State of New Hampshire
Board of Medicine
Concord, New Hampshire 03301

In the Matter of:

Greg R. Thompson, M.D.

License No.: 6720

(Misconduct Allegations)

SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

In order to avoid the delay and expense of further proceedings and to promote the best

interests of the public and the practice of medicine, the New Hampshire Board of Medicine

("Board") and Greg R. Thompson, M.D. ("Respondent"), a physician licensed by the Board,

do hereby stipulate and agree to resolve certain allegations of professional misconduct now

pending before the Board according to the following terms and conditions:

1. Pursuant to RSA 329:17, I; RSA 329:18; RSA 329:18-a; and Medical Administrative

Rule ("Med") 206 and 210, the Board has jurisdiction to investigate and adjudicate

allegations of professional misconduct committed by physicians. Pursuant to RSA

329:18-a, III, the Board may, at any time, dispose of such allegations by settlement

and without commencing a disciplinary hearing.

2. The Board first granted Respondent a license to practice medicine in the State of New

Hampshire on June 3, 1983. Respondent holds license number 6720.

3. On or about April 2, 2015, the Board received information alleging that Respondent

had been inappropriately prescribing clonazepam and Adderall. This complaint was

based on a telephone call to the Board by a patient's boyfriend.

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- 4. In response to this, the Board authorized and conducted an investigation and obtained information from various sources pertaining to Respondent's alleged inappropriate prescribing of clonazepam and Adderall.
- Respondent stipulates that if a disciplinary hearing were to take place, Hearing Counsel would prove that Respondent engaged in professional misconduct, in violation of RSA 329:17, VI (c), (d), and (k); Med 501.02(d), and (e), by the following facts:
 - A. The treatment records for Patient do not contain basic Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders ("DSM") criteria for any diagnosis or attention to differential diagnoses. The records do not show that any efforts were made to obtain important history information from any concurrent or past providers or facilities throughout the patient's treatment. The records did not document any exploration of significant events arising during the course of treatment. Instead, the records contained focused descriptions of the patient's social circumstances with very little focus on clinical content to adequately describe indications for treatment and the effects of the treatment. Respondent documented only general conclusions, but with little or no data to support those conclusions.
 - B. The records did not include any documentation regarding decision-making about medications or consent discussions. Respondent provided medication treatment for years without confirming diagnoses, conducting complete assessments, or ruling out/in differential diagnoses.

- C. The records did not address endangerment risks in any meaningful fashion.

 Despite periods with multiple stressors and waxing and waning symptoms, the records did not include even the most basic risk assessment.
- D. Respondent provided medications to treat apparent short-term memory impairments without conducting the most basic testing. The patient had a history of a serious head injury resulting in a coma for four days, but Respondent made no effort to obtain any of the patient's past medical records and did not recommend or conduct any tests or screenings.
- E. Respondent prescribed Aricept to the patient despite a reported history of colitis. Aricept can cause nausea and diarrhea, so patients taking this medication should be observed closely at the initiation of treatment and after dose increases. The records do not document that Respondent ever discussed these risks with the patient nor did he ever documented any review of these symptoms or the use of Aricept with her other medical providers.
- F. The patient had a history of hypothyroidism while Respondent treated her for depression. Respondent prescribed her antidepressants without ever assessing the concurrent effects of the hypothyroidism.
- G. On January 31, 2014, Respondent prescribed Abilify without any mention of it in his notes. Respondent did not document a review of symptom indications (or the related diagnosis), consent regarding the drug's use, or a follow-up assessments of the drug's effects.

- H. Respondent was aware that Patient was taking opioids, apparently prescribed by her Primary Care Physician, but these opioids did not appear on a drug screen. There is no documentation indicating that these test results were discussed with the patient or any of the patient's other providers.
- I. Respondent determined Patient's profile was not fitting of someone who was diverting drugs, despite the fact that Respondent was aware that Patient had been arrested and jailed for shoplifting, had a probation requirement to be in treatment with a substance use counselor, had been periodically non-compliant with medications, and was known to have a past history of alcohol abuse, and a urine screen positive for THC.
- J. On December 14, 2016, Respondent entered into a Consent Order to resolve misconduct allegations related to poor recordkeeping, submitting untruthful statements to the Board, engaging in unprofessional conduct, and practicing medicine in a grossly negligent and incompetent manner with respect to three other patients. The Consent Order included a one year license suspension, extensive remediation including continuing education, a skills assessment, and monitoring along with restrictions to his license and a \$10,000 fine.
- 6. The Board finds that Respondent committed the acts as described above and concludes that, by engaging in such conduct, Respondent violated RSA 329:17, VI (c), (d), and (k); Med 501.02(d), (e), and (h); and Principle I of the Code of Medical Ethics.

