BEFORE THE MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Accusation Against:

Victor Manuel Vargas, M.D.

Physician's & Surgeon's Certificate No. A 99927

Respondent.

Case No. 800-2019-054374

DECISION

The attached Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order is hereby adopted as the Decision and Order of the Medical Board of California, Department of Consumer Affairs, State of California.

This Decision shall become effective at 5:00 p.m. on August 09, 2023.

IT IS SO ORDERED: July 10, 2023.

MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA

Richard E. Thorp, M.D., Chair

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Panel B

1	ROB BONTA					
2	Attorney General of California STEVE DIEHL					
3	Supervising Deputy Attorney General LYNETTE D. HECKER					
4	Deputy Attorney General State Bar No. 182198 California Department of Justice 2550 Mariposa Mall, Room 5090 Fresno, CA 93721 Telephone: (559) 705-2320					
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6						
7	Facsimile: (559) 445-5106 Attorneys for Complainant					
8		:				
9	BEFORE THE MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA					
10	DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS					
11	STATE OF CA	ALIFURNIA				
12						
13	In the Matter of the Accusation Against:	Case No. 800-2019-054374				
14	VICTOR MANUEL VARGAS, M.D. 2625 E. Divisadero St.	OAH No. 2022040435				
15	Fresno, CA 93721-1431	STIPULATED SETTLEMENT AND DISCIPLINARY ORDER				
16	Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. A 99927					
17	Respondent.					
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20	In the interest of a prompt and speedy settlement of this matter, consistent with the public					
21	interest and the responsibility of the Medical Board of California of the Department of Consumer					
22	Affairs, the parties hereby agree to the following Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order					
23	which will be submitted to the Board for approval and adoption as the final disposition of the Accusation.					
24						
25	PARTIES 1. This action was brought by William Prasifka, former Executive Director of the					
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27	Medical Board of California (Board), solely in his official capacity. Reji Varghese (Complainant) is the Deputy Director of the Board and is acting in Mr. Prasifka's stead until either an Interim					
28	is the Deputy Director of the board and is acting i	m ivir. Frastika s sicau unui etuler an interim				
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STIPULATED SETTLEMENT (800-2019-054374)

Executive Director, or a new Executive Director is appointed. Complainant is represented in this matter by Rob Bonta, Attorney General of the State of California, by Lynette D. Hecker, Deputy Attorney General.

- 2. Victor Manuel Vargas, M.D. (Respondent) is represented in this proceeding by attorney Michael F. Ball, whose address is: 7647 North Fresno Street, Fresno, CA 93720-8912.
- 3. On or about May 2, 2007, the Board issued Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. A 99927 to Respondent. The Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought in Accusation No. 800-2019-054374, and will expire on May 31, 2023, unless renewed.

JURISDICTION

- 4. Accusation No. 800-2019-054374 was filed before the Board, and is currently pending against Respondent. The Accusation and all other statutorily required documents were properly served on Respondent on March 18, 2022. Respondent timely filed his Notice of Defense contesting the Accusation.
- 5. A copy of Accusation No. 800-2019-054374 is attached as "Exhibit A" and incorporated herein by reference.

ADVISEMENT AND WAIVERS

- 6. Respondent has carefully read, fully discussed with counsel, and understands the charges and allegations in Accusation No. 800-2019-054374. Respondent has also carefully read, fully discussed with his counsel, and understands the effects of this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order.
- 7. Respondent is fully aware of his legal rights in this matter, including the right to a hearing on the charges and allegations in the Accusation; the right to confront and cross-examine the witnesses against him; the right to present evidence and to testify on his own behalf; the right to the issuance of subpoenas to compel the attendance of witnesses and the production of documents; the right to reconsideration and court review of an adverse decision; and all other rights accorded by the California Administrative Procedure Act and other applicable laws.

8. Respondent voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently waives and gives up each and every right set forth above.

