

**BEFORE THE ARIZONA MEDICAL BOARD**

In the Matter of

**PARESH GOEL, M.D**

Holder of License No. 44344  
For the Practice of Medicine  
In the State of Arizona.

**Case No. MD-20-0289A**

**ORDER FOR DECREE OF CENSURE,  
SUSPENSION AND PROBATION AND  
CONSENT TO THE SAME**

Paresh Goel, M.D. ("Respondent") elects to permanently waive any right to a hearing and appeal with respect to this Order for Decree of Censure, Suspension and Probation; admits the jurisdiction of the Arizona Medical Board ("Board") as well as the facts stated herein; and consents to the entry of this Order by the Board.

**FINDINGS OF FACT**

1. The Board is the duly constituted authority for the regulation and control of the practice of allopathic medicine in the State of Arizona.
2. Respondent is the holder of license number 44344 for the practice of allopathic medicine in the State of Arizona.
3. The Board initiated case number MD-20-0289A after receiving notification from the Board's Physician Health Program ("PHP") Contractor that Respondent tested positive for a controlled substance in violation of his Board Order for monitoring.

**Procedural History**

1. Effective June 14, 2018, the Board issued an Order for Letter of Reprimand and Probation; and Consent to Same with terms and conditions of probation including abstinence from controlled and illicit substances and monitoring with the Board's PHP Contractor in case MD-17-0860A ("2018 Consent Agreement").
2. On March 31, 2020, the PHP Contractor was notified that Respondent tested positive Cocaine in violation of the 2018 Consent Agreement.

1           3.     Respondent entered into an Interim Consent Agreement for Practice  
2 Restriction, effective April 16, 2020 ("First Practice Restriction") in MD-20-0289A. Among  
3 other things, the First Practice Restriction prohibited Respondent from engaging in the  
4 practice of medicine.

5           4.     Respondent completed inpatient treatment at a Board-approved facility ("First  
6 Facility") and was successfully discharged on May 23, 2020.

7           5.     Effective July 8, 2020, Respondent entered into an Interim Consent  
8 Agreement for Physician Health Program ("PHP") Participation in case number MD-20-  
9 0289A that vacated the First Practice Restriction ("First Interim PHP Agreement"). The  
10 First Interim PHP Agreement allowed Respondent's return to practice, but imposed certain  
11 terms, including that he not take any illegal drugs.

12          6.     On September 5, 2020, Respondent tested positive for Cocaine in violation  
13 of the First Interim PHP Agreement.

14          7.     Respondent entered into a Second Interim Consent Agreement for Practice  
15 Restriction, effective September 10, 2020 ("Second Practice Restriction") in MD-20-0289A.  
16 The Second Practice Restriction prohibited Respondent from engaging in the practice of  
17 medicine.

18          8.     Respondent subsequently completed inpatient treatment at a Board-  
19 approved facility ("Second Facility") and was successfully discharged on March 20, 2021.

20          9.     Effective July 6, 2021, Respondent entered into a Second Interim Consent  
21 Agreement for PHP Participation ("Second Interim PHP Agreement") MD-20-0289A that  
22 vacated the Second Practice Restriction, allowed Respondent's return to practice, and  
23 imposed certain conditions. The Second Interim PHP Agreement remains in effect.

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**Respondent's Practice While Under Restriction**  
***Patient LN***

10. On June 25, 2020, the Board received a complaint from LN, a 63-year-old female, who complained about the hormone replacement therapy ("HRT") with which Respondent treated her as well as that Respondent had provided the treatment while his medical license was restricted. In his June 29, 2020, response, Respondent denied practicing medication in violation of the practice restriction. The Board investigated LN's complaint.

11. On March 27, 2020, LN entered into a contract with a Mobile Medical Service owned by Respondent to provide HRT. Effective April 16, 2020, Respondent's license was restricted under the First Practice Restriction.

12. Respondent provided medical treatment to LN during the First Practice Restriction. Between May 12 and May 15, 2020, Respondent and LN exchanged emails discussing LN's HRT treatment and Respondent's treatment plan. Although Respondent and LN exchanged emails regarding her treatment, Respondent failed to take a complete patient history or order current laboratory work (the last laboratory work LN provided Respondent was from 2019). On May 20, 2020, Respondent emailed LN, notifying her that he had charged her card and ordered her HRT.

