BEFORE THE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS OF THE STATE OF NEVADA

* * * * *

In the Matter of Charges and Complaint

Against:

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SAMUEL RODOLFO CHACON, M.D.,

Respondent.

Case No. 23-12762-2

FILED

SEP 0 8 2023

NEVADA STATE-BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

COMPLAINT

The Investigative Committee¹ (IC) of the Nevada State Board of Medical Examiners (Board), by and through its counsel, Deonne E. Contine, General Counsel and Ian J. Cumings, Deputy General Counsel and attorneys for the IC, having a reasonable basis to believe that Samuel Rodolfo Chacon, M.D. (Respondent) violated the provisions of Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) Chapter 630 and Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) Chapter 630 (collectively, the Medical Practice Act), hereby issues its Complaint, stating the IC's charges and allegations as follows:

- 1. Respondent was at all times relative to this Complaint a physician holding an active license to practice medicine in the State of Nevada (License No. 9105). Respondent was originally licensed by the Board on July 27, 1999, with a specialty in Obstetrics/Gynecology.
 - 2. Patient A^2 was a sixty-nine (69) year-old female at the time of the events at issue.
- 3. Records indicate that Respondent first saw Patient A on December 28, 2018, after referral by her primary care physician for evaluation of a six-week medical history of vaginal discharge, at times bloody, that was not responding to antifungal or antibacterial treatment.
- 4. Respondent's note states that Patient A's chief complaint was vaginal discharge, irregular spotting, and urinary urgency. Respondent states that Patient A had significant urinary

¹ The Investigative Committee of the Nevada State Board of Medical Examiners, at the time this formal Complaint was authorized for filing, was composed of Board members Aury Nagy, M.D., Chairman, Nicola (Nick) Spirtos, M.D., F.A.C.O.G., and Ms. Maggie Arias-Petrel.

² Patient A's true identity is not disclosed herein to protect her privacy but is disclosed in the Patient Designation served upon Respondent along with a copy of this Complaint.

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urgency, that she did not feel as if she fully emptied her bladder, and that she gets up to urinate up to three (3) times per night.

- Respondent discussed with Patient A undergoing a Urodynamic study to assess 5. Patient A's urinary incontinence. Respondent's notes document that Patient A agreed to the testing, which was performed on December 28, 2018, during a scheduled appointment.
- Records for the Urodynamic study description indicated mild incontinence. 6. However, no testing data or analysis was included in Patient A's medical records.
- The Assessment/Diagnosis from the December 28, 2018, appointment note 7. Patient A "will proceed with the evaluation of the vulvovaginal atrophy if her symptoms worsen."
- Respondent's medical records from January 16, 2019, indicated results from a 8. vaginal ultrasound were unremarkable; nevertheless, Patient A was counseled regarding the findings of the ultrasound and the notes stated that she would proceed with further work-up given the concern. Patient A proceeded with a CT scan of the abdomen and pelvis with and without contrast.
- January 16, 2019, records also indicate that Patient A "has had one episode of 9. unprotected sexual activity but had a normal cycle after the last encounter." However, a normal cycle is hard to imagine in any 69-year-old woman, but especially in a woman who had a hysterectomy. The fact that she had a hysterectomy was documented in Patient A's records on the same page that indicated she had a normal cycle.
- On January 24, 2019, Patient A had a follow-up appointment where she was 10. counseled regarding the CT scan results which were unremarkable and did not warrant further review. At this appointment another Urodynamics study was described in Patient A's medical records, which noted again, that Patient A had mild incontinence. However once more, no data or analysis regarding the urodynamic testing was included in Patient A's medical records.
- The January 24, 2019, records further noted that Patient A wished to proceed with 11. an expectant management approach to her incontinence.
- Seemingly in contradiction to the desire of Patient A to proceed with an expectant 12. management approach to her incontinence, documentation in the records for January 24, 2019,

also stated that Patient A was "no longer interested in proceeding with conservative management and now wishes she wishes [sic] to proceed with definitive surgery to correct not only her known pelvic floor relaxation but her [stress urinary incontinence]."

- 13. Respondent's records for Patient A showed an encounter on January 31, 2019, during which it was noted that Patient A, "was given preoperative instructions and wishes to proceed with the pelvic floor corrective surgery on the specified date."
- 14. The preoperative diagnosis or reason for surgery documentation stated "Symptomatic pelvic floor relaxation, pelvic pain, mixed urinary incontinence with strong type 2 stress urinary incontinent component as noted on urodynamic studies."
- 15. However, no documentation noting any objective finding of symptomatic pelvic organ prolapse was ever recorded in Respondent's records for Patient A, and pelvic floor related issues were not documented at any time prior to the issue appearing in the January 31, 2019, encounter, which was after all consents were obtained and surgery was scheduled.
- 16. Additionally, Patient A's medical records do not contain results of any urodynamic study that support a diagnosis of "mixed urinary incontinence with strong type 2 stress urinary incontinent component."
- 17. The only finding of prolapse in any of Patient A's medical records related to this issue, was of posterior prolapse documented by a colorectal surgeon, who noted "a small rectocele" on February 7, 2019, four (4) days before Patient A's surgery was scheduled to take place.
- 18. On February 11, 2019, Patient A presented to Saint Mary's Regional Medical Center where records showed Respondent performed the following surgical procedures: anterior and posterior vaginal repair, enterocele repair, perineoplasty, sacrospinous vault suspension, trans obturator tape mid urethral sling procedures and cystoscopy. These procedures were not performed on the basis of any documented complaints by Patient A nor any medical diagnoses.

