1	BEFORE THE BOARD OI	F MEDICAL EXAMINERS
2	OF THE STATE OF NEVADA	
3	* * >	* * *
4		
5	In the Matter of Charges and Complaint	Case No. 24-22461-2
6	Against:	FILED
7	MATTHEW OBIM OKEKE, M.D.,	
8	Respondent.	FEB 2 1 2024 NEVADA STATE BOARD OF
9		MEDICAL EXAMINERS
10	COMP	LAINT
11	The Investigative Committee ¹ (IC) of t	he Nevada State Board of Medical Examiners
12	(Board), by and through Sarah A. Bradley, J.D.	, MBA, Deputy Executive Director and attorney
13	for the IC, having a reasonable basis to believe	that Matthew Obim Okeke, M.D., (Respondent)
14	violated the provisions of Nevada Revised	Statutes (NRS) Chapter 630 and Nevada
15	Administrative Code (NAC) Chapter 630 (collect	ctively, the Medical Practice Act), hereby issues
16	its Complaint, stating the IC's charges and allega	tions as follows:
17	1. Respondent was at all times relation	ve to this Complaint a medical doctor holding an
18	active-probation license to practice medicine	the State of Nevada (License No. 14957).
19	Respondent was originally licensed by the Board	on October 8, 2003. ²
20	Treatment	of Patient A
21	2. Patient A^3 was a twenty-six (26) y	ear-old female at the time of the events at issue.
22	3. Beginning on January 1, 2018, pre	escribing practitioners in Nevada were required to
23	before issuing an initial prescription for controlle	ed substances listed in Schedules II, III, or IV, or
24	an opioid that is a controlled substance listed in	Schedule V, and at least once every ninety (90)
25		
26	The Investigative Committee of the Nevada St	ate Board of Medical Examiners, at the time this formal
27	Complaint was authorized for filing, was composed of Board members Bret W. Frey, M.D., Chowdhury H. Ahsan, M.D., PhD., FACC, and Col. Eric D. Wade, USAF (Ret.) (Public Member).	
28	license number 14957 on September 6, 2013.	on October 8, 2003, was 10668. Respondent was issued
	³ Patient A's true identity is not disclosed here Designation served upon Respondent along with a copy of	in to protect her privacy, but is disclosed in the Patient this Complaint.

OFFICE OF THE GENERAL COUNSEL Nevada State Board of Medical Examiners 9600 Gateway Drive Reno, Nevada 89521 (775) 688-2559 days thereafter for the duration of the course of treatment of using the controlled substance, obtain
 a patient utilization report (Patient Report) regarding the patient from the Prescription Monitoring
 Program (PMP).

4 4. The current medications list for Patient A on January 18, 2018, as shown in
5 Respondent's medical records for Patient A, include among other medications, Norco 10-325 mg
6 30 quantity with 1 per day, Norco 7.5-325 mg 60 quantity with 1 per day, Norco 5-325 mg 30
7 quantity with 1 per day for 15 days only, Xanax 2 mg 60 quantity with 1 per day, Xanax 1 mg 60
8 quantity with 1 per day, and Xanax .5 mg 60 quantity with 1 per day.

5. The current medications list for Patient A on February 23, 2018, as shown in
Respondent's medical records for Patient A, include among other medications, Norco 10-325 mg
30 quantity with 1 per day, Norco 7.5-325 mg 60 quantity with 1 per day, Norco 5-325 mg 30
quantity with 1 per day for 15 days only, Xanax 2 mg 60 quantity with 1 per day, Xanax 1 mg 60
quantity with 1 per day, Xanax .5 mg 60 quantity with 1 per day, Klonopin 1 mg 60 quantity 1 per day, and Klonopin .5 mg 60 quantity 1 per day.

6. The current medications list for Patient A on March 23, 2018, as shown in
Respondent's medical records for Patient A, include among other medications, Norco 10-325 mg
30 quantity with 1 per day, Norco 7.5-325 mg 60 quantity with 1 per day, Norco 5-325 mg 30
quantity with 1 per day, Xanax 2 mg 60 quantity with 1 per day, Xanax 1 mg 60 quantity with 1
per day, Xanax .5 mg 60 quantity with 1 per day, Klonopin 1 mg 60 quantity 1 per day, and
Klonopin .5 mg 60 quantity 1 per day.