CULPABILITY

- 9. Respondent understands and agrees that the charges and allegations in Accusation No. 800-2019-054374, if proven at a hearing, constitute cause for imposing discipline upon his Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate.
- 10. Respondent does not contest that, at an administrative hearing, Complainant could establish a *prima facie* case or factual basis with respect to the charges and allegations in Accusation No. 800-2019-054374, that he has thereby subjected his Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate, No. A 99927 to disciplinary action, and Respondent hereby gives up his right to contest those charges.
- 11. Respondent agrees that his Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate is subject to discipline and he agrees to be bound by the Board's probationary terms as set forth in the Disciplinary Order below.

CONTINGENCY

- 12. This stipulation shall be subject to approval by the Medical Board of California. Respondent understands and agrees that counsel for Complainant and the staff of the Medical Board of California may communicate directly with the Board regarding this stipulation and settlement, without notice to or participation by Respondent or his counsel. By signing the stipulation, Respondent understands and agrees that he may not withdraw his agreement or seek to rescind the stipulation prior to the time the Board considers and acts upon it. If the Board fails to adopt this stipulation as its Decision and Order, the Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order shall be of no force or effect, except for this paragraph, it shall be inadmissible in any legal action between the parties, and the Board shall not be disqualified from further action by having considered this matter.
- 13. Respondent agrees that if he ever petitions for early termination or modification of probation, or if an accusation and/or petition to revoke probation is filed against him before the Board, all of the charges and allegations contained in Accusation No. 800-2019-054374 shall be

deemed true, correct and fully admitted by respondent for purposes of any such proceeding or any other licensing proceeding involving Respondent in the State of California.

- 14. The parties understand and agree that Portable Document Format (PDF) and facsimile copies of this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order, including PDF and facsimile signatures thereto, shall have the same force and effect as the originals.
- 15. In consideration of the foregoing admissions and stipulations, the parties agree that the Board may, without further notice or opportunity to be heard by the Respondent, issue and enter the following Disciplinary Order:

DISCIPLINARY ORDER

A. PUBLIC REPRIMAND

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Respondent, VICTOR MANUEL VARGAS, M.D., Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. A 99927, shall be and is hereby Publicly Reprimanded pursuant to California Business and Professions Code section 2227, subdivision (a)(4). This Public Reprimand is issued in connection with Respondent's care and treatment of one patient, as set forth in Accusation No. 800-2019-054374.

B. EDUCATION COURSE

Within 60 calendar days of the effective date of this Decision, and on an annual basis thereafter, Respondent shall submit to the Board or its designee for its prior approval educational program(s) or course(s) which shall not be less than 40 hours per year, for each year of probation. The educational program(s) or course(s) shall be aimed at correcting any areas of deficient practice or knowledge and shall be Category I certified. The educational program(s) or course(s) shall be at Respondent's expense and shall be in addition to the Continuing Medical Education (CME) requirements for renewal of licensure. Following the completion of each course, the Board or its designee may administer an examination to test Respondent's knowledge of the course. Respondent shall provide proof of attendance for 65 hours of CME of which 40 hours were in satisfaction of this condition.

C. MEDICAL RECORD KEEPING COURSE

Within 60 calendar days of the effective date of this Decision, Respondent shall enroll in a

course in medical record keeping approved in advance by the Board or its designee. Respondent shall provide the approved course provider with any information and documents that the approved course provider may deem pertinent. Respondent shall participate in and successfully complete the classroom component of the course not later than six (6) months after Respondent's initial enrollment. Respondent shall successfully complete any other component of the course within one (1) year of enrollment. The medical record keeping course shall be at Respondent's expense and shall be in addition to the Continuing Medical Education (CME) requirements for renewal of licensure.

A medical record keeping course taken after the acts that gave rise to the charges in the Accusation, but prior to the effective date of the Decision may, in the sole discretion of the Board or its designee, be accepted towards the fulfillment of this condition if the course would have been approved by the Board or its designee had the course been taken after the effective date of this Decision.

