

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

IN THE MATTER OF:
WILLIAM CHANG, M.D.

License Number MD06631

Controlled Substances Registration Number CMD06631

RI Controlled Substances Registration Summary Suspension

The Board of Medical Licensure and Discipline has received information concerning the professional prescribing activities of William Chang, MD, license number MD06631, controlled substances registration number CMD06631, (hereinafter the "Respondent") a licensed physician in Rhode Island whose principal place of business is 934 Park Avenue, Cranston, Rhode Island.

An investigation was conducted by the Board of Medical Licensure and Discipline and the Board of Pharmacy.

The Board of Medical Licensure and Discipline and the Office of the Director of Health make the following

Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law

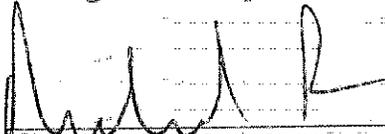
1. William Chang, MD, is a 73 year-old Active Emeritus physician who has been licensed to practice in Rhode Island since 1985. He is a 1981 graduate of Ross University School of Medicine in Dominica. His specialty is family practice.
2. The Rhode Island Board of Pharmacy began to investigate Respondent when they received a complaint from a pharmacist regarding the Respondent's prescribing habits. A review was conducted on all Schedule II and Schedule III prescriptions issued under Respondent's registration and dispensed by licensed pharmacies in Rhode Island.
3. Pharmacy staff at CVS/Pharmacy #1042, located at 835 Newport Avenue, Pawtucket, Rhode Island, informed the Department of Health that they were concerned about the amount of Butalbital compounds that the Respondent was prescribing on the same prescription pad and on a frequent basis.
4. The Board of Medical Licensure and Discipline and the Board of Pharmacy investigated the medical records of one of Respondent's patients. The patient was prescribed Adderall

90 mg per day, when the maximum recommended dose is 60 mg per day. The patient had history of poly-substance abuse, with no previous documented history of ADHD and no previous history of receiving prescription stimulants.

5. Respondent alleged that he prescribed Adderall to the patient because the patient claimed she had ADHD and needed the medication to help her concentrate at her job. Respondent stated that patient "convinced" him that the medication she needed was correct; therefore he neglected to inquire into the original prescriber or dosage.
6. Respondent stated that the same patient requested pain medication for a brain tumor. Respondent prescribed Fioricet and Fioricet with Codeine together on the same prescription note to the patient. Respondent alleges he prescribed Fioricet and Fioricet with Codeine together because the patient was allergic to Imitrex and Motrin and she reported that Prophylactic medications were tried and not effective. Respondent stated that he did not want to alter the medications and dosages because of her brain tumor.
7. On May 24, 2010, Respondent's patient was discharged from Butler Hospital with instructions to limit Butalbital tabs to no more than four a day. Respondent continued to prescribe Butalbital medication to patient not acknowledging the hospital's recommendation.

ORDER

After considering the findings of the Board of Medical Licensure and Discipline and the Board of Pharmacy regarding William Chang, MD, it has been determined that the continuation of the prescribing of controlled substances by William Chang, MD, would constitute an immediate danger to the public. Accordingly, William Chang, MD, the controlled substances registration issued to William Chang, MD is suspended until further Order of the Department of Health, Board of Medical Licensure and Discipline. The Respondent is entitled to an administrative hearing on this suspension within 10 days of this Order pursuant to RIGL § 5-37-8.


Michael Fine, MD, MPH
Director of Health

7/27/11
Date

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that a copy of this ORDER was hand delivered and sent regular and certified mail to William Chang, MD on this 28th day of July at the following addresses:

William Chang, MD
934 Park Avenue
Cranston, RI 02910

William Chang, MD
402 Woodhaven
Cranston, RI 02920

Linda Julian