Klonopin .5 mg 60 quantity 1 per day.
7. It should be noted that Patient A's current medication list was changed on
March 23, 2018, from what was shown on February 23, 2018, because the limitation for Norco

5-325 mg for just fifteen (15) days only, was removed.

8. The current medications list for Patient A on April 20, 2018, as shown in
Respondent's medical records for Patient A, include among other medications, Norco 10-325 mg
30 quantity with 1 per day, Norco 7.5-325 mg 60 quantity with 1 per day, Norco 5-325 mg 60
quantity with 1 per day, Xanax 2 mg 60 quantity with 1 per day, Xanax 1 mg 60 quantity with 1
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per day, Xanax .5 mg 60 quantity with 1 per day, Klonopin 1 mg 60 quantity 1 per day, and
 Klonopin .5 mg 60 quantity 1 per day.

9. It should be noted that Patient A's current medication list was changed on
April 20, 2018, from what was shown on March 23, 2018, because the quantity for Norco
5-325 mg was changed from thirty (30) to sixty (60).

10. The current medications list for Patient A on June 25, 2018, as shown in
Respondent's medical records for Patient A, include among other medications, Norco 10-325 mg
30 quantity with 1 per day, Norco 7.5-325 mg 60 quantity with 1 per day, Norco 5-325 mg 60
quantity with 1 per day, Xanax 2 mg 60 quantity with 1 per day, Xanax 1 mg 60 quantity with 1
per day, Xanax .5 mg 60 quantity with 1 per day, Klonopin 1 mg 60 quantity 1 per day, and
Klonopin .5 mg 60 quantity 1 per day.

12 11. The current medications list for Patient A on July 20, 2018, as shown in 13 Respondent's medical records for Patient A, include among other medications, Norco 10-325 mg 14 30 quantity with 1 per day, Norco 7.5-325 mg 60 quantity with 1 per day, Norco 5-325 mg 60 15 quantity with 1 per day, Xanax 2 mg 60 quantity with 1 per day, Xanax 1 mg 60 quantity with 1 16 per day, Xanax .5 mg 60 quantity with 1 per day, Klonopin 1 mg 60 quantity 1 per day, and 17 Klonopin .5 mg 60 quantity 1 per day.

18 12. The current medications list for Patient A on August 17, 2018, as shown in 19 Respondent's medical records for Patient A, include among other medications, Norco 10-325 mg 20 30 quantity with 1 per day, Norco 7.5-325 mg 60 quantity with 1 per day, Norco 5-325 mg 60 21 quantity with 1 per day, Xanax 2 mg 60 quantity with 1 per day, Xanax 1 mg 60 quantity with 1 22 per day, Xanax .5 mg 60 quantity with 1 per day, Klonopin 1 mg 60 quantity 1 per day, and 23 Klonopin .5 mg 60 quantity 1 per day.

13. The current medications list for Patient A on September 17, 2018, as shown in
Respondent's medical records for Patient A, include among other medications, Norco 10-325 mg
30 quantity with 1 per day, Norco 7.5-325 mg 60 quantity with 1 per day, Norco 5-325 mg 60
quantity with 1 per day, Xanax 2 mg 60 quantity with 1 per day, Xanax 1 mg 60 quantity with 1
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per day, Xanax .5 mg 60 quantity with 1 per day, Klonopin 1 mg 60 quantity 1 per day, and 1 2 Klonopin .5 mg 60 quantity 1 per day.

14. 3 The current medications list for Patient A on October 15, 2018, as shown in Respondent's medical records for Patient A, include among other medications, Norco 10-325 mg 4 30 quantity with 1 per day, Norco 7.5-325 mg 60 quantity with 1 per day, Norco 5-325 mg 60 5 6 quantity with 1 per day, Xanax 2 mg 60 quantity with 1 per day, Xanax 1 mg 60 quantity with 1 per day, Xanax .5 mg 60 quantity with 1 per day, Klonopin 1 mg 60 quantity 1 per day, and 7 8 Klonopin .5 mg 60 quantity 1 per day.