- 7. Respondent acknowledges that this conduct constitutes grounds for the Board to impose disciplinary sanctions against Respondent's license to practice as a physician in the State of New Hampshire.
- 8. Respondent consents to the Board imposing the following discipline, pursuant to RSA 329:17, VII:
 - A. Respondent is reprimanded.
 - B. Respondent is assessed an administrative fine in the amount of \$3,000.

 Respondent shall pay this fine in full within thirty (30) days of the effective date of this *Settlement Agreement*, as defined further below, by delivering a money order or bank check, made payable to "Treasurer, State of New Hampshire," to the Board's office at 121 South Fruit Street, Concord, New Hampshire.
 - C. Respondent is assessed \$500 in costs of investigation and prosecution. Respondent shall pay this total amount in full within thirty (30) days of the effective date of this *Settlement Agreement*, as defined further below, by delivering a money order or bank check, made payable to "Treasurer, State of New Hampshire," to the Board's office at 121 South Fruit Street, Concord, New Hampshire 03301.
 - D. Respondent shall continue to abide by the terms and requirements of the "Consent Order," approved by the Board on December 14, 2016.
 - E. Within ten (10) days of the effective date of this agreement, as defined further below, Respondent shall furnish a copy of the *Settlement Agreement* to any

current employer for whom Respondent performs services as a physician or work which requires a medical degree and/or medical license or directly or indirectly involves patient care, and to any agency or authority which licenses, certifies or credentials physicians, with which Respondent is presently affiliated.

- F. For a continuing period of one (1) year from the effective date of this agreement, Respondent shall furnish a copy of this *Settlement Agreement* to any employer to which Respondent may apply for work as a physician or for work in any capacity which requires a medical degree and/or medical license or directly or indirectly involves patient care, and to any agency or authority that licenses, certifies or credentials physicians, to which Respondent may apply for any such professional privileges or recognition.
- 9. Respondent's breach of any terms or conditions of this *Settlement Agreement* shall constitute unprofessional conduct pursuant to RSA 329:17, VI (d), and a separate and sufficient basis for further disciplinary action by the Board.
- 10. Except as provided herein, this *Settlement Agreement* shall bar the commencement of further disciplinary action by the Board based upon the misconduct described above. However, the Board may consider the fact that discipline was imposed by this Order as a factor in determining appropriate discipline should any further misconduct be proven against Respondent in the future.
- This *Settlement Agreement* shall become a permanent part of Respondent's file, which is maintained by the Board as a public document.

- Respondent voluntarily enters into and signs this *Settlement Agreement* and states that no promises or representations have been made to him other than those terms and conditions expressly stated herein.
- 13. The Board agrees that in return for Respondent executing this *Settlement Agreement*, the Board will not proceed with the formal adjudicatory process based upon the facts described herein.
- Respondent understands that his action in entering into this *Settlement Agreement* is a final act and not subject to reconsideration or judicial review or appeal.
- 15. Respondent has had the opportunity to seek and obtain the advice of an attorney of his choosing in connection with his decision to enter into this agreement.
- Respondent understands that the Board must review and accept the terms of this Settlement Agreement. If the Board rejects any portion, the entire Settlement Agreement shall be null and void. Respondent specifically waives any claims that any disclosures made to the Board during its review of this Settlement Agreement have prejudiced his right to a fair and impartial hearing in the future if this Settlement Agreement is not accepted by the Board.
- 17. Respondent is not under the influence of any drugs or alcohol at the time he signs this Settlement Agreement.
- Respondent certifies that he has read this document titled Settlement Agreement.

 Respondent understands that he has the right to a formal adjudicatory hearing concerning this matter and that at said hearing he would possess the rights to confront and cross-examine witnesses, to call witnesses, to present evidence, to testify on his

own behalf, to contest the allegations, to present oral argument, and to appeal to the courts. Further, Respondent fully understands the nature, qualities and dimensions of these rights. Respondent understands that by signing this *Settlement Agreement*, he waives these rights as they pertain to the misconduct described herein.

19. This *Settlement Agreement* shall take effect as an <u>Order of the Board</u> on the date it is signed by an authorized representative of the Board.

FOR RESPONDENT

Date: \$19/17

Greg R. Thompson, M.D.

Respondent

FOR THE BOARD

This proceeding is hereby terminated in accordance with the binding terms and conditions set forth above.

Date: 9-8-2017

(Signature)

(Print or Type Name)

Authorized Representative of the New Hampshire Board of Medicine

*Board member, David Conway, MD, recused.