

**STATE OF RHODE ISLAND
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
BOARD OF MEDICAL LICENSURE AND DISCIPLINE**

**IN THE MATTER OF:
DAVID DISANTO, M.D.
License Number MD 05417
Controlled Substances Registration Number CMD 05417
BMLD Complaint Number C14-501**

**SUMMARY SUSPENSION OF
CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES REGISTRATION**

David DiSanto, M.D. (hereinafter "Respondent") is licensed as a physician in Rhode Island and is licensed to prescribe controlled substances under Rhode Island General Laws chapter 21-28, having both a state Controlled Substances Registration and a Federal Drug Enforcement Administration Registration to prescribe controlled substances. An investigative committee of the Board of Medical Licensure and Discipline (hereinafter the "Board") voted to recommend suspension of Respondent' registration to prescribe controlled substances on June 25, 2014. After the committee's review of the complaint, the records, and the written response and appearance of the Respondent before the committee, the Director makes the following:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Respondent has been a licensed physician in Rhode Island since October 18, 1978. His practice is located at 2464 Pawtucket Avenue, East Providence, Rhode Island. He is a graduate of the University of Texas at Galveston Medical School. His specialty is neurosurgery, and he has hospital privileges at Our Lady of Fatima Hospital.

DAVID DISANTO, M.D.

Page 2 of 4

2. A review of a sample of medical records of Respondent's patients demonstrates Respondent's failure to maintain effective safeguards to prevent diversion. Respondent does not perform urine drug screening to ensure patients are taking medication as prescribed. Respondent's records do not allow for tracking of patients' medications. Respondent did not employ other helpful methods of safeguarding against diversion such as having patients sign pain agreements, reviewing the prescription monitoring program database, and monitoring how many pharmacies a patient uses. Respondent is currently not registered for the Prescription Monitoring program.
3. A review of a sample of medical records of Respondent's patients demonstrate his failure to meet the minimal standard of care for prescribing pain medication, as such records do not include patients' vital signs, do not always include results of patient examinations, and do not include a list of their medications. Respondent prescribed to one patient an 8.8 year supply of narcotics in a 5 year period.
4. Respondent prescribed controlled substances and psychotropics on multiple occasions to family members.
5. Respondent has a pattern of prescribing narcotics with insufficiently detailed medical records.
6. Respondent on occasion of prescribing narcotics without performing a sufficient examination of the patient.

7. Respondent has delivered care below accepted minimal standards, including the overprescribing of narcotics.
8. Respondent is in violation of Rhode Island General Laws § 5-37-5.1(19) and (26) for failing to adhere to minimum standards of acceptable practice and for violation of state laws concerning standards of practice and prescribing of controlled substances.
9. The public health, safety, and welfare imperatively requires emergency action.

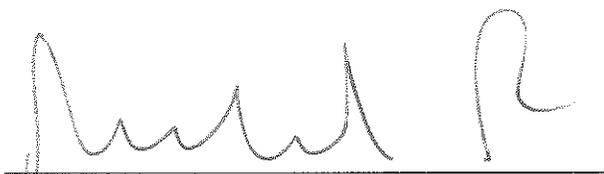
ORDER

1. Based on the foregoing, the Director of the Department of Health has determined that the continuation of the controlled substances registration of the Respondent constitutes an immediate threat to the health, welfare and safety of the public.
2. Accordingly, the controlled substances registration issued to the Respondent to prescribe controlled substances is hereby suspended forthwith pursuant to Rhode Island General Laws §§ 21-28-3.04 and 42-35-14(c).
3. The suspension of the Respondent's controlled substances registration shall continue until further Order of the Department of Health and until an administrative hearing or other resolution.
4. Respondent shall continue to be responsible for continuity of care for any of his patients who need controlled substances prescribed to them, and shall continue to

be responsible to transfer any medical records of such patients immediately upon request or when needed.

5. Respondent is entitled to a hearing within ten (10) days in accordance with Rhode Island General Laws § 42-35-14(c).

Signed this 26 day of June, 2014.



Michael Fine, M.D.
Director of Health
Rhode Island Department of Health

CERTIFICATION OF SERVICE

A copy of this Order of Summary Suspension of Controlled Substances Registration was served by the undersigned on the 26th day of June, 2014, to David J. DiSanto, M.D., 2464 Pawtucket Avenue, East Providence, Rhode Island 02914.

 6/26/14
Signature Date

I, Richard C. Bicki, attorney for David Di Santo, MD hereby accept service of the foregoing Summary Suspension dated June 26, 2014 on behalf of David Di Santo.