13. June 1, 2020, an order for Biest/Testosterone was faxed by the Mobile Medical Service to a pharmacy. The order identified another provider as the physician, but identified Respondent as the contact. Respondent did not order any labs to determine LN's current hormonal levels prior to prescribing the HRT treatment.

14. On June 8, 2020, Respondent documented orders for additional HRT for LN. Between June 6 and June 22, 2020, LN sent Respondent multiple emails with concerns about the HRT treatment, concerns about receiving the additional HRT medications, and concerns about Respondent's lack of response. On June 10, 2023, LN emailed

1 Respondent asking when the medications would arrive, and Respondent replied that the  
2 medications would be sent out that day. LN did not receive the medications. On June 22,  
3 2020, Respondent sent an email to LN asking that LN call him to discuss issues with the  
4 HRT. LN spoke with Respondent, but without resolution. On June 25, 2020, LN emailed  
5 Respondent and advised that she had not received the HRT medications, and she would  
6 be discontinuing care with Respondent. Because LN had been without HRT, LN reported  
7 experiencing symptoms that were affecting her wellbeing.

8 15. The standard of care requires a physician to evaluate a patient's hormonal  
9 status prior to initiating hormone replacement therapy and to initially order HRT medications  
10 for a duration that would allow for a practitioner to change dosages if needed. Respondent  
11 deviated from the standard of care by failing to evaluate the patient's hormonal status and  
12 take a complete history prior to initiating hormone replacement therapy. Additionally,  
13 Respondent deviated from the standard of care by initially ordering five months of treatment  
14 for LN.

15 16. There was potential for patient harm in that improper dosing of hormonal  
16 medications can lead to emotional imbalance and physical problems such as uterine  
17 bleeding, hirsutism and breast changes.

18 17. In addition to Patient LN, Respondent continued to practice medicine during  
19 the First and Second Practice Restrictions as demonstrated by Respondent writing  
20 numerous prescriptions for multiple patients during the periods of restriction, including  
21 prescriptions for controlled substances.

22 18. Respondent is currently self-employed as the owner of a medical concierge  
23 practice ("Respondent's Practice").

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**CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

1. The Board possesses jurisdiction over the subject matter hereof and over Respondent.

2. The conduct and circumstances described above constitute unprofessional conduct pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-1401(27)(f) ("A pattern of using or being under the influence of alcohol or drugs or a similar substance while practicing medicine or to the extent that judgment may be impaired and the practice of medicine detrimentally affected.").

3. The conduct and circumstances described above constitute unprofessional conduct pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-1401(27)(r) ("Committing any conduct or practice that is or might be harmful or dangerous to the health of the patient or the public.").

4. The conduct and circumstances described above constitute unprofessional conduct pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-1401(27)(s) ("Violating a formal order, probation, consent agreement or stipulation issued or entered into by the board or its executive director under the provisions of this chapter.").

5. The conduct and circumstances described above constitute unprofessional conduct pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-1401(27)(kk) ("Knowingly making a false or misleading statement to the board or on a form required by the board or in a written correspondence, including attachments, with the board.").

6. The Board possesses statutory authority to enter into a consent agreement with a physician. A.R.S. § 32-1451(F).

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**ORDER**

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

1. Respondent is issued a Decree of Censure.

**Suspension with Practice Monitor**

2. Respondent's license number 44344 is immediately Suspended for a period of no less than one (1) year. Within 30 days of the effective date of this Order, Respondent shall submit the name of a Practice Monitor for approval by Board staff. The Practice Monitor shall be responsible for ensuring that Respondent is abiding by the terms of the Suspension. Respondent agrees to allow the Practice Monitor to review Respondent's Practice e-prescribing and electronic medical record system, review patient records, audit Respondent's use of the telemedicine system, and access other records as deemed appropriate by the Practice Monitor to determine Respondent's compliance with the Suspension.<sup>1</sup> The Practice Monitor shall provide written reports to the Board on a quarterly basis or at any time the Practice Monitor has concerns regarding Respondent's compliance with the Suspension. Respondent shall be responsible for all expenses relating to the Practice Monitor and preparation of the quarterly reports. After one year, Respondent may petition the Board in writing for termination of the Suspension. Respondent's request must be accompanied by a report from the Practice Monitor confirming that Respondent is in compliance with the terms of the Suspension, and a report from the PHP Monitor that Respondent has been compliant with the terms and conditions of his PHP Monitoring as stated herein. Respondent's request for release from Suspension will be placed on the next pending Board agenda, provided a complete submission is received by Board staff no less than 30 days prior to the Board meeting.