15. The current medications list for Patient A on November 9, 2018, as shown in Respondent's medical records for Patient A, include among other medications, Norco 10-325 mg 30 quantity with 1 per day, Norco 7.5-325 mg 60 quantity with 1 per day, Norco 5-325 mg 60 12 quantity with 1 per day, Xanax 2 mg 60 quantity with 1 per day, Xanax 1 mg 60 quantity with 1 per day, Xanax .5 mg 60 quantity with 1 per day, Klonopin 1 mg 60 quantity 1 per day, and 13 14 Klonopin .5 mg 60 quantity 1 per day.

15 16. The current medications list for Patient A on December 10, 2018, as shown in Respondent's medical records for Patient A, include among other medications, Norco 10-325 mg 16 30 quantity with 1 per day, Norco 7.5-325 mg 60 quantity with 1 per day, Norco 5-325 mg 60 17 quantity with 1 per day, Xanax 2 mg 60 quantity with 1 per day, Xanax .5 mg 60 quantity with 1 18 19 per day, Klonopin 1 mg 60 quantity 1 per day, and Klonopin .5 mg 60 quantity 1 per day.

20 17. It should be noted that Patient A's current medication list was changed on December 10, 2018, from what was shown on November 9, 2018, because the Xanax 1 mg 60 21 22 quantity with 1 per day was removed.

23 18. The current medications list for Patient A on January 9, 2019, as shown in Respondent's medical records for Patient A, include among other medications, Norco 10-325 mg 24 25 30 quantity with 1 per day, Norco 7.5-325 mg 60 quantity with 1 per day, Norco 5-325 mg 60 26 quantity with 1 per day, Xanax 2 mg 60 quantity with 1 per day, Xanax 1 mg 60 quantity with 1 per day, Xanax .5 mg 60 quantity with 1 per day, Klonopin 1 mg 60 quantity 1 per day, and 27 28 Klonopin .5 mg 60 quantity 1 per day.

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If should be noted that Patient A's current medication list was changed on
 January 9, 2019, from what was shown on December 10, 2018, because the Xanax 1 mg 60
 quantity with 1 per day was added.

20. The current medications list for Patient A on February 5, 2019, as shown in
Respondent's medical records for Patient A, include among other medications, Norco 10-325 mg
30 quantity with 1 per day, Norco 7.5-325 mg 60 quantity with 1 per day, Norco 5-325 mg 60
quantity with 1 per day, Xanax 2 mg 60 quantity with 1 per day, Xanax 1 mg 60 quantity with 1
per day, Xanax .5 mg 60 quantity with 1 per day, Klonopin 1 mg 60 quantity 1 per day, and
Klonopin .5 mg 60 quantity 1 per day.

10 21. The current medications list for Patient A on March 4, 2019, as shown in 11 Respondent's medical records for Patient A, include among other medications, Norco 10-325 mg 12 30 quantity with 1 per day, Norco 7.5-325 mg 60 quantity with 1 per day, Norco 5-325 mg 60 13 quantity with 1 per day, Xanax 2 mg 60 quantity with 1 per day, Xanax 1 mg 60 quantity with 1 14 per day, Xanax .5 mg 60 quantity with 1 per day, Klonopin 1 mg 60 quantity 1 per day, and 15 Klonopin .5 mg 60 quantity 1 per day.

16 22. The current medications list for Patient A on April 4, 2019, as shown in 17 Respondent's medical records for Patient A, include among other medications, Norco 10-325 mg 18 30 quantity with 1 per day, Norco 7.5-325 mg 60 quantity with 1 per day, Norco 5-325 mg 60 19 quantity with 1 per day, Xanax 2 mg 60 quantity with 1 per day, Xanax 1 mg 60 quantity with 1 20 per day, Xanax .5 mg 60 quantity with 1 per day, Klonopin 1 mg 60 quantity 1 per day, and 21 Klonopin .5 mg 60 quantity 1 per day.

22 23. The current medications list for Patient A on May 2, 2019, as shown in
Respondent's medical records for Patient A, include among other medications, Norco 10-325 mg
30 quantity with 1 per day, Norco 7.5-325 mg 60 quantity with 1 per day, Norco 5-325 mg 60
quantity with 1 per day, Xanax 2 mg 60 quantity with 1 per day, Xanax 1 mg 60 quantity with 1
per day, Xanax .5 mg 60 quantity with 1 per day, Klonopin 1 mg 60 quantity 1 per day, and
Klonopin .5 mg 60 quantity 1 per day.

