

BEFORE THE  
NORTH CAROLINA MEDICAL BOARD

In re:	)	
	)	
Keshavpal Gunna Reddy, M.D.,	)	CONSENT ORDER
	)	
Respondent.	)	

This matter is before the North Carolina Medical Board ("Board") regarding information provided to the Board concerning Keshavpal Gunna Reddy, M.D. ("Dr. Reddy"). Dr. Reddy makes the following admissions, and the Board makes the following findings and conclusions:

STATUTORY AUTHORITY

The Board is a body duly organized under the laws of North Carolina and is the proper party to bring this proceeding under the authority granted to it in Article 1 of Chapter 90 of the North Carolina General Statutes and the rules and regulations promulgated thereto.

FINDINGS OF FACT

Dr. Reddy was first issued a license to practice medicine by the Board on or about October 21, 1989, license number 38415.

At all times relevant hereto, Dr. Reddy practiced psychiatry in Greensboro, North Carolina and the Commonwealth of Virginia.

On November 12, 2020, the Virginia Board of Medicine ("Virginia Board") entered an Order reprimanding Dr. Reddy. (Attachment A)

The Virginia Board's action was based on findings and admissions that Dr. Reddy failed to properly document his examination of Patient A's complaint of tongue swelling that Patient A reported may have been caused by the medication Geodon. Dr. Reddy had prescribed Geodon for Patient A's psychiatric symptoms for a period of years. In addition, Dr. Reddy failed to document his discussion with Patient A about the risks and benefits of discontinuing Geodon and his assessment that her swollen tongue was unrelated to this medication. The Virginia Board found this lack of record keeping failed to conform to its standards of medical practice.

#### CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Dr. Reddy agrees that the Virginia Order constitutes his license to practice medicine being acted against by the licensing authority of any jurisdiction within the meaning of N.C. Gen. Stat. § 90-14(a)(13) and grounds exist under this section of the North Carolina General Statutes for the Board to annul, suspend, revoke, condition, or limit Dr. Reddy's medical license or to deny any application he might make in the future.

### PROCEDURAL STIPULATIONS

Dr. Reddy acknowledges and agrees that the Board has jurisdiction over him and over the subject matter of this case.

Dr. Reddy knowingly waives his right to any hearing and to any judicial review or appeal in this case.

Dr. Reddy acknowledges that he has read and understands this Consent Order and enters into it voluntarily.

Dr. Reddy desires to resolve this matter without the need for more formal proceedings.

The Board has determined that it is in the public interest to resolve this case as set forth below.

### ORDER

NOW, THEREFORE, with Dr. Reddy's consent, it is ORDERED that:

1. Dr. Reddy's North Carolina license to practice medicine is hereby REPRIMANDED.

2. This Consent Order shall take effect immediately upon its execution by both Dr. Reddy and the Board, and it shall continue in effect until specifically ordered otherwise by the Board.

3. Dr. Reddy hereby waives any requirement under any law or rule that this Consent Order be served on him.

4. Upon execution by Dr. Reddy and the Board, this Consent Order shall become a public record within the meaning of Chapter 132 of the North Carolina General Statutes and shall be subject to

public inspection and dissemination pursuant to the provisions thereof. Additionally, it will be reported to persons, entities, agencies, and clearinghouses as required and permitted by law including, but not limited to, the Federation of State Medical Boards and the National Practitioner Data Bank.

By Order of the North Carolina Medical Board this the 25<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2021.

NORTH CAROLINA MEDICAL BOARD

By:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Venkata Jonnalagadda, M.D.  
President

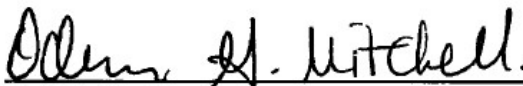
Consented to this the 10<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2021.

  
Keshavpal Gunna Reddy, M.D.

State of North Carolina  
County of Guilford

I, Ochleanna G. Mitchell, do hereby certify that Keshavpal Gunna Reddy, M.D. personally appeared before me this day and acknowledged the due execution of the foregoing instrument.

Witness my hand and official seal this the 10<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2021.

  
Notary Public



My Commission Expires: 05/12/2024

**ATTACHMENT A****BEFORE THE VIRGINIA BOARD OF MEDICINE**

**IN RE: KESHAVPAL GUNNA REDDY, M.D.**  
**License Number: 0101-053228**  
**Case Number: 183651**

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**ORDER**

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**JURISDICTION AND PROCEDURAL HISTORY**

Pursuant to Virginia Code §§ 2.2-4019 and 54.1-2400(10), a Special Conference Committee of the Virginia Board of Medicine ("Board") held an informal conference on November 5, 2020, in Henrico County, Virginia, to inquire into evidence that Keshavpal Gunna Reddy, M.D., may have violated certain laws and regulations governing the practice of medicine in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Dr. Reddy appeared at this proceeding and was represented by Colleen M. Gentile, Esquire.

Upon consideration of the evidence, the Committee adopts the following Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law and issues the Order contained herein.

**FINDINGS OF FACT AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

1. Keshavpal Gunna Reddy, M.D. was issued License Number 0101-053228 to practice medicine on September 29, 1995, which is scheduled to expire on November 30, 2020. At all times relevant to the findings contained herein, said license was current and active.