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<sup>1</sup> During the term of Suspension, Respondent may perform provider scheduling, billing and nonclinical administrative tasks.

3. Following the Board's termination of the Suspension, Respondent is placed on Probation for at least an additional period of four years.

**During the period of Suspension and Probation, Respondent shall abide by the following terms:**

4. Respondent shall not consume alcohol or any food or other substance containing poppy seeds or alcohol.

5. Respondent shall not take any illegal drugs or mood altering medications unless prescribed for a legitimate therapeutic purpose.

6. Respondent shall continue to participate in any personalized aftercare programs or activities as recommended by the Assessor in his post-treatment Assessment report including,<sup>2</sup> but not limited to individual and/or group therapy as approved by the PHP Contractor. Respondent shall report on those activities as requested by the PHP, including executing any releases necessary to allow the PHP to monitor his participation and communicate directly with and obtain records from the treating providers for those aftercare activities. Respondent shall be responsible for all costs of aftercare, including costs associated with compliance of this Board Order.

7. Respondent shall promptly obtain a Primary Care Physician ("PCP") and shall submit the name of the physician to the PHP Contractor in writing for approval. Except in an Emergency, Respondent shall obtain medical care and treatment only from the PCP and from health care providers to whom the PCP refers Respondent. Respondent shall promptly provide a copy of this Order to the PCP. Respondent shall also inform all other health care providers who provide medical care or treatment that Respondent is participating in the PHP.

<sup>2</sup> The Assessor is Eric S. Lott, M.D., and the Assessor's Post-Treatment Assessment Report is Dr. Lott's June 22, 2021 Report.

1 "Emergency" means a serious accident or sudden illness that, if not treated immediately,  
2 may result in a long-term medical problem or loss of life.

3 8. All prescriptions for controlled substances shall be approved by the PHP  
4 Contractor prior to being filled except in an Emergency. Controlled substances prescribed  
5 and filled in an emergency shall be reported to the PHP within 48 hours. Respondent shall  
6 take no Medication unless the PCP or other health care provider to whom the PCP refers  
7 Respondent prescribes and the PHP Contractor approves the Medication. Respondent shall  
8 not self-prescribe any Medication. "Medication" means a prescription-only drug, controlled  
9 substance, and over-the counter preparation, other than plain aspirin, plain ibuprofen, and  
10 plain acetaminophen.

11 9. Respondent shall attend a relapse prevention outpatient program for a  
12 duration and frequency recommended by the PHP Contractor, unless Respondent is  
13 excused by the relapse program facilitator for good cause. The relapse prevention group  
14 facilitators shall submit monthly reports to the PHP regarding Respondent's attendance and  
15 progress.

16 10. Respondent shall continue treatment with a PHP Contractor approved  
17 addiction psychiatrist or addiction medicine specialist as recommended by the Assessor in  
18 his post-treatment Assessment report and shall comply with any and all treatment  
19 recommendations, including taking any and all prescribed medications. Respondent shall  
20 instruct the treating provider to submit quarterly written reports to the PHP regarding  
21 diagnosis, prognosis, current medications, recommendation for continuing care and  
22 treatment, and ability to safely practice medicine. The reports shall be submitted quarterly  
23 to the PHP, the commencement of which to be determined by the PHP Contractor.  
24 Respondent shall provide the treating provider with a copy of this Order. Respondent shall  
25 pay the expenses for treatment and be responsible for paying for the preparation of the



1 quarterly reports. At the expiration of one year or anytime thereafter, Respondent may  
2 submit a written request to the PHP Contractor requesting termination of the requirement  
3 that Respondent remain in treatment with a psychotherapist. The decision to terminate will  
4 be based in part upon the treating psychotherapist's recommendation for continued care  
5 and treatment.

6 11. Respondent shall continue to participate in a 12-step recovery program or  
7 other self-help program appropriate for substance abuse as recommended by the PHP.  
8 Respondent shall attend a minimum of three 12-step or other self-help program meetings  
9 per week. Two meetings per month must be Caduceus meetings. Respondent must  
10 maintain a log of all self-help meetings.