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OFFICE OF THE GENERAL COUNSEL Nevada State Board of Medical Examiners 9600 Gateway Drive Reno, Nevada 89521 (775) 688-2559 1 24. The current medications list for Patient A on May 20, 2019, as shown in 2 Respondent's medical records for Patient A, include among other medications, Norco 10-325 mg 3 30 quantity with 1 per day, Norco 7.5-325 mg 60 quantity with 1 per day, Norco 5-325 mg 60 4 quantity with 1 per day, Xanax 2 mg 60 quantity with 1 per day, Xanax 1 mg 60 quantity with 1 5 per day, Xanax .5 mg 60 quantity with 1 per day, Klonopin 1 mg 60 quantity 1 per day, and 6 Klonopin .5 mg 60 quantity 1 per day.

7 25. The current medications list for Patient A on June 26, 2019, as shown in 8 Respondent's medical records for Patient A, include among other medications, Norco 10-325 mg 9 30 quantity with 1 per day, Norco 7.5-325 mg 60 quantity with 1 per day, Norco 5-325 mg 60 10 quantity with 1 per day, Xanax 2 mg 60 quantity with 1 per day, Xanax 1 mg 60 quantity with 1 11 per day, Xanax .5 mg 60 quantity with 1 per day, Klonopin 1 mg 60 quantity 1 per day, and 12 Klonopin .5 mg 60 quantity 1 per day.

13 26. The current medications list for Patient A on July 22, 2019, as shown in 14 Respondent's medical records for Patient A, include among other medications, Norco 10-325 mg 15 30 quantity with 1 per day, Norco 7.5-325 mg 60 quantity with 1 per day, Norco 5-325 mg 60 16 quantity with 1 per day, Xanax 2 mg 60 quantity with 1 per day, Xanax 1 mg 60 quantity with 1 17 per day, Xanax .5 mg 60 quantity with 1 per day, Klonopin 1 mg 60 quantity 1 per day, and 18 Klonopin .5 mg 60 quantity 1 per day.

19 27. The standard of care for prescribing controlled substances is to avoid the use of
20 benzodiazepines (such as clonazepam and alprazolam) with opioids (such as hydrocodone21 acetamin, oxycodone-acetaminophen, and tramadol).

22 28. There is an increased potential for respiratory depression with the use of opioids
23 and benzodiazepines at the same time.

24 29. Respondent asserts that he has not prescribed opioids to Patient A since
25 September 25, 2013.⁴

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⁴ From the records received by the Board Investigator in this matter, it appears that Patient A first began to receive psychiatric care from Respondent on September 9, 2013. Only Respondent's care of Patient A from January 2018 to July 2019 will be addressed in this Complaint.

30. However, Respondent did prescribe Patient A benzodiazepines from January 2018
 to July 2019, and Respondent knew or should have known that Patient A was being prescribed
 opioids by another prescribing provider at that same time.

4 31. Patient A's Patient Report from the PMP confirms that she was receiving both
5 benzodiazepines and opioids at the same time. Further, the medical records of Patient A reflect
6 the use of both benzodiazepines and opioids at the same time in her "current medications" list as
7 cited above in factual allegations #4 to 26.
8 32. It is concerning that multiple types and strengths of benzodiazepines

8 32. It is concerning that multiple types and strengths of benzodiazepines
9 (five (5) different types) and opioids (three (3) different types) are reflected in Patient A's medical
10 records throughout the her treatment timeline with Respondent.

11 33. Patient A's Patient Report from the PMP does not support that she was actually 12 taking five (5) different benzodiazepines and three (3) different opioids at the same time. Instead, 13 it appears that the multiple types and strengths of benzodiazepines and opioids in Patient A's 14 medical records is a failure by Respondent to ensure that Patient A's medical records correctly 15 reflected what medications she was actually taking at the time of each visit.

34. Patient A's other medications contained in her medical records throughout this time
period also appear to be inaccurate showing additional discrepancies such as three (3) different
strengths of Adderall each taken once per day, Bactrim DS 800-160 mg being taken by Patient A
from January 18, 2018, through July 22, 2019,⁵ two (2) different strengths of Ritalin each taken
once per day, and two (2) different strengths of Zoloft each taken once per day.

