

VIRGINIA:

BEFORE THE BOARD OF MEDICINE

IN RE: ANANDABABU CHELLAPPAN, M.D.
License No.: 0101-035017

CONSENT ORDER

By Order entered January 24, 2013, the Virginia Board of Medicine ("Board") summarily suspended the license of Anandababu Chellappan, M.D., to practice medicine and surgery in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Simultaneously, the Board noticed the matter for a formal administrative hearing to address allegations set forth in the Notice of Formal Hearing and Statement of Particulars, dated January 24, 2013. On or about September 20, 2013, the Board issued a Notice of Formal Hearing Rescheduling and an Amended Statement of Particulars.

In lieu of proceeding to this formal administrative hearing, the Board and Dr. Chellappan, as evidenced by their signatures affixed below, agree to enter into this Consent Order affecting Dr. Chellappan's license to practice medicine and surgery in Virginia.

FINDINGS OF FACT AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

The Board adopts the following findings of fact and conclusions of law in this matter:

1. Anandababu Chellappan, M.D., was issued license number 0101-035017 by the Board to practice medicine in the Commonwealth of Virginia on December 30, 1982. Said license was summarily suspended by the Board on January 24, 2013.

2. Dr. Chellappan violated Sections 54.1-2915.A(3), (12), (13), (16), (18) and (19) of the Code of Virginia (1950), as amended ("Code"), and 18VAC85-20-100(A) and (B) of the Board of Medicine General Regulations, in that he engaged in sexual contact concurrent with and by virtue of his practitioner-patient relationship with each of Patients A, B, C, D, E, and F, and/or otherwise

engaged during the course of those practitioner-patient relationships in conduct of a sexual nature that a reasonable patient would consider lewd and offensive. Specifically:

a. During a December 7, 2012 office visit with Patient A, a 32-year-old female whom Dr. Chellappan had treated for multiple mental health conditions for approximately two years, Dr. Chellappan admits that he became sexually aroused, gave Patient A \$30, and while hugging her at the end of her appointment, reached inside her shirt and bra and fondled both her breasts with his hands. Dr. Chellappan engaged in such sexual contact notwithstanding the fact that twice after he had asked her earlier in the visit if he could touch her breasts, Patient A had responded "No" and informed Dr. Chellappan that such a request was inappropriate. Subsequently, Patient A reported this incident to the police and on or about December 17, 2012, Dr. Chellappan was arrested and charged with misdemeanor sexual battery of Patient A.

b. With respect to Patient B, a female in her mid-thirties to whom Dr. Chellappan provided psychiatric treatment from 2008 to April 2012 for multiple mental health conditions:

i. At multiple office visits, Dr. Chellappan questioned Patient B about her sex life and personal relationships and frequently gave her money for various reasons, including on her birthday.

ii. During a July 2010 office visit with Patient B subsequent to a breast biopsy that was performed by another physician in April 2010, Dr. Chellappan lifted Patient B's shirt and bra up above her breasts, squeezed her breasts with both hands so hard that it left red marks, and told her that "everything seems fine." However, Patient B was not

seeing Dr. Chellappan for treatment of her breasts nor had she asked him to evaluate her breasts.

iii. During multiple office visits in 2010 and thereafter, Dr. Chellappan squeezed Patient B's breasts through her shirt, hugged her tightly, sometimes squeezing her buttocks, and rubbed her hair.

iv. At her March 22, 2012 appointment, Dr. Chellappan put \$70-75 dollars on the table, closed the window blinds, unzipped his pants, took the patients' hands and placed them on his erect penis with his hands over hers, and rubbed her hands back and forth several times.

v. At the end of Patient B's April 19, 2012 office visit, Dr. Chellappan closed the blinds, placed some money on his desk, and propositioned Patient B to perform oral sex on him, which led Patient B to run from the room and subsequently experience a panic attack.

