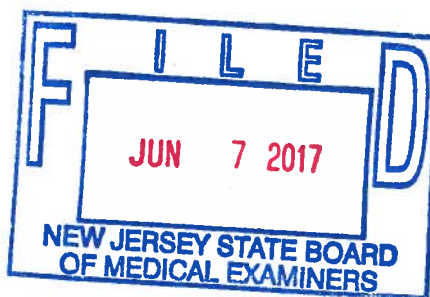


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STATE OF NEW JERSEY
 DEPARTMENT OF LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY
 DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
 STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

IN THE MATTER OF THE SUSPENSION	:	
OR REVOCATION OF THE LICENSE OF	:	Administrative Action
	:	
HEIDI VIDAL, M.D.	:	CONSENT ORDER OF LICENSURE
LICENSE NO. 25MA078661200	:	WITH CONDITIONS
	:	
TO PRACTICE MEDICINE AND SURGERY	:	
IN THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY	:	

This matter was opened to the New Jersey State Board of Medical Examiners (Board) upon receipt of the petition of Heidi Vidal, M.D. (Respondent) for reinstatement of her medical license. On October 25, 2012, the Board filed a Consent Order of surrender of licensure deemed a revocation of Respondent's license. The Consent Order was based upon an inspection of Respondent's medical office and upon information regarding her arrest for violation of N.J.S.A. 2C:29-1A (Obstructing Administration of the Law). In the course of the Board's investigation, concerns were raised about Respondent's failure to have proper oversight over the Controlled Dangerous Substances (CDS) inventory in her office and failure to have

appropriate control of her prescription blanks. Respondent was scheduled to appear before a Preliminary Evaluation Committee (PEC) on October 24, 2012, to discuss the Attorney General's investigation, her care and treatment of patient T.S. and her overall practice of medicine. The appearance was adjourned after her request to enter into the above mentioned Consent Order.

On May 6, 2015, Respondent appeared before a PEC with legal counsel, Rasha B. Foda, and Louis Baxter, M.D., of the Professional Assistance Program (PAP), in support of her petition to reinstate her license.

The Board advised Respondent that the application for reinstatement was premature through correspondence dated October 16, 2015, and prior to Respondent's request for reinstatement to be reconsidered, she must provide the Board with the following: 1) an in-depth psychological or psychiatric evaluation performed by a practitioner pre-approved by the Board; 2) complete treatment records of all diagnostic and rehabilitative therapy, discharge summaries from any in-patient program, and reports, from each and every mental health professional who participated in her care and/or treatment during the period of time from January 1, 2015 through the date of her next PEC to discuss her readiness to reenter practice as a physician; 3) an updated position statement from the PAP; and 4) documentation to the Board of successful completion of criminal probation.

In support of her petition for reinstatement, Respondent appeared before a Committee of the Board on December 7, 2016, with Louis Baxter, M.D. of the PAP, and submitted documentation that she has fully complied with all aspects of the Consent Order dated October 25, 2012, and all of the conditions listed above. Specifically, the Board reviewed Respondent's psychiatric evaluation by Laurie Deefield, D.O. dated May 6, 2016 and supplemental reported dated April 26, 2017. Dr. Deerfield recommended that Respondent is capable to return to the practice of medicine in a supervised setting, with limited CDS prescribing, continued psychotherapy, medication monitoring and participation with PAP. Further, Dr. Baxter testified that he fully supports Respondent's return to practice with conditions.

It appearing that Respondent has read the terms of the within Order and understands their meaning and effect and consents to be bound by same, and it further appearing that Respondent wishes to enter into this agreement, and the Board finding the within disposition adequately protective of the public health, safety, and welfare; and it appearing that good cause exists for the entry of the within Order;

IT IS, therefore, on this 7th day of JUNE, 2017,

ORDERED AND AGREED:

1. Prior to reinstatement, Respondent shall provide to the Board, proof of successful completion of all application

requirements including a criminal history background check with results that are satisfactory to the Board, payment of all reinstatement fees, and documentation of successful completion of all continuing education requirements.

2. Upon reinstatement, the license of Heidi Vidal, M.D. to practice medicine and surgery in New Jersey is subject to the following terms and conditions: A) Respondent shall maintain absolute abstinence from alcohol, all controlled dangerous substances, and any other potentially addictive substances, except as duly prescribed by a treating health care practitioner for legitimate medical reasons. Respondent shall advise all of her treating health care practitioners, of her CDS history. Respondent shall report any such prescriptions to the PAP and the Board in writing within five (5) days of receiving such a prescription together with the name of the prescribing physician/dentist/advanced practice nurse or other authorized prescriber and the reason for its use.

B) Respondent shall undergo random witnessed urine monitoring for controlled dangerous substances and alcohol a minimum of once per month for a minimum of the first twelve (12) months of licensure reinstatement. Subsequent reductions in urine monitoring are to be at the discretion of the Executive Medical Director of the PAP with prior notification submitted to the Board.

C) The Board reserves the right to require a modification of the manner of the random witnessed urine testing by the PAP in the event technical developments or individual requirements indicate that a different methodology or approach is required to guarantee the accuracy and reliability of the testing.

D) Respondent's failure to submit to or provide a urine sample when requested shall be deemed to be the equivalent of a confirmed positive urine test and shall be deemed a violation of this Order unless Respondent is unable to appear for a scheduled urine test due to illness or other impossibility. Respondent must advise the Board in writing within two (2) days, and cause the PAP to so advise the Board in writing within (2) days, of a claimed illness or impossibility. If Respondent fails to appear for a scheduled urine test due to illness, Respondent shall provide to the Board, written substantiation of the illness in the form of a physician's report, within two (2) days. "Impossibility" means an obstacle beyond the control of Respondent that is insurmountable or that makes her appearance for the urine test so infeasible that a reasonable person would waive Respondent's requirement to give the urine sample that day.

