

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

**In the matter of:
WILLIAM T. CREIGHTON, M.D.
License #: MD 6288**

C04-726

Consent Order

The Board of Medical Licensure and Discipline (hereinafter "Board") received information that indicated that William Creighton, MD (hereinafter referred to as the "Respondent") has violated Sections 5-37-5.1 of the R.I. General Laws, 1956, as amended. An Investigating Committee of the Board was convened to investigate these allegations. The following are the Findings of Fact of the Investigating Committee:

FINDING OF FACTS

1. Respondent is a physician licensed to practice in Rhode Island. He is a graduate of Creighton University Medical School.
2. Respondent's medical license was reinstated in August of 2003 following a suspension beginning in 1999 for engaging in sexual relationships with patients and prescribing narcotic drugs to them inappropriately.
3. Respondent's license was restricted to working under the supervision of another physician in a group or institutional setting. He was practicing under the supervision and was seeing patients primarily in nursing homes.

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4. Respondent saw an 85 year-old male patient at the Harborside Nursing Home after a prior hospital admission for pneumonia. The patient had been given a gastric tube within the previous nine days but the patient had pulled it out.
5. Respondent saw the patient at bedside and had reinserted the gastric tube.
6. Respondent neither ordered appropriate tests to insure proper placement of the tube nor documented in the chart that he had replaced the tube.
7. The gastric tube subsequently was used by nursing staff for medication administration and nutrition.
8. The patient's condition worsened over a period of hours, he developed abdominal distention and he was sent to the hospital where he was diagnosed with chemical peritonitis from an extravasion of enteral feedings around the percutaneous endoscopic gastrostomy feeding tube.
9. The patient expired at the hospital due to complications of peritonitis.
10. Respondent's failure to take appropriate steps to insure that an immature feeding tube had been replaced appropriately and failure to document the reinsertion of the feeding tube violated the appropriate standard of patient care.
11. Respondent violated Rhode Island General Laws § 5-37-5.1 (for unprofessional conduct) for reinserting the percutaneous endoscopic gastrostomy feeding tube at the bedside less than two weeks after initial placement and failing to confirm tube placement by appropriate means and for failure to document the reinsertion of the tube in the medical record.
12. On December 17,2004 the Director of Health Suspended Respondent's license to practice medicine.

The parties agree as follows:

Respondent admits to the jurisdiction of the Board and hereby agrees to remain under the jurisdiction of the Board, subject to the conditions set forth below.

- (1) Respondent has read this Consent Order and understands that it is a proposal of an Investigating Committee of the Board and is subject to the final approval of the Board. This Consent Order is not binding on Respondent until final ratification by the Board.
- (2) Respondent hereby acknowledges and waives:
 - a. The right to appear personally or by counselor both before the Board;
 - b. The right to produce witnesses and evidence in 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 as specifically contained herein;
 - f. Any and all rights of appeal of this Consent Order;
 - g. Any objection to the fact that this Consent Order will be presented to the Board for consideration and review;
 - h. Any objection to the fact that it will be necessary for the Board to become acquainted with all evidence pertaining to this matter in order to review adequately this Consent Order; and

- i. Any objection to the fact that potential bias against Respondent may occur as a result of the presentation of this Consent Order.
- (3) Acceptance of this Consent Order constitutes an acknowledgment by Respondent of the Finding of Facts set forth herein.
- (4) This Consent Order shall become part of the public record of this proceeding once it is accepted by all parties and by the Board.
- (5) Failure to comply with this Consent Order, when signed and accepted, shall subject Respondent to further disciplinary action.
- (6) The Board hereby approves the following monitoring and reporting plan, which shall be in effect for a five (5) year probationary period.
 - a. Respondent shall be employed as an urgent care physician at Garden City Treatment Center, Inc., 1150 Reservoir Avenue, Cranston, Rhode Island. Any subsequent change in Respondent's employment status in Rhode Island or the scope of this Consent Order will be subject to the Board's prior approval, which approval shall not be unreasonably withheld. The Board agrees that Respondent does not require consent from the Board regarding any employment opportunities located in other jurisdictions;
 - b. Respondent shall be supervised by Adib Mechrefe, M.D. who will submit quarterly reports to the Board confirming Respondent's clinical competence and satisfactory medical record keeping during the