



# North Carolina Medical Board

Eleanor E. Greene, MD: President | Timothy E. Lietz, MD: President-Elect | Barbara E. Walker, DO: Secretary/Treasurer

April 12, 2017

William Francis Shilkitus, P.A.  
FirstHealth Physician Group  
P. O. Box 3000  
Whispering Pines, NC 28327

Dear Mr. Shilkitus:

The North Carolina Medical Board (“Board”) has concluded its investigation regarding the professional liability payment paid on your behalf on January 28, 2016. It is the Board’s decision not to commence formal proceedings against your license to practice as a physician assistant at this time. However, the Board did vote to issue you this public letter of concern. The Board does not consider a public letter of concern to be a disciplinary action or a limitation or restriction on your license.

Patient A, a ten-year-old, presented to you with a chief complaint of cough, headache, sore throat, and fever. Patient A’s blood pressure was elevated, 140/90, and she had a fever of 103.2 F°. According to your history, Patient A denied nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea. In your physical examination, you documented a normal respiratory assessment. You diagnosed Patient A with strep throat, prescribed amoxicillin, and discharged Patient A home. You did not consider influenza in your differential diagnosis or run any diagnostic testing to determine whether Patient A had the flu. Patient A died two days later from pneumonia secondary to influenza infection. The Board is concerned you failed to properly consider influenza as a possible diagnosis, prescribed an antibiotic without identifying the pathogen responsible for the infection, and did not perform a blood pressure recheck for Patient A’s elevated blood pressure. The Board notes its concern regarding your failure to document providing adequate follow up instructions to Patient A’s family enumerating red flag signs and symptoms which would prompt the family to return the child to a health care facility.

The Board is concerned your care of Patient A may have failed to conform to the standards of acceptable and prevailing medical practice in North Carolina. The Board urges you to take steps to ensure the conduct giving rise to the Board’s concerns does not happen again. Otherwise, the Board may vote to commence formal disciplinary proceedings against your physician assistant license. If that happens, this letter may be entered into evidence in determining the appropriate discipline.

This letter is a public record within the meaning of Chapter 132 of the North Carolina General Statutes and is subject to public inspection and dissemination as required by that law. It will be reported to the Federation of State Medical Boards; however, it will not be reported to the National Practitioner Data Bank.

Sincerely,

Eleanor E. Greene, M.D.  
President

EEG/MJ/wl

Consent and Waiver

I, William Francis Shilkitus, P.A. would like to resolve this matter without the need for more formal proceedings and consent to the Board's issuance of a public letter of concern in resolution of my current matter.

Consented to this the 7 day of APRIL, 2016. <sup>2017</sup>  
<sub>CMG</sub>

William J Shilkitus  
William Francis Shilkitus, P.A.

State of NC

County of MOORE

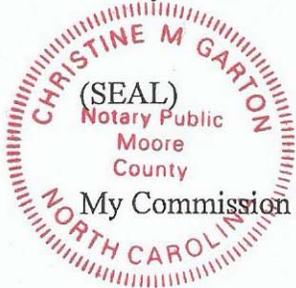
I, CHRISTINE M GARTON, a Notary Public for the above named County and State, do hereby certify that William Francis Shilkitus, P.A. personally appeared before me this day and acknowledged the due execution of the foregoing instrument.

Witness my hand and official seal

this the 7 day of APRIL, 2016. <sup>2017</sup>  
<sub>CMG</sub>

Christine M Garton

Notary Public



My Commission Expires: 11/09/17