Respondent shall submit a certification of successful completion to the Board or its designee not later than 15 calendar days after successfully completing the course, or not later than 15 calendar days after the effective date of the Decision, whichever is later.

D. INVESTIGATION/ENFORCEMENT COST RECOVERY

Respondent is hereby ordered to reimburse the Board its costs of investigation and enforcement, including, but not limited to, expert review, amended accusations, legal reviews, investigation(s), and subpoena enforcement, as applicable, in the amount of \$17,646.25 (seventeen thousand six hundred forty-six dollars and twenty-five cents). Costs shall be payable to the Medical Board of California. Failure to pay such costs shall be considered a violation of probation.

Payment must be made in full within 30 calendar days of the effective date of the Order, or by a payment plan approved by the Medical Board of California. Any and all requests for a payment plan shall be submitted in writing by respondent to the Board. Failure to comply with the payment plan shall be considered a violation of probation.

The filing of bankruptcy by Respondent shall not relieve Respondent of the responsibility

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1	to repay investigation and enforcement costs, including expert review costs (if applicable).			
2	E. <u>FUTURE ADMISSIONS CLAUSE</u>			
3	If Respondent should ever apply or reapply for a new license or certification, or petition for			
4	reinstatement of a license, by any other health care licensing action agency in the State of			
5	California, all of the charges and allegations contained in Accusation No. 800-2019-054374 shall			
6	be deemed to be true, correct, and admitted by Respondent for the purpose of any Statement of			
7	Issues or any other proceeding seeking to deny or restrict license.			
8	F. ENFORCEMENT			
9	Failure to timely complete the courses outlined above shall constitute unprofessional			
10	conduct and is grounds for further disciplinary action.			
11	:			
12	ACCEPTANCE			
13	I have carefully read the above Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order and have fully			
14	discussed it with my attorney, Michael F. Ball. I understand the stipulation and the effect it will			
15	have on my Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate. I enter into this Stipulated Settlement and			
16	Disciplinary Order voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently, and agree to be bound by the			
17	Decision and Order of the Medical Board of California.			
18				
19	DATED:			
20	VICTOR MANUEL VARGAS, M.D. Respondent			
21				
22	I have read and fully discussed with Respondent Victor Manuel Vargas, M.D. the terms and			
23	conditions and other matters contained in the above Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order			
24	I approve its form and content.			
25	DATED:			
26	MICHAEL F. BALL Attorney for Respondent			
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ļ	STIPULATED SETTLEMENT (800-2019-054374)			

E. <u>FUTURE ADMISSIONS CLAUSE</u>

If Respondent should ever apply or reapply for a new license or certification, or petition for reinstatement of a license, by any other health care licensing action agency in the State of California, all of the charges and allegations contained in Accusation No. 800-2019-054374 shall be deemed to be true, correct, and admitted by Respondent for the purpose of any Statement of Issues or any other proceeding seeking to deny or restrict license.

F. ENFORCEMENT

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Failure to timely complete the courses outlined above shall constitute unprofessional conduct and is grounds for further disciplinary action.

ACCEPTANCE

I have carefully read the above Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order and have fully discussed it with my attorney, Michael F. Ball. I understand the stipulation and the effect it will have on my Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate. I enter into this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently, and agree to be bound by the Decision and Order of the Medical Board of California.

DATED:	02/10/2020	Michael May
•		VICTOR MANUEL VARGAS, M.D. Respondent
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I have read and fully discussed with Respondent Victor Manuel Vargas, M.D. the terms and conditions and other matters contained in the above Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order.