E) All random witnessed alcohol and drug screens shall be negative for the presence of alcohol or drugs, unless the drugs detected by screening were taken for a documented illness pursuant to a valid prescription from a health care practitioner aware of

Respondent's substance abuse history. All positive results shall be confirmed by the Gas Chromatography Mass Spectrometer (GC/MS) testing method. Chain of custody documentation must accompany all laboratory reports and/or the laboratory reports must indicate that a specific chain of custody procedures have been followed.

F) Any urine test result showing creatinine levels below 20 mg/dl and a specific gravity below 1.003 shall create a rebuttable presumption of a confirmed positive urine test, and shall be followed by a confirming test. The method of the confirming test shall be determined by the PAP.

G) Respondent shall become familiar with all foods, food additives or other products (such as poppy seeds) which may affect the validity of urine screens, be presumed to possess that knowledge, and shall refrain from the use of such substances. Respondent specifically agrees that ingestion of such substances shall not be an acceptable reason for a positive urine screen and/or failure to comply with the urine monitoring program.

H) Respondent shall be responsible to ensure that the PAP shall supply monthly reports beginning on the "filed" date of this Order to the Board regarding her progress with the monitoring program for six (6) months and then quarterly reports thereafter, for at least a minimum of twelve (12) months.

I) Respondent shall obtain the agreement of the PAP via a signature of its representative on this Order to notify the Board

within 24 hours of its receipt of information of any "slip or relapse" of impairment, including but not limited to any positive urine screen or failure to appear for urine monitoring or any scheduled appointment or any discontinuance of the PAP rehabilitation program whether initiated by Respondent or by the PAP.

J) Respondent shall attend regular face-to-face meetings with a staff member of the PAP on a monthly basis for a minimum of twelve (12) months from the filing date of this Order. If Respondent remains in successful documented recovery, her face-to-face meetings shall continue at a frequency commensurate with her documented duration in recovery as determined by the Executive Medical Director of the PAP with prior notice to the Board.

K) Respondent expressly waives any claim to privilege or confidentiality that she may have concerning reports and disclosures to the Board, and use by the Board of that information in any license proceedings, including reports and disclosures by the urine monitoring program, or the PAP, or any other person or entity involved in the rehabilitation program.

L) All costs associated with the monitoring outlined above shall be the responsibility of, and paid directly by Heidi Vidal, M.D.

3. Respondent shall continue medication management and group aftercare therapy with Dr. Deerfield or her successor approved by

the Board, until such time Dr. Deerfield, in consultation with Dr. Baxter of the PAP, agree that it is no longer required and the PAP recommends discontinuance to the Board and the Board approves such discontinuance. Such discontinuance will not be entertained until Dr. Vidal has been in practice for eighteen (18) months. Respondent shall ensure that her psychiatrist submits quarterly reports to the Board through the PAP in which she details the status and progress of Respondent's therapy and reports immediately (within 24 hours) orally and in writing, any discontinuance of Respondent's treatment.

4. Respondent shall continue therapy with Elaine Alexander or her successor psychologist approved by the Board, until such time Elaine Alexander, in consultation with Dr. Baxter of the PAP, agree that it is no longer required and the PAP recommends discontinuance to the Board and the Board approves such discontinuance. Such discontinuance will not be entertained until Dr. Vidal has been in practice for eighteen (18) months. Respondent shall ensure that the therapist/psychologist submits quarterly reports to the Board through the PAP which detail the status and progress of Respondent's therapy and reports immediately (within 24 hours) orally and in writing, any discontinuance of Respondent's treatment.

5. Respondent's work week shall not exceed twenty-four (24) hours for her first year of licensure reinstatement.

6. Prior to reinstatement, Respondent shall have a Board pre-approved board certified psychiatrist agree to work as her

supervisor, for a minimum of eighteen (18) months. Respondent shall only work in a group setting where she will be supervised. Respondent's supervisor shall be required to review a minimum of twenty (20) patient files a month. The supervisor shall submit a report to the Board on a quarterly basis regarding his/her observations of Respondent's practice of psychiatric medicine including her prescribing of CDS medications. The supervisor shall notify the Board within twenty-four (24) hours of knowledge of any violation of this supervisory agreement and/or any behavior indicative of psychiatric difficulties. The eighteen (18) month minimum will not begin until Respondent begins working under supervision.

7. Respondent shall only work in a group setting until further approval of the Board.

8. Respondent shall provide a copy of this executed Order to her first and any additional Board-approved supervisors. The supervisor is required to counter-sign a copy of this Consent Order and send it to the Board within five days of receipt.

9. Any deviation from the terms of this Order without the prior written consent of the Board shall constitute a failure to comply with the terms of this Order. Upon receipt of any reliable information indicating Respondent has violated any term of this Order, Respondent's license may be automatically suspended by the Board. Respondent, upon five days notice, may request a hearing to

contest the entry of such an order. At any such hearing the sole issue shall be whether any of the information received regarding the suspension was materially false. In addition, the Board reserves the right to bring further disciplinary action.

NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

By:

George J. Scott, D.O., D.P.M.
President

I have read the within Order and understand its terms. I consent to the entry of this Order by the New Jersey Board of Medical Examiners.

Heidi Vidal, M.D.
Heidi Vidal, M.D.

Agreed as to the monitoring and reporting requirements of this Consent Order on behalf of the Professional Assistance Program

Louis E. Baxter, Sr., M.D., FASAM
Louis E. Baxter, Sr., M.D., FASAM
Medical Director
Professional Assistance Program

Date 6/6/17