c. During his care and treatment (from approximately 2009 to March 2012) of Patient C, a female in her late-forties with multiple mental health conditions, Dr. Chellappan regularly hugged her at the conclusion of her office visits and on several occasions made inappropriate sexual/personal comments. At Patient C's last visit with Dr. Chellappan on March 15, 2012, Dr. Chellappan grabbed and fondled her breasts while hugging her and whispered in her ear that he wanted to meet her in a hotel for sexual purposes. This offensive touching and proposition were extremely upsetting to Patient C, who immediately reported the incident to her therapist and later that same day reported it to her primary care physician and the police.

d. Over the course of an approximate six-month period (from June to December 2012) Dr. Chellappan engaged in an escalating pattern of inappropriate sexual conduct with Patient D, a 27-year-old female whom Dr. Chellappan began treating for multiple mental health conditions during her inpatient psychiatric hospitalization for polysubstance abuse/detox (among other things) in June 2011. Said contact included hugging, kissing, nibbling Patient D's neck, and touching/groping her buttocks and bare breasts. Moreover, Dr. Chellappan made inappropriate sexual comments to Patient D at several office visits, gave her \$100 for Christmas in December 2012, frequently gave her free sodas and cigarettes at her office visits, called her on her cell phone, and offered her a job in his office.

e. Starting around September 2011 and occurring 3-4 more times during subsequent office visits (including on May 24, 2012) until Patient E discontinued her treatment with Dr. Chellappan around August 2012, Dr. Chellappan fondled Patient E's breasts while hugging her. On one of these occasions, he slipped his hands under the patient's shirt and touched her bare breasts. On another occasion, Dr. Chellappan attempted to kiss Patient E, but she averted his advance and pushed him away. Dr. Chellappan engaged in such misconduct even though Patient E, a female in her early 50's whom Dr. Chellappan had treated for multiple mental health conditions since 2009, told him to stop and informed him that his actions made her feel dirty and cheap. Further, on multiple occasions during the treatment period, Dr. Chellappan gave Patient E cash (generally \$20-\$40) to fix her car or as a birthday gift.

f. On approximately 4-5 occasions during Dr. Chellappan's treatment (from approximately December 2009 to October 2010) of Patient F, a 37-year-old female with a mental health condition, he groped and fondled Patient F's breasts.

3. Dr. Chellappan violated Sections 54.1-2915.A(1), (3), (12), (13), (16), and (18) of the Code, and 18 VAC 85-20-29(3) of the Board of Medicine General Regulations, in that, on or about December 21, 2012, Dr. Chellappan offered to pay Patient D \$500 if she would provide a statement to be used in his criminal and/or Board of Medicine disciplinary proceedings to the effect that "Dr. Chellappan has never shown any sexually inappropriate behaviors towards me—during last two years of being his patient." Although Patient D provided the requested statement, she subsequently admitted to a Department of Health Professions' Investigator that this statement was inaccurate and made at Dr. Chellappan's request in exchange for the money he offered.

4. Dr. Chellappan violated Sections 54.1-2915.A(3), (12), (13), (16), and (18) of the Code, and 18 VAC 85-20-26.C of the Board of Medicine General Regulations, in that:

a. Dr. Chellappan failed to take any appropriate responsive action, such as substance abuse evaluation and treatment or referral for same, on or about March 21, 2012 (or thereafter), when he became aware from Patient A's Prescription Monitoring Program profile that she may have been engaged in drug-seeking or doctor-shopping behavior with respect to narcotic medications. Instead, Dr. Chellappan continued to prescribe Patient A Xanax, a Schedule IV controlled substance with abuse potential, without addressing (or documenting that he had addressed) this behavior with the patient.

b. Though Dr. Chellappan knew (or should have known) that Patient D had a history of abusing methamphetamines, marijuana, and narcotic pain killers, he nevertheless commenced prescribing her Xanax (alprazolam), a Schedule IV controlled substance with abuse potential, at the patient's first outpatient visit with him on or about July 1, 2011, subsequent to her discharge from a drug detoxification hospitalization in June 2011 (during which Dr. Chellappan was one of Patient D's treating physicians). Over the course of the next 1 ½ years (until January 2013), Dr. Chellappan continued to prescribe Patient D Xanax or other Schedule IV benzodiazepines with abuse potential, i.e., Valium (diazepam) and/or Ativan (lorazepam). Further, on or about April 10, 2012, Dr. Chellappan began prescribing Patient D Adderall, a Schedule II amphetamine with high potential for abuse, especially in light of the patient's prior methamphetamine abuse/addiction. Moreover, Dr. Chellappan provided Patient D with several early renewals of her Adderall prescriptions without adequately documenting the medical necessity or reason for doing so.

