STATE OF RHODE ISLAND
AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
BOARD OF MEDICAL LICENSURE AND DISCIPLINE

IN THE MATTER OF:
Roland Brutus, M.D. License Number MD05924
BMLD Case Number C09-578

CONSENT ORDER

Roland Brutus, M.D. (hereinafter "Respondent") is licensed as a physician in Rhode Island. The Board of Medical Licensure and Discipline (hereinafter the "Board") through its investigating committee voted to find unprofessional conduct against Respondent due to numerous unsuccessful attempts to insert spinal anesthesia in a patient, and the committee made the following:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Respondent is a licensed physician in the State of Rhode Island and was issued his license on December 16, 1981. He currently resides in Florida. His primary specialty is anesthesiology, and he is a 1972 graduate of Autonomous University in Mexico.

2. Respondent was assigned to administer anesthesia to a 65 year old male patient on August 21, 2009, at Kent Hospital. Respondent was appropriately attempting to use spinal anesthesia, as requested by the surgeon, because the patient was at greater risk under general anesthesia due to a prior cervical fusion and a pre-existing ankylosing spondylitis. However, administering spinal anesthesia in such a patient is difficult. After numerous unsuccessful attempts, general anesthesia was administered successfully.
3. The patient received a local anesthetic and there is no evidence that the patient had any pain or ongoing problems as a result of the additional attempts to administer spinal anesthesia.

4. There is a discrepancy in the documentation regarding the number and location of attempts at spinal anesthesia.

3. The Board contends that Respondent was in violation of Rhode Island General Laws § 5-27-5.1(19) for nonconformance with the minimum standards of acceptable and prevailing medical practices in the specialty of anesthesia and recommends a finding of a reprimand.

Based on the foregoing, the parties agree as follows:

1. Respondent admits to the jurisdiction of the Board.

2. Respondent has reviewed this Consent Order and understands that it is subject to final approval of the Board; and this Consent Order is not binding on Respondent until final ratification by the Board.

3. If ratified by the Board, Respondent hereby acknowledges and waives:

   a. The right to appear personally or by counsel or both before the Board;
   b. The right to produce witnesses and evidence on his behalf at a hearing;
   c. The right to cross examine witnesses;
   d. The right to have subpoenas issued by the Board;
   e. The right to further procedural steps except for those specifically contained herein;
   f. Any and all rights of appeal of this Consent Order;
g. Respondent agrees to this Reprimand by the Board based on the findings above.

Signed this 5th day of July, 2013.

Roland Brutus, M.D.

Ratified by the Board of Medical Licensure and Discipline on the 14th day of August, 2013.

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