11 12. Respondent shall submit to random biological fluid, hair and/or nail testing for  
12 the remainder of this Order (as specifically directed below) to ensure compliance with the  
13 PHP.

14 13. Respondent shall provide the PHP Contractor in writing with one telephone  
15 number that shall be used to contact Respondent on a 24 hour per day/seven day per week  
16 basis to submit to biological fluid, hair, and/or nail testing to ensure compliance with the  
17 PHP. For the purposes of this section, telephonic notice shall be deemed given at the time  
18 a message to appear is left at the contact telephone number provided by Respondent.  
19 Respondent authorizes any person or organization conducting tests on the collected  
20 samples to provide testing results to the PHP Contractor. Respondent shall comply with all  
21 requirements for biological fluid, hair, and/or nail collection. Respondent shall pay for all  
22 costs for the testing.

23 14. Respondent shall provide the PHP Contractor with written notice of any plans  
24 to travel out of state.

25 15. Reserved.

1           16.    Respondent shall immediately notify the Board and the PHP Contractor in  
2 writing of any change in office or home addresses and telephone numbers.

3           17.    Respondent provides full consent for the PHP Contractor to discuss the  
4 Respondent's case with the Respondent's PCP or any other health care providers to ensure  
5 compliance with the PHP.

6           18.    The relationship between the Respondent and the PHP Contractor is a direct  
7 relationship. Respondent shall not use an attorney or other intermediary to communicate  
8 with the PHP Contractor on participation and compliance issues. All inquiries must be  
9 directed to Board staff.

10          19.    Respondent shall be responsible for all costs, including costs associated with  
11 participating in the PHP, at the time service is rendered or within 30 days of each invoice  
12 sent to the Respondent. Failure to pay either the PHP monthly fees 60 days after invoicing  
13 will be reported to the Board by the PHP Contractor and may result in disciplinary action.

14          20.    Respondent shall appear in person before with the PHP Contractor for  
15 interviews upon request, upon reasonable notice.

16          21.    Respondent shall immediately provide a copy of this Order to all employers,  
17 hospitals and free standing surgery centers where Respondent currently has or in the future  
18 gains or applies for employment or privileges. Within 30 days of the date of this Order,  
19 Respondent shall provide the PHP with a signed statement of compliance with this  
20 notification requirement. Respondent is further required to notify, in writing, all employers,  
21 hospitals and free standing surgery centers where Respondent currently has or in the future  
22 gains or applies for employment or privileges of a violation of this Order.

23          22.    In the event Respondent resides or practices as a physician in a state other  
24 than Arizona, Respondent shall participate in the rehabilitation program sponsored by that  
25 state's medical licensing authority or medical society. Respondent shall cause the

1 monitoring state's program to provide written quarterly reports to the PHP Contractor  
2 regarding Respondent's attendance, participation, and monitoring. The monitoring state's  
3 program and Respondent shall immediately notify the PHP Contractor if Respondent is non-  
4 compliant with any aspect of the monitoring requirements or is required to undergo any  
5 additional treatment.

6 23. The PHP Contractor shall immediately notify the Board if Respondent is non-  
7 compliant with any aspect of this Order or is required to undergo any additional treatment.

8 24. In the event of a chemical dependency relapse by Respondent or  
9 Respondent's use of controlled substances or alcohol in violation of this Order, Respondent  
10 shall promptly enter into an Interim Consent Agreement for Practice Restriction that  
11 requires, among other things, that Respondent not practice medicine until such time as  
12 Respondent successfully completes long-term inpatient treatment designated by the PHP  
13 Contractor and obtains affirmative approval from the Executive Director, in consultation with  
14 the Lead Board Member and Chief Medical Consultant, to return to the practice of medicine.  
15 Prior to approving Respondent's request to return to the practice of medicine, Respondent  
16 may be required to undergo any combination of physical examinations, psychiatric or  
17 psychological evaluations. In no respect shall the terms of this paragraph restrict the Board's  
18 authority to initiate and taken disciplinary action for any violation of this Order.

19 25. Respondent shall obey all state, federal and local laws, all rules governing the  
20 practice of medicine in Arizona, and remain in full compliance with any court ordered criminal  
21 probation, payments and other orders.