CONSENT

I, Anandababu Chellappan, M.D., by affixing my signature hereto, acknowledge that:

1. I have been advised specifically to seek the advice of counsel prior to signing this document and am represented by counsel.
2. I am fully aware that without my consent, no legal action can be taken against me, except pursuant to the Virginia Administrative Process Act, § 2.2-4000.A et seq. of the Code of Virginia;
3. I have the following rights, among others:

- a. the right to a formal hearing before the Board;
 - b. the right to appear in person or by counsel, or other qualified representative before the agency; and
 - c. the right to cross-examine witnesses against me.
4. I waive all rights to a formal hearing;
 5. I neither admit nor deny the truth of the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law contained herein, but agree not to contest them or any sanction imposed hereunder in any future judicial or administrative proceedings where the Board is a party; and
 6. I consent to the following Order affecting my license to practice medicine and surgery in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

ORDER

WHEREFORE, based on the foregoing Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, and with the consent of the licensee, it is hereby ORDERED that the license of Dr. Anandababu Chellappan to practice medicine and surgery in the Commonwealth of Virginia is hereby REVOKED.

Upon entry of this Consent Order, the license of Anandababu Chellappan, M.D., will be recorded as REVOKED and no longer current.

Pursuant to Section 54.1-2920 of the Code, upon entry of this Consent Order, Dr. Chellappan shall forthwith give notice, by certified mail, of the revocation of his license to practice medicine to all patients to whom he is currently providing services. A copy of this notice shall be provided to the Board when sent to patients. Dr. Chellappan shall cooperate with other practitioners to ensure continuation of treatment in conformity with the wishes of the patient. Dr.

Chellappan shall also notify any hospitals or other facilities where he is currently granted privileges, and any health insurance companies, health insurance administrators or health maintenance organization currently reimbursing him/her for any of the healing arts.

Further, within ten (10) days of entry of this Consent Order, Dr. Chellappan shall:

1. Return his current license to the Board;
2. Surrender his Drug Enforcement Administration ("DEA") certificate and DEA 222

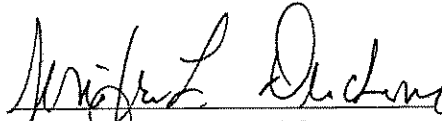
Schedule II order forms to the DEA and submit a copy of the surrender notification to the Board;
and

3. Submit written notification to any and all drug wholesalers or pharmacies that he has ordered from, or had an account with for the past five (5) years, that he has surrendered his DEA license and request that the account be closed, a copy of which shall be provided to the Board.

Should Dr. Chellappan seek reinstatement of his license, he shall be noticed to appear before the Board, in accordance with the Administrative Process Act. As petitioner, Dr. Chellappan will have the burden of proving his competency and fitness to practice medicine and surgery in the Commonwealth of Virginia in a safe and competent manner.

Pursuant to Section 54.1-2400.2 of the Code, the signed original of this Consent 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.

FOR THE BOARD:

for 
William L. Harp, M.D.
Executive Director
Virginia Board of Medicine

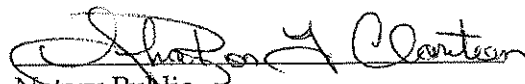
10/25/13
ENTERED

SEEN AND AGREED TO:


Anandababu Chellappan, M.D.

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA
COUNTY/CITY OF Henrico, TO WIT:

Subscribed and sworn to before me, the undersigned Notary Public, in and for the Commonwealth of Virginia, this 25 day of October, 2013, by Anandababu Chellappan, M.D.


Notary Public

ShaRon T. Clanton
NOTARY PUBLIC
Commonwealth of Virginia
Reg. #7082483

Registration Number: 7082483

My commission expires: May 31, 2015