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COUNT I

NRS 630.301(4) - Malpractice

- All of the allegations contained in the above paragraphs are hereby incorporated by 19. reference as though fully set forth herein.
- NRS 630.301(4) provides that malpractice of a physician is grounds for initiating 20. disciplinary action against a licensee.
- NAC 630.040 defines malpractice as "the failure of a physician, in treating a 21. patient, to use the reasonable care, skill, or knowledge ordinarily used under similar circumstances."
- As demonstrated by, but not limited to, the above-outlined facts, Respondent failed 22. to use the reasonable care, skill or knowledge ordinarily used under similar circumstances when he performed the unindicated surgical procedures on Patient A as described herein.
- 23. By reason of the foregoing, Respondent is subject to discipline by the Board as provided in NRS 630.352.

COUNT II

NRS 630.3062(1)(a) - Failure to Maintain Complete Medical Records

- All of the allegations contained in the above paragraphs are hereby incorporated by 24. reference as though fully set forth herein.
- NRS 630.3062(1)(a) provides that the "failure to maintain timely, legible, accurate 25. and complete medical records relating to the diagnosis, treatment and care of a patient" constitute grounds for initiating discipline against a licensee.
- Respondent failed to maintain complete medical records relating to the diagnosis, 26. treatment and care of Patient A, by, among other things, failing to document any complaints made by Patient A of symptomatic pelvic organ prolapse before he performed surgery on Patient A. Additionally, Respondent's records stated, "[Patient A] has had one episode of unprotected sexual activity but had a normal cycle after the last encounter." Patient A was sixtynine (69) years old, post-menopausal, and had a positive surgical history of a hysterectomy thereby eliminating the menses or cycle of Patient A. Finally, there were additional

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inconsistencies and omissions in Respondent's records for Patient A, whose medical records were not timely, legible, accurate, and complete.

By reason of the foregoing, Respondent is subject to discipline by the Board as 27. provided in NRS 630.352.

COUNT III

NRS 630.301(8) - Failure to Provide Procedures, Studies, Services, Referrals

- All of the allegations in the above paragraphs are hereby incorporated as if fully set 28. forth herein.
- NRS 630.301(8) provides that the failure to offer appropriate procedures or studies, 29. to provided necessary services or to refer a patient to an appropriate provider, when the failure occurs with intent of positively influencing the financial well-being of the practitioner are grounds for discipline.
- 30. As demonstrated by, but not limited to, the above-outlined facts, Respondent violated NRS 630.301(8) regarding Patient A's medical conditions when Respondent performed unindicated surgery on Patient A, including anterior and posterior vaginal repair, enterocele repair, perineoplasty, sacrospinous vault suspension, trans obturator tape mid urethral sling procedures and cystoscopy. Respondent performed all the aforementioned procedures without a medical purpose or diagnosis and with the intent of positively influencing the financial well-being of Respondent's practice.
- By reason of the foregoing, Respondent is subject to discipline by the Board as 31. provided in NRS 630.352.

COUNT IV

NRS 630.301(7) - Violation of Patient Trust and Exploitation of Physician and Patient Relationship for Financial or Personal Gain

All of the allegations contained in the above paragraphs are hereby incorporated by 32. reference as though fully set forth herein.

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33. NRS 630.301(7) provides that "engaging in conduct that violates the trust of a		
patient and exploits the relationship between the physician and the patient for financial or other		
personal gain" is grounds for initiating discipline against a licensee.		
34. As demonstrated by, but not limited to, the above-outlined facts, Respondent		
violated the trust of and exploited the relationship between Respondent and Patient A when he		
performed surgical procedures on Patient A that were not indicated because they were not based		
on any documented patient complaints or medical diagnoses.		
35. By reason of the foregoing, Respondent is subject to discipline by the Board as		
provided in NRS 630.352.		
WHEREFORE, the Investigative Committee prays:		
1. That the Board give Respondent notice of the charges herein against him and give		
him notice that he may file an answer to the Complaint herein as set forth in NRS 630.339(2)		
within twenty (20) days of service of the Complaint;		
2. That the Board set a time and place for a formal hearing after holding an Early		
Case Conference pursuant to NRS 630.339(3);		
3. That the Board determine what sanctions to impose if it determines there has been		
a violation or violations of the Medical Practice Act committed by Respondent;		
4. That the Board award fees and costs for the investigation and prosecution of this		
case as outlined in NRS 622.400;		
5. That the Board make, issue and serve on Respondent its findings of fact,		
conclusions of law and order, in writing, that includes the sanctions imposed; and		
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OFFICE OF THE GENERAL COUNSEL Nevada State Board of Medical Examiners

9600 Gateway Drive Reno, Nevada 89521

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6. That the Board take such other and further action as may be just and proper in these premises.

DATED this 4 day of September, 2023.

INVESTIGATIVE COMMITTEE OF THE NEVADA STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

By: 1)0

DEONNE E. CONTINE

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Attorneys for the Investigative Committee

OFFICE OF THE GENERAL COUNSEL

Nevada State Board of Medical Examiners 9600 Gateway Drive Reno, Nevada 89521

VERIFICATION

STATE OF NEVADA)
	: SS.
COUNTY OF CLARK)

Aury Nagy, M.D., having been duly sworn, hereby deposes and states under penalty of perjury that he is the Chairman of the Investigative Committee of the Nevada State Board of Medical Examiners that authorized the Complaint against the Respondent herein; that he has read the foregoing Complaint; and that based upon information discovered in the course of the investigation into a complaint against Respondent, he believes that the allegations and charges in the foregoing Complaint against Respondent are true, accurate and correct.

DATED this _____ day of September, 2023.

INVESTIGATIVE COMMITTEE OF THE NEVADA STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

By:

AURY NAGY, M.D.

Chairman of the Investigative Committee