

1
2
3
4
5
6
7

**STATE OF ALASKA
BEFORE THE STATE OF ALASKA
OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS
ON REFERRAL BY THE STATE MEDICAL BOARD**

In the matter of:)
)
David Odom, M.D.,)
) OAH No.
Respondent) Board No. 2800-09-012
)

8
9

ACCUSATION

10
11
12
13

This Accusation initiates a proceeding pursuant to AS 08.01.075, AS 44.62.360, AS 08.64.326(a) and AS 08.64.331(a) to suspend, revoke, or impose other disciplinary sanctions against the physician license issued by the state of Alaska to David Odom ("Odom").

14
15
16
17
18

Petitioner, Donald Habeger, Director, Division of Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing, Department of Commerce, Community and Economic Development, State of Alaska ("Division"), acting in his official capacity and on information and belief, alleges:

19
20
21

1. Odom currently holds physician license No. 1288, which was first issued on November 8, 1975 and which will lapse, unless renewed, on December 31, 2012.

22
23
24

2. On or about April 27, 2007, S.Q. came to Odom's office in Fairbanks for weight loss and hormone evaluation. Odom conducted a basic physical

25
26

Accusation
In the Matter of David Odom, M.D.

Board No. 2800-09-012
Page 1 of 3

1 exam of S.Q. and ordered blood studies. He did not, however, conduct an adequate
2 abdominal or neurological examination of the patient.

3 3. Odom began a treatment of thyroid hormones for S.Q. Even if she
4 did need thyroid hormones, her dose of four grains of Armour Thyroid daily was
5 excessive.

6 4. Odom also prescribed phentermine as part of the treatment for
7 weight loss. However phentermine is contraindicated in someone who has an
8 established diagnosis of cardiomyopathy, which S.Q. had and which Odom was aware
9 of. Additionally, it is not appropriate to use excess thyroid hormone for weight loss in
10 combination with phentermine.
11

12 5. Odom treated S.Q. between April 27, 2007 and
13 September 14, 2007. During that period of time, S.Q. filled five prescriptions from
14 Odom for phentermine and four prescriptions for Armour Thyroid.
15

16 6. On March 7, 2008, S.Q. suffered cardiac arrest and hit her head on
17 the table after having dinner with her husband. She was rushed to Fairbanks Memorial
18 Hospital but died soon thereafter.
19


20 7. Odom's failure to conduct an adequate examination of S.Q., his
21 prescriptions of phentermine to a patient with an established diagnosis of
22 cardiomyopathy, and his combination of excess thyroid hormone with phentermine for
23 weight loss, described above, constituted substandard care of S.Q. in violation of
24 AS 08.64.326(a)(8)(A) (licensee has demonstrated professional incompetence, gross
25
26

1 negligence or repeated negligent conduct); AS 08.64.326(a)(9) (licensee has engaged in
2 unprofessional conduct); 12 AAC 40.967 (defining unprofessional conduct to mean any
3 act or omission by a licensee that does not conform to the generally accepted standards
4 of practice for the profession for which the licensee is authorized to practice); and
5 12 AAC 40.970 (defining professional incompetence as lacking sufficient knowledge,
6 skills, or professional judgment in that field of practice in which the physician engages,
7 to a degree likely to endanger the health of his patients), which is grounds for
8 disciplinary sanctions pursuant to AS 08.64.331(a).

10 WHEREFORE, pursuant to AS 08.01.075, AS 08.64.326, and
11 AS 08.64.331, the Division respectfully requests that the State Medical Board revoke or
12 suspend Odom's license to practice medicine or impose other lawful sanctions on
13 Odom's license as the Board deems appropriate.

15 Dated this 19th day of APRIL, 2012, at Anchorage, Alaska.

16 SUSAN BELL, COMMISSIONER
17 DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE,
18 COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC
19 DEVELOPMENT

20 By: 
21 Quanten Warren, Chief Investigator
22 for Donald Habeger, Director,
23 Division of Corporations, Business and
24 Professional Licensing