21 22 35. The discrepancies noted in factual allegation at ¶ 32 to 34 constitute a failure by Respondent to ensure that Patient A's medical records correctly reflected what medications she was actually taking at the time of each visit.

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⁵ Bactrim DS 800-160 mg is an antibiotic used to treat infections. Upon information and belief, it is unlikely that Patient A would take an antibiotic for more than a year without a history of infections or other medical issues being noted. Patient A's medical records maintained by Respondent reflect no history of urinary tract infections or other conditions that may warrant the use of an antibiotic. There is a note about Patient A having a urinary tract infection in January 2019 in the records maintained by another health care provider providing care to Patient A during this same time period. However, Respondent's records reflect no such note, just continuing use of antibiotics by Patient A at every visit with Respondent during this time period. Upon information and belief, the reference to Patient A's use of Bactrim DS 800-160 mg form January 18, 2018, to July 22, 2019, is an example of Respondent's failure to maintain clear, legible, accurate, and complete medical records for Patient A.

36. Upon information and belief, Respondent copied and pasted progress notes from
 visit to visit for Patient A, which led to a failure to maintain clear, legible, accurate, and complete
 medical records for Patient A.

4 37. Upon information and belief, Respondent's care of Patient A showed a lack of
5 diligence in both documentation, review, and management of her medications which fell below
6 the standard of care.

38. In his response to the Board Investigator regarding Patient A, Respondent stated "I check the PMP regularly."

9 39. If the statement in ¶ 38 was true, Respondent should have been aware of Patient
10 A's concurrent use of benzodiazepines and opioids.

40. However, the PMP records show that Respondent did not conduct a query of Patient A's prescription history in the PMP to obtain her Patient Report at any time from January 2018 to July 2019.

41. The quantities of controlled substances prescribed to Patient A by Respondent did
not always match the progress notes in Patient A's medical records.

42. At times, Respondent provided Patient A with prescriptions that were more than a
thirty (30) day supply, even though he was seeing her monthly to manage her medications.

18 43. Respondent was out of the United States from November 8, 2019, to
19 December 8, 2019.

Treatment of Patient B

44. Patient B^6 was a forty-seven (47) year-old male at the time of the events at issue.

45. Respondent wrote a prescription for a Schedule III controlled substance, Suboxone, for Patient B on November 8, 2019.

46. There is no progress note correlating to a visit on November 8, 2019, when Patient
B received the prescription from Respondent.

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⁶ Patient B's true identity is not disclosed herein to protect his privacy, but is disclosed in the Patient Designation served upon Respondent along with a copy of this Complaint.

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47. Upon information and belief, Respondent did not examine Patient B on 1 November 8, 2019, prior to giving him the prescription for the Schedule III controlled substance, 2 which is a violation of the standard of care. 3

4 48. The prescription for Patient B was a paper prescription dated November 8, 2019, that contained a signature from Respondent.⁷ 5

> 49. Respondent was out of the country on November 8, 2019.

7 50. Respondent stated in his response to the Board investigator that "I have never seen 8 this patient in any setting that I can remember. I did not give him any prescription. I do not have 9 a record of seeing him or treating him."

Upon information and belief, Respondent allowed another person in his office to 10 51. 11 either sign his name to the prescription for Patient B or Respondent pre-signed the prescription for 12 Patient B prior to leaving the country.

52. 13 PMP records show that Respondent did not check Patient B's Patient Report from 14 the PMP until February 2020.

15 If Respondent's statement to the Board investigator as contained in § 50 was true 53. and Patient B was never his patient, it would be a violation of law for Respondent to check 16 17 Patient B's Patient Report in the PMP in February 2020.

54. 18 PMP records do not show that Respondent conducted queries of Patient B in the PMP prior to prescribing controlled substances to him or every ninety (90) days after prescribing 19 controlled substances to him as required by Nevada law. 20

21 55. A review of Patient B's Patient Report from the PMP shows that Patient B was 22 given a refill for Valium too early.