DATED: 2/0/2023 MICHAEL F. BALL

Attorney for Respondent

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ENDORSEMENT I The foregoing Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order is hereby respectfully submitted for consideration by the Medical Board of California. Respectfully submitted, DATED: 2/13/2023 ROB BONTA Attorney General of California STEVE DIEHL Supervising Deputy Attorney General LYNETTE D. HECKER Deputy Attorney General Attorneys for Complainant FR2021306202 95490957.docx

Exhibit A

Accusation No. 800-2019-054374

1	ROB BONTA			
2	Attorney General of California STEVE DIEHL			
3	Supervising Deputy Attorney General LYNETTE D. HECKER			
4	Deputy Attorney General State Bar No. 182198			
5	California Department of Justice			
6	2550 Mariposa Mall, Room 5090 Fresno, CA 93721			
7	Telephone: (559) 705-2320 Facsimile: (559) 445-5106			
8	Attorneys for Complainant			
ı	BEFORE THE			
9	MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS			
10	STATE OF CALIFORNIA			
11				
12	In the Matter of the Accusation Against:	Case No. 800-2019-054374		
13	VICTOR MANUEL VARGAS, M.D. 2625 E. Divisadero St.	ACCUSATION		
14	Fresno, CA 93721-1431			
15	Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. A 99927,			
16	Respondent.			
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19	<u>PARTIES</u>			
20	1. William Prasifka (Complainant) brings this Accusation solely in his official capacity			
21	as the Executive Director of the Medical Board of California, Department of Consumer Affairs			
22	(Board).			
23	2. On or about May 2, 2007, the Medical Board issued Physician's and Surgeon's			
24	Certificate Number A 99927 to Victor Manuel Vargas, M.D. (Respondent). The Physician's and			
25	Surgeon's Certificate was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought			
26	herein and will expire on May 31, 2023, unless renewed.			
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	(VICTOR MANUEL VARGAS, M.D.) ACCUSATION NO. 800-2019-054374			

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3. This Accusation is brought before the Board, under the authority of the following laws. All section references are to the Business and Professions Code (Code) unless otherwise indicated.

Section 2227 of the Code states:

- (a) A licensee whose matter has been heard by an administrative law judge of the Medical Quality Hearing Panel as designated in Section 11371 of the Government Code, or whose default has been entered, and who is found guilty, or who has entered into a stipulation for disciplinary action with the board, may, in accordance with the provisions of this chapter:
 - (1) Have his or her license revoked upon order of the board.
- (2) Have his or her right to practice suspended for a period not to exceed one year upon order of the board.
- (3) Be placed on probation and be required to pay the costs of probation monitoring upon order of the board,
- (4) Be publicly reprimended by the board. The public reprimand may include a requirement that the licensee complete relevant educational courses approved by the board.
- (5) Have any other action taken in relation to discipline as part of an order of probation, as the board or an administrative law judge may deem proper.
- (b) Any matter heard pursuant to subdivision (a), except for warning letters, medical review or advisory conferences, professional competency examinations, continuing education activities, and cost reimbursement associated therewith that are agreed to with the board and successfully completed by the licensee, or other matters made confidential or privileged by existing law, is deemed public, and shall be made available to the public by the board pursuant to Section 803.1.

STATUTORY PROVISIONS

5. Section 2234 of the Code, states:

The board shall take action against any licensee who is charged with unprofessional conduct. In addition to other provisions of this article, unprofessional conduct includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- (a) Violating or attempting to violate, directly or indirectly, assisting in or abetting the violation of, or conspiring to violate any provision of this chapter.
 - (b) Gross negligence,
- (c) Repeated negligent acts. To be repeated, there must be two or more negligent acts or omissions. An initial negligent act or omission followed by a separate and distinct departure from the applicable standard of care shall constitute repeated negligent acts.