22 26. Prior to the termination of Probation, Respondent must submit a written  
23 request to the Board for release from the terms of this Order. Respondent's request for  
24 release will be placed on the next pending Board agenda, provided a complete submission  
25 is received by Board staff no less than 30 days prior to the Board meeting. Respondent's

1 request for release must provide the Board with evidence establishing that he has  
2 successfully satisfied all of the terms and conditions of this Order. The Board has the sole  
3 discretion to determine whether all of the terms and conditions of this Order have been met  
4 or whether to take any other action that is consistent with its statutory and regulatory  
5 authority.

6 27. This Order supersedes any and all Consent Agreements previously entered  
7 into by Respondent and the Board regarding this matter.

8 28. The Board retains jurisdiction and may initiate new action against Respondent  
9 based upon any violation of this Order. A.R.S. § 32-1401(27)(s).

10 DATED and effective this 11<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2023.

11  
12 ARIZONA MEDICAL BOARD

13 By: Patricia E. McSorley  
14 Patricia E. McSorley  
15 Executive Director

16 **CONSENT TO ENTRY OF ORDER**

17 1. Respondent has read and understands this Consent Agreement and the  
18 stipulated Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order ("Order"). Respondent  
19 acknowledges he has the right to consult with legal counsel regarding this matter.

20 2. Respondent acknowledges and agrees that this Order is entered into freely  
21 and voluntarily and that no promise was made or coercion used to induce such entry.

22 3. By consenting to this Order, Respondent voluntarily relinquishes any rights to  
23 a hearing or judicial review in state or federal court on the matters alleged, or to challenge  
24 this Order in its entirety as issued by the Board, and waives any other cause of action related  
25 thereto or arising from said Order.

1           4.     The Order is not effective until approved by the Board and signed by its  
2 Executive Director.

3           5.     All admissions made by Respondent in this Order are solely for final  
4 disposition of this matter and any subsequent related administrative proceedings or civil  
5 litigation involving the Board and Respondent. Therefore, said admissions by Respondent  
6 are not intended or made for any other use, such as in the context of another state or federal  
7 government regulatory agency proceeding, civil or criminal court proceeding, in the State of  
8 Arizona or any other state or federal court.

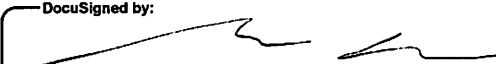
9           6.     Notwithstanding any language in this Order, this Order does not preclude in  
10 any way any other State agency or officer or political subdivision of this state from instituting  
11 proceedings, investigating claims, or taking legal action as may be appropriate now or in the  
12 future relating to this matter or other matters concerning Respondent, including but not  
13 limited to, violations of Arizona's Consumer Fraud Act. Respondent acknowledges that,  
14 other than with respect to the Board, this Order makes no representations, implied or  
15 otherwise, about the views or intended actions of any other state agency or officer or political  
16 subdivisions of the State relating to this matter or other matters concerning Respondent.

17           7.     Upon signing this agreement, and returning this document (or a copy thereof)  
18 to the Board's Executive Director, Respondent may not revoke the consent to the entry of  
19 the Order. Respondent may not make any modifications to the document. Any modifications  
20 to this original document are ineffective and void unless mutually approved by the parties.

21           8.     This Order is a public record that will be publicly disseminated as a formal  
22 disciplinary action of the Board and will be reported to the National Practitioner's Data Bank  
23 and on the Board's web site as a disciplinary action.

1           9.     If the Board does not adopt this Order, Respondent will not assert as a defense  
2 that the Board's consideration of the Order constitutes bias, prejudice, prejudgment or other  
3 similar defense.

4           10.    *Respondent has read and understands the terms of this agreement.*

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6           DocuSigned by:  
  
7           PARESH GOEL, M.D.

Dated: 11/28/2023

1 EXECUTED COPY of the foregoing mailed by  
2 US Mail this 11<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2023 to:

3 Paresh Goel, M.D.  
4 Address of Record

5 Robert J. Milligan, Esq.  
6 Milligan Lawless, PC  
7 5050 North 40<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 200  
8 Phoenix, Arizona 85018  
9 Attorney for Respondent

10 ORIGINAL of the foregoing filed this  
11 11<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2023 with:

12 The Arizona Medical Board  
13 1740 West Adams, Suite 4000  
14 Phoenix, Arizona 85007

15 Michelle Robles  
16 Board staff  
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