23 56. Respondent gave Patient B a thirty (30) day supply of Valium (quantity 60, 5 mg) 24 on April 11, 2019, April 24, 2019, and May 9, 2019.

57. According to Patient B's Patient Report from the PMP, all three (3) of these 26 prescriptions, in addition to others, were written by Respondent.

⁷ Please note that the prescription provided to Patient B contains a signature that looks very much like Respondent's signature as seen in other medical records in this matter and other Board matters. This is unlike the 28 prescriptions provided to Patients C, D, and E that contain Respondent's handwritten name, but do not look like his signature.

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1	Treatment of Patient C	
2	58. Patient C ⁸ was a fifty-three (53) year-old male at the time of the events at issue.	
3	59. Respondent wrote a prescription for Patient C for controlled substances on	
4	November 27, 2019.	
5	60. There is no progress note correlating to a visit on November 27, 2019, when	
6	Patient C received the prescription from Respondent.	
7	61. Upon information and belief, Respondent did not examine Patient C on	
8	November 27, 2019, prior to giving him the prescription which is a violation of the standard of	
9	care.	
10	62. The prescription for Patient C was a paper prescription dated November 27, 2019,	
11	that contained a signature from Respondent and/or Respondent's handwritten name. ⁹	
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14	either sign his name to the prescription for Patient C or Respondent pre-signed the prescription for	
15	Patient C prior to leaving the country.	
16	65. PMP records show that Respondent did not check Patient C's Patient Report from	
17	the PMP until February 2020.	
18	66. PMP records do not show that Respondent conducted queries of Patient C in the	
19	PMP prior to prescribing controlled substances to him or every ninety (90) days after prescribing	
20	controlled substances to him as required by Nevada law.	
21	<u>Treatment of Patient D</u>	
22	67. Patient D^{10} was a seventy-four (74) year-old female at the time of the events at	
23	issue.	
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25	⁸ Patient C's true identity is not disclosed herein to protect his privacy, but is disclosed in the Patient	
26	Designation served upon Respondent along with a copy of this Complaint. ⁹ The signature for Respondent on this prescription looks different than other signatures for Respondent	
27	shown in other documents. It is possible that Respondent's name was simply written on the prescription by another staff member. For example, the signature from Respondent on the paper prescription for Patient B looks different	
28	than that on the prescription for Patient C. ¹⁰ Patient D'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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2	November 27, 2019.
3	69. Respondent is referenced in some documents from Sana Behavioral Health (Sana)
4	as the attending physician for Patient D during her stay at Sana.
5	70. Respondent's name is signed on the Interdisciplinary Team Meeting note dated
6	November 26, 2019.
7	71. However, Respondent was out of the country on both November 26, 2019, and
8	November 27, 2019.
9	72. Sana records support that Patient D was actually seen by ML, M.D. and DP, APRN
10	while at Sana.
11	73. Upon information and belief, Respondent did not examine Patient D on
12	November 27, 2019, prior to giving her the prescription which is a violation of the standard of
13	care.
14	74. The prescription for Patient D was a paper prescription dated November 27, 2019,
15	that contained a signature from Respondent and/or Respondent's handwritten name. ¹¹
16	75. Delegating signatory approval for Patient D for the prescription and/or Patient D's
17	medical records at Sana is a violation of the standard of care.
18	76. Upon information and belief, Respondent allowed another person in his office to
19	either sign his name to the prescription for Patient D or Respondent pre-signed the prescription for
20	Patient D prior to leaving the country.
21	77. PMP records do not show that Respondent conducted queries of Patient D in the
22	PMP prior to prescribing controlled substances to her or every ninety (90) days after prescribing
23	controlled substances to her as required by Nevada law.
24	Treatment of Patient E
25	78. Patient E^{12} was a fifty-five (55) year-old female at the time of the events at issue.
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27	¹¹ The signature for Respondent on this prescription looks different than other signatures for Respondent shown in other documents. It is possible that Respondent's name was simply written on the prescription by another staff member. For example, the signature from Respondent on the paper prescription for Patient B looks different
28	than that on the prescription for Patient D. ¹² Patient E'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.