2. In October 2011, Patient A began treating with Dr. Reddy for medication management for diagnoses including mood disorder NOS, bipolar II disorder, and post-traumatic stress disorder ("PTSD"). From March 2013 – April 2015, Dr. Reddy prescribed Patient A Geodon for insomnia, racing thoughts and mood lability. By Dr. Reddy's own admission, at Patient A's six-month medication management office visits with him on August 27, 2016 and February 20, 2017, the patient

A TRUE COPY TESTE:  
*Jennifer L. Deschenes*  
JENNIFER L. DESCHENES, JD, MS  
DEPUTY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
VIRGINIA BOARD OF MEDICINE

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complained of tongue swelling, which she attributed to the Geodon that Dr. Reddy was prescribing her. Despite these recurrent complaints, there is no indication in the treatment record that, at either of these office visits or at any other time during the treatment period, Dr. Reddy: clinically assessed Patient A for tongue swelling (i.e. examined her tongue and mouth); instructed Patient A to discontinue taking Geodon to determine if there was a direct correlation between the patient's ingestion of this medication and her complaint of tongue swelling; referred the patient to an ENT specialist for an evaluation or opinion to determine a potential alternate etiology (i.e. glossitis) of her tongue swelling; and/or prospectively referred her to an acute care facility for evaluation during a symptom flare-up. Despite these adverse reactions, Dr. Reddy determined the benefits to Patient A from continued Geodon use outweighed the risks, and he instructed the patient to continue taking Geodon along with Benadryl (C-VI) to counteract the tongue swelling. On June 27, 2017, Patient A experienced tongue swelling that was unresponsive to Benadryl. On or about June 28, 2017, she was transported to a Virginia hospital emergency department, where she was diagnosed with anaphylactic shock, metabolic and lactic acidosis, elevated troponin, and renal failure. Patient A was admitted to the hospital intensive care unit and treated with Levophed, steroids, antihistamines, fluids and bicarbonate.

3. Dr. Reddy violated Virginia Code § 54.1-2915(A)(18) and 18 VAC 85-20-26(C) of the Regulations Governing the Practice of Medicine, Osteopathy, Podiatry and Chiropractic in that, by his own admission, he failed to document in his treatment record for Patient A any discussion, assessment and/or diagnosis of Patient A's tongue swelling complaint, discussion regarding risk-benefit considerations of continued Geodon use, or his recommendation to treat this condition with Benadryl.

4. Dr. Reddy explained to the Committee that Patient A had been very satisfied with managing her symptoms with Geodon, and that the patient's history with Geodon had been successful



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for several years prior to her mention of tongue swelling in August 2016. Dr. Reddy stated to the Committee that he examined Patient A's tongue, that he did not think it looked bad, and that Patient A denied breathing or swallowing difficulties. However, Dr. Reddy could not identify for the Committee documentation of such discussion with Patient A in his treatment record, nor could he point to documentation of a physical examination of the patient.

5. Dr. Reddy's expert, David R. Spiegel, M.D., opined to the Committee that although it was possible that Patient A reacted to the Geodon, he believes it was unlikely. Dr. Spiegel acknowledged to the Committee that Dr. Reddy's documentation of Patient A's tongue swelling complaint "could have been better."

6. The Board's expert, Yaacov R. Pushkin, M.D., opined to the Committee that he believed Dr. Reddy viewed Patient A's reported symptoms as extrapyramidal. However, as Patient A was reporting swelling and was attributing the swelling to the medication Dr. Reddy was providing, Dr. Pushkin opined to the Committee that he would have brought Patient A into the office for a thorough evaluation to form an assessment and plan via a history and physical examination, and would have documented the same. Dr. Pushkin opined to the Committee that he believed when Dr. Reddy continued prescribing Geodon for Patient A despite her tongue swelling complaint, he was acting with compassion to manage the patient's psychiatric symptoms.

**ORDER**

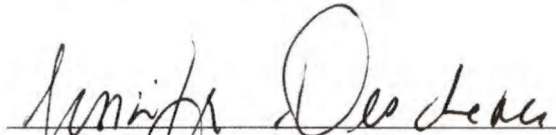
Based on the foregoing Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, the Virginia Board of Medicine hereby ORDERS that Keshavpal Gunna Reddy, M.D., is REPRIMANDED.

Pursuant to Virginia Code §§ 2.2-4023 and 54.1-2400.2, the signed original of this Order shall remain in the custody of the Department of Health Professions as a public record, and shall be made available for public inspection and copying upon request.



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FOR THE BOARD

  
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Jennifer Deschenes, J.D., M.S.  
Deputy Executive Director, Discipline  
Virginia Board of MedicineENTERED: 11/12/2020**NOTICE OF RIGHT TO APPEAL**

As provided by Rule 2A:2 of the Supreme Court of Virginia, you have 30 days from the date you are served with this Order to which to appeal this decision by filing a Notice of Appeal with William L. Harp, M.D., Executive Director, Board of Medicine, 9960 Mayland Drive, Suite 300, Henrico, Virginia 23233. The service date shall be defined as the date you actually received this decision or the date it was mailed to you, whichever occurred first. In the event this decision is served upon you by mail, three days are added to that period.