- (1) An initial negligent diagnosis followed by an act or omission medically appropriate for that negligent diagnosis of the patient shall constitute a single negligent act.
- (2) When the standard of care requires a change in the diagnosis, act, or omission that constitutes the negligent act described in paragraph (1), including, but not limited to, a reevaluation of the diagnosis or a change in treatment, and the licensee's conduct departs from the applicable standard of care, each departure constitutes a separate and distinct breach of the standard of care.
 - (d) Incompetence.
- (e) The commission of any act involving dishonesty or corruption that is substantially related to the qualifications, functions, or duties of a physician and surgeon.
 - (f) Any action or conduct that would have warranted the denial of a certificate.
- (g) The failure by a certificate holder, in the absence of good cause, to attend and participate in an interview by the board. This subdivision shall only apply to a certificate holder who is the subject of an investigation by the board.
- 6. Section 2266 of the Code states: The failure of a physician and surgeon to maintain adequate and accurate records relating to the provision of services to their patients constitutes unprofessional conduct.

COST RECOVERY

7. Section 125.3 of the Code provides, in pertinent part, that the Board may request the administrative law judge to direct a licensee found to have committed a violation or violations of the licensing act to pay a sum not to exceed the reasonable costs of the investigation and enforcement of the case, with failure of the licensee to comply subjecting the license to not being renewed or reinstated. If a case settles, recovery of investigation and enforcement costs may be included in a stipulated settlement.

DEFINITIONS

- 8. Apnea is a temporary cessation of breathing. Apnelic means of, relating to, or affected by apnea.
- 9. Continuous positive airway pressure ("CPAP") machines deliver continuous pressurized air, of varying oxygen saturations, via a facemask and tubing. A bi-level positive airway pressure ("BiPAP") machine delivers oxygenated air at varying pressures and is most commonly used for persons who have trouble exhaling against CPAP's continuous pressure.

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Both CPAP and BiPAP machines are utilized for patients with health conditions that impact breathing.

- 10. Empiric antibiotic therapy is directed against an antioipated and likely cause of infectious disease. It is used when antimicrobials are given to a person before the specific bacterium or fungus causing an infection is known. When it becomes known, treatment that is used is called directed therapy. Fighting an infection sooner rather than later is important to minimize morbidity, risk, and complications for serious infections like sepsis and suspected bacterial meningitis.
- 11. High-flow nasal cannula ("HFNC") therapy is an oxygen supply system capable of delivering up to 100% humidified and heated oxygen at a flow rate of up to 60 liters per minute.
 - 12. Inotropic means modifying the force or speed of contraction of muscles.
- 13. To intubate means to insert a tube into a person or a body part, especially the trachea for ventilation. To extubate means to remove an inserted tube.
- 14. Laryngotracheobronchitis is inflammation of the larynx, trachea, and bronchi. Specifically it is an acute severe infection of these parts marked by swelling of the tissues and excessive secretion of mucus leading to more or less complete obstruction of the respiratory passages.
- 15. Parainfluenza type 3 virus is a common cause of upper and lower respiratory tract infections in children that can range from mild cold symptoms to bronchiolitis to life-threatening pneumonia. The clinical symptoms of bronchiolitis are those of increased work of breathing and include: nasal flaring, subcostal, intercostal and/or suprasternal retractions, grunting, tachypnea, dyspnea, and cyanosis. The progression of these symptoms to lethargy, poor feeding, apnea and/or hypoxemia are indications for hospitalization.
- 16. Pediatric intensive care is the subspecialty within pediatrics that concerns itself with recognition, prevention and/or management of impending or actual multiple organ system dysfunction ("MODS"). Infectious processes can result in MODS, and viral infections leading to respiratory failure are a known MODS trigger.

FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

- 17. On or about December 1, 2014, Patient A¹ (a minor) began to experience fever, a rash, and symptoms of an upper respiratory infection.
- 18. On or about December 6, 2014, Patient A was seen at a local urgent care center for treatment of the continued symptoms. Upon arrival, the patient became apneic, EMS was called, and her trachea was intubated following a brief period of bag and mask ventilation. Shortly after intubation, Patient A coughed and the endotracheal tube was dislodged. However, she demonstrated sufficient respiratory effort to be supported via bag-valve-mask ventilation while in route to Valley Children's Hospital ("VCH") where she was diagnosed with acute laryngo-tracheobronchitis due to parainfluenza virus type 3.
- 19. Upon arrival at VCH's emergency department ("ER"), staff noted Patient A had difficulty breathing and once again intubated her trachea. However, despite intubation, her oxygen saturation levels again dropped, so the pediatric intensivist was called to the emergency room. The endotracheal tube placed by the ER attending physician was removed and replaced by the pediatric intensive care unit ("PICU") attending physician, which was the patient's third direct laryngoscopy on or about that day.
- 20. In the PICU, Patient A rapidly progressed to sepsis syndrome/multiple organ system dysfunction ("MODS"), requiring mechanical ventilation and inotropic (pharmaceutical) support, as well as fluid resuscitation and empiric antibiotics.
- 21. Respondent assumed care for Patient A, on or about December 8, 2014. His progress notes for on or about that day make no mention of a planned extubation trial or anticipated tracheal extubation.
- 22. In the early morning of on or about December 9, 2014, an extubation readiness test was performed on Patient A. The results of the test are unclear from the records, with some noting the test was passed, while others note it was failed, and some records noting the results were conveyed, while others note they were not conveyed to Respondent.

¹ The patient's name is redacted for privacy. The patient's name has been previously disclosed to all parties.

- 23. Respondent decided to extubate the patient's trachea, and the procedure was performed at approximately 11:45 a.m., on or about December 9, 2014. The patient immediately demonstrated increased work of breathing and respiratory distress. Respondent attempted several types of non-invasive respiratory support, including high flow cannula and mask BiPAP none of which were effective mitigation strategies for the patient's respiratory distress. Patient A's condition worsened.
- 24. Despite the lack of efficacy of these maneuvers, Respondent continued to attempt other non-invasive treatments for the patient's respiratory insufficiency such as different sized devices and delivery systems rather than performing direct laryngoscopy, re-intubating the patient's trachea, and reinitiating invasive mechanical assisted ventilatory support. Proper endotracheal tube placement was further delayed when Respondent ceded control of the airway to the transport respiratory care practitioner, who was unsuccessful on his attempt to intubate Patient A's trachea, which delayed even further the establishment of a guaranteed airway and subsequent restoration of spontaneous circulation. Respondent assumed control of the airway only after the unsuccessful intubation attempt by the respiratory therapist and the patient progressed to hypoxia and complete cardio-respiratory arrest. A code event was initiated at or about 1:05 p.m., on or about December 9, 2014. Respondent successfully inserted the endotracheal tube at or about 1:21 p.m., and spontaneous circulation was restored at or about 1:23 p.m. All of the above resulted in a total time from initiation of cardiopulmonary resuscitation ("CPR") to return of spontaneous circulation of approximately eighteen (18) minutes,

FIRST CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Repeated Negligent Acts)

25. Respondent has subjected his Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate Number A 99927 to disciplinary action under section 2234, subdivision (c), in that he committed repeated acts of negligence in his care and treatment of Patient A. The circumstances are set forth in paragraphs 17 through 24, above, which are incorporated here by reference as if fully set forth. Additional circumstances are as follows:

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- The standard of medical practice in California is to diagnose and appropriately 26. manage life threatening pediatric illness in a timely and effective manner. Treatment of hospitalized patients with severe bronchiolitis includes respiratory support provided in an incremental manner. Heated humidified high flow nasal cannula ("HFNC") is a mainstay of noninvasive support. If HFNC is not sufficient to mitigate the increased work of breathing, then noninvasive ventilation ("NIV") is utilized. Non-invasive modalities deliver mechanical assisted respiratory support without the need for tracheal intubation. These methods include continuous positive airway pressure ("CPAP") or bi-level positive airway pressure ("BiPAP") delivered via a patