12 quantity of opioids that B.W. was taking, Respondent reduced B.W.'s Fentanyl prescription.

13 78. On or about February 8, 2012, B.W. presented to Respondent for low back pain.
14 Respondent failed to document a back examination. Respondent increased B.W.'s Fentanyl
15 prescription, and prescribed Oxycontin.

16 79. On or about May 24, 2012, B.W. reported that his medications had been stolen.
17 Respondent prescribed Percocet, and reduced B.W.'s Fentanyl prescription by half.

18 80. On or about June 23, 2012, B.W. was hospitalized for amphetamine and opioid
19 intoxication.

20 81. On or about August 16, 2012, B.W. presented for chronic back pain and stress.
21 Respondent failed to document any back examination. Respondent prescribed two different
22 Fentanyl patches to be taken simultaneously, as well as methadone. B.W. returned to the
23 Respondent on or about August 22, 2012, reporting that his medication had been stolen.

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1 82. On or about September 27, 2012, B.W. presented for medication refill for neck and
2 back pain. Respondent failed to document any neck or back examination. Respondent prescribed
3 clonazepam, Dilaudid, oxycodone, methadone, Fentanyl, Soma¹⁹, and Zolpidem.²⁰

4 83. On or about March 13, 2013, B.W. was seen for chronic back pain. Respondent
5 failed to document any back examination. Respondent refilled B.W.'s Fentanyl and methadone
6 prescriptions, and prescribed extended-release morphine.

7 84. On or about August 14, 2013, B.W. was seen for chronic back pain. Respondent
8 refilled his Fentanyl prescription, and prescribed Percocet.

9 85. On or about September 23, 2013, B.W. was seen for insomnia and back pain.
10 Respondent failed to document any back examination. Respondent prescribed Fentanyl and
11 trazodone.²¹

12 86. On or about April 29, 2014, B.W. was hospitalized for altered mental status. A
13 toxicology screen showed positive for opiates, benzodiazepines, methamphetamine,
14 cannabinoids, and MDMA (Ecstasy.)

15 87. On or about June 6, 2014, B.W. reported that his medications had been stolen.
16 Respondent refilled his Fentanyl prescription.

17 88. On or about June 30, 2014, B.W. presented to Respondent after a motor vehicle
18 accident that had occurred on May 4. Respondent filled out a DMV form indicating that B.W.
19 was safe to drive a motor vehicle.

20 89. On or about August 28, 2014, B.W. again reported that his medications had been
21 stolen. Respondent refilled his prescriptions for Valium, Fentanyl, and Norco.

22 90. On or about June 29, 2015, B.W. again reported that his medications had been stolen.

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26 ¹⁹ Soma (carisprodol) is a muscle relaxant.

27 ²⁰ Zolpidem (Ambien) is a sedative used to treat insomnia.

28 ²¹ Trazodone is an antidepressant with anti-anxiety and sleep-inducing effects.

1 Departures related to B.W.

2 91. Respondent failed to document a complete history and physical examination of
3 patient B.W. at any time. This failure constitutes gross negligence.

4 92. Respondent failed to document a coherent treatment plan for B.W. In particular,
5 Respondent failed to develop a treatment plan following B.W.'s two hospitalizations for
6 overmedication and use of illicit substances. This failure constitutes gross negligence.

7 93. Respondent failed to periodically review his treatment of B.W.'s chronic pain,
8 particularly in light of B.W.'s two hospitalizations for overmedication and use of illicit
9 substances. This failure constitutes gross negligence.

10 94. Respondent failed to document any consideration of B.W.'s two hospitalizations for
11 overmedication. This constitutes inadequate recordkeeping and gross negligence.

12 Circumstances related to M.R.

13 95. M.R. was a male patient whom Respondent treated for Lyme disease beginning in
14 1997. Beginning in 2009, Respondent began prescribing Vicodin²² to M.R. for chronic pain.

15 96. On or about April 28, 2015, M.R. underwent back surgery to treat his chronic back
16 pain.

17 97. On or about April 30, 2015, M.R. presented to Respondent. Respondent noted that
18 M.R.'s back pain was improving, but failed to mention the patient's recent surgery. Respondent
19 refilled the patient's hydrocodone prescription without change.

20 Departures related to M.R.

21 98. Respondent failed to document any treatment plan or objectives for treatment of
22 M.R.'s chronic pain. This failure constitutes gross negligence.

23 99. Respondent failed to perform any periodic review of his opiate treatment of M.R.
24 Respondent failed to perform periodic physical examinations of M.R. to measure progress or
25 failure of treatment. These failures constitute gross negligence.

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28 ²² Vicodin is a preparation of the opioid hydrocodone and acetaminophen.

100. Although M.R. underwent evaluation and treatment by a neurosurgeon, Respondent failed to document any follow-up communication or coordination of care with the neurosurgeon. This lack of follow-up on appropriate consultation constitutes gross negligence.

101. Respondent failed to document any physical examination of the source of M.R.'s pain, such as an examination of the back. This constitutes inadequate recordkeeping and gross negligence.

SECOND CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Repeated Negligent Acts)

102. Respondent Kurt Eugene Johnson, M.D. is subject to disciplinary action under section 2234, subdivision (c) in that he engaged in repeated acts of negligence. The circumstances are set forth in paragraphs 9 through 101 above, which are incorporated here by reference as if fully set forth.

THIRD CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Prescribing Without a Prior Examination and Medical Indication)

103. Respondent Kurt Eugene Johnson, M.D. is subject to disciplinary action under section 2242, in that he prescribed dangerous drugs without an appropriate prior examination and medical indication. The circumstances are set forth in paragraphs 9 through 101 above, which are incorporated here by reference as if fully set forth.

FOURTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Recordkeeping)

104. Respondent Kurt Eugene Johnson, M.D. is subject to disciplinary action under section 2266, in that he kept inadequate medical records. The circumstances are set forth in paragraphs 9 through 101 above, which are incorporated here by reference as if fully set forth.

PRAAYER

WHEREFORE, Complainant requests that a hearing be held on the matters herein alleged, and that following the hearing, the Medical Board of California issue a decision:

1. Revoking or suspending Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate Number G 59768, issued to Kurt Eugene Johnson, M.D.;

- 1 2. Revoking, suspending or denying approval of Kurt Eugene Johnson, M.D.'s authority
2 to supervise physician assistants and advanced practice nurses;
3 3. Ordering Kurt Eugene Johnson, M.D., if placed on probation, to pay the Board the
4 costs of probation monitoring; and
5 4. Taking such other and further action as deemed necessary and proper.

6
7 DATED: October 19, 2017


KIMBERLY KIRCHMEYER
Executive Director
Medical Board of California
Department of Consumer Affairs
State of California
Complainant

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