Respondent wrote a prescription for Patient D for controlled substances on

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79. 1 Respondent wrote a prescription for Patient E for Klonopin on November 15, 2019. 2 80. Respondent is referenced in some documents from Sana as the attending physician for Patient E during her stay at Sana. 3

81. Upon a review of the Patient Report from the PMP for Patient E, Patient E also received and filled another prescription for Klonopin from DP, APRN on November 15, 2019.

82. Both prescriptions for Patient E are for a quantity of 60, 1 mg tablets for 30 days.

83. Respondent was out of the country on November 15, 2019.

8 84. Sana records support that Patient E was actually seen by ML, M.D. and DP, APRN 9 while at Sana.

85. Upon information and belief, Respondent did not examine Patient E on November 15, 2019, prior to giving her the prescription which is a violation of the standard of care.

86. The prescription for Patient E was a paper prescription dated November 15, 2019, that contained a signature from Respondent and/or Respondent's handwritten name.¹³

87. Delegating signatory approval for Patient E for the prescription is a violation of the standard of care. 16

Upon information and belief, Respondent allowed another person in his office to 17 88. 18 either sign his name to the prescription for Patient E or Respondent pre-signed the prescription for 19 Patient E prior to leaving the country.

89. 20 PMP records do not show that Respondent conducted queries of Patient E in the PMP prior to prescribing controlled substances to her or every ninety (90) days after prescribing 21 controlled substances to her as required by Nevada law. 22

23 90. In response to the Board investigator regarding Patient C, D, and E, Respondent concedes that he traveled on the days that prescriptions were provided to those patients and stated 24 that "I would guess that they used my name to fill a prescription" and that he "did not authorize 25 the prescription in any way." 26

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¹³ The signature for Respondent on this prescription looks different than other signatures for Respondent shown in other documents. It is possible that Respondent's name was simply written on the prescription by another 28 staff member. For example, the signature from Respondent on the paper prescription for Patient B looks different than that on the prescription for Patient E.

91. Upon information and belief, Respondent has not reported the use of his prescribing credentials by others to law enforcement and/or the Nevada Board of Pharmacy.

92. Upon information and belief, if Respondent's statement to the Board investigator in ¶ 90 was correct, Respondent would have and/or should have reported that unauthorized prescribing to law enforcement and/or the Nevada Board of Pharmacy.

90. Upon information and belief, Respondent did not complete the required queries of
his prescribing history during 2019 (at least one query of his prescribing history every six months)
in order to detect unauthorized use of his prescribing credentials by others.

9 93. Upon information and belief, if Respondent had completed the required queries of
10 his prescribing history in the PMP in 2019, he would have identified any unauthorized use of his
11 prescribing credentials.

COUNTS I-V

NRS 630.301(4) - Malpractice

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

95. NRS 630.301(4) provides that malpractice of a physician is grounds for initiating disciplinary action against a licensee.

96. NAC 630.040 defines malpractice as "the failure of a physician . . . in treating a
patient, to use the reasonable care, skill, or knowledge ordinarily used under similar
circumstances."

97. As demonstrated by, but not limited to, the above-outlined facts, Respondent failed to use the reasonable care, skill or knowledge ordinarily used under similar circumstances when rendering medical services to Patient A when he prescribed benzodiazepines to her while she was taking opioids at the same time. Further, when he prescribed controlled substances to Patients A through E via paper prescriptions when he 1) was out of the country, 2) failed to check each patients PMP prior to prescribing them controlled substances as required by law, and 3) failed to examine the patients prior to writing them prescriptions for controlled substances.

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

COUNTS VI-X

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

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

100. NRS 630.3062(1)(a) provides that the "failure to maintain timely, legible, accurate
and complete medical records relating to the diagnosis, treatment and care of a patient" constitute
grounds for initiating discipline against a licensee.

10 101. Respondent failed to maintain complete medical records relating to his care of
11 Patient A by failing to ensure that her medical records were clear, legible, accurate, and complete
12 with regard to the medications that she was taking at each visit.

13 102. Respondent failed to maintain complete medical records relating to the diagnosis, 14 treatment and care of Patients A through E, by failing to completely and correctly document his 15 medical care and treatment for Patients A through E and/or by over-reliance on templated material 16 in the medical records for Patients A through E and/or by over-reliance on copy and paste for his 17 patients' medical records from visit to visit, causing the medical records for Patients A through E 18 to not be timely, legible, accurate, and complete.

