

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

In the Matter of the Decision and Order against:)	
Margaret Melinda Sprague, M.D.)	Case No. 800-2016-028304
Physician's & Surgeon's)	
Certificate No. G 56228)	
_____)	
Respondent.)	

CEASE PRACTICE ORDER

In the Medical Board of California (Board) Case No. 800-2016-028304, the Board issued a Decision after Non-Adoption of a Proposed Decision, which became effective January 18, 2019. In the Board's Order, Physician's and Surgeon's License No. G 56228, issued to Margaret Melinda Sprague, M.D., was revoked, revocation stayed and Respondent was placed on five (5) years' probation.

Probationary Condition No. 5, Biological Fluid Testing, requires Respondent to immediately submit to biological fluid testing, at Respondent's expense, upon request of the Board or its designee. "Biological fluid testing" may include, but is not limited to, urine, blood, breathalyzer, hair follicle testing, or similar drug screening approved by the Board or its designee.

If a biological fluid test results indicates Respondent has used, consumed, ingested, or administered to himself/herself a prohibited substance, the Board shall order Respondent to cease practice and instruct Respondent to leave any place of work where Respondent is practicing medicine or providing medical services.

Probation Condition No. 8, Violation of Probation Condition for Substance-Abusing Licensees, requires that a cease practice order shall be issued immediately if Respondent commits a major violation of probation as defined by section 1361.52 subdivision (a), of Title 16 of the California Code of Regulations, and requires Respondent to undergo a clinical diagnostic evaluation to be conducted in accordance with section 1361.5, subdivision (c)(1), of Title 16 of the California Code of Regulations, at Respondent's expense.

Probation Condition No. 10, Alcohol – Abstain from Use, requires Respondent to abstain completely from the use of products or beverages containing alcohol.

If Respondent has a confirmed positive biological fluid test for alcohol, Respondent shall receive a notification from the Board or its designee to immediately cease the practice of medicine.

The Respondent has failed to obey Probationary Condition Nos. 5, 8, and 10 as ordered in the above Decision, by testing positive for the metabolites of alcohol. Accordingly, Respondent, Margaret Melinda Sprague, M.D., is prohibited from engaging in the practice of medicine. The Respondent shall not resume the practice of medicine until completion of a clinical diagnostic evaluation, at her own expense, and thirty (30) days of negative biological fluid tests, indicating she has not used, consumed, ingested, or administered to herself a prohibited substance or until the final decision on an accusation and/or a petition to revoke probation is effective.

IT IS SO ORDERED February 6, 2019 at 5:00 p.m.


KIMBERLY KIRCHMEYER
Executive Director