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

COUNTS XI-XVI

NRS 630.306(1)(b)(3) - Violation of Statutes and Regulations of the

Nevada State Board of Pharmacy

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

105. NRS 639.23507 requires that a prescribing practitioner before issuing an initial
prescription for controlled substances listed in schedule II, III, or IV, or an opioid that is a
controlled substance listed in schedule V, and at least once every ninety (90) days thereafter for

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the duration of the course of treatment using the controlled substance, obtain a patient utilization 1 2 report (Patient Report) regarding the patient from the PMP. 3 106. Respondent failed to obtain Patient Reports for Patients A through E as required by NRS 639.23507. 4 107. 5 Respondent also failed to self-query his prescribing history in the PMP as required by Nevada law. 6 7 108. This conduct violates NRS 630.306(1)(b)(3). 8 109. By reason of the foregoing, Respondent is subject to discipline by the Board as 9 provided in NRS 630.352. 10<u>COUNTS XVII–XX</u> NRS 630.3062(1)(h) - Fraudulent, Illegal, Unauthorized, or Otherwise Inappropriate 11 12 Prescribing of Controlled Substances Listed in Schedule II, III, or IV 13 110. All of the allegations contained in the above paragraphs are hereby incorporated by 14 reference as though fully set forth herein. 15 111. By pre-signing paper prescription pads and providing them to office staff and/or 16 other practitioners so that Respondent's name, Nevada State Board of Pharmacy registration 17 number, and Board license number could be used to prescribe medications to Patients B through E 18 while Respondent was out of the country, Respondent engaged in fraudulent, illegal, 19 unauthorized, or otherwise inappropriate prescribing of controlled substances listed in schedule II, III, or IV. 20 112. 21 This conduct violates NRS 630.3062(1)(h). 22 113. By reason of the foregoing, Respondent is subject to discipline by the Board as provided in NRS 630.352. 23 24 COUNTS XXI-XXIV NRS 630.306(2)(b)(1) - Engaging in Conduct Which is Intended to Deceive 2526 114. All of the allegations contained in the above paragraphs are hereby incorporated by 27 reference as though fully set forth herein. 28 111

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1 115. By stating in writing "I check the PMP regularly" in a written response to the 2 Board's investigator regarding Patient A when records from the PMP show that Respondent never queried Patient A's Patient Report in the PMP, Respondent engaged in deceptive conduct to the 3 Board and/or IC. 4

5 116. By stating in writing that he did not prescribe medications and/or authorize other people to prescribe medications to Patients C, D, and E under his name and "I would guess that 6 7 they used my name to fill a prescription" and that he "did not authorize the prescription in any way," which is not supported by the records in this case, Respondent engaged in deceptive 8 9 conduct to the Board and/or IC.

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117. This conduct violates NRS 630.3062(1)(h).

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

13 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;

17 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); 18

19 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; 20

4. 21 That the Board award fees and costs for the investigation and prosecution of this case as outlined in NRS 622.400; 22

23 5. That the Board make, issue and serve on Respondent its findings of fact, 24 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 (775) 688-2559	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28	VERIFICATION STATE OF NEVADA) COUNTY OF WASHOE) Bret W. Frey, 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 21st day of February, 2024. INVESTIGATIVE COMMITTEE OF THE NEVADA STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS By: BRET W. FREY, M.D. Chairman f the Investigative Committee	
		18 of 18	

1	CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE	
2	I hereby certify that I am employed by the Nevada State Board of Medical Examiners and	
3	that on the 22nd day of February, 2024, I served a file-stamped copy of the foregoing	
4	COMPLAINT and PATIENT DESIGNATION via USPS Certified Mail, postage pre-paid, to	
5	the following parties:	
6	MATTHEW OBIM OKEKE, M.D. c/o Liborius Agwara, Esq.	
8	Law Offices of Libo Agwara, Ltd. 2785 E. Desert Inn Rd., Ste. 280 Las Vegas, NV 89121	
10	Tracking No.:9171 9690 0935 0241 6158 93	
11		
12	DATED this 22^{nd} day of February, 2024.	
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14	MERCEDES FUENTES	
15	Legal Assistant Nevada State Board of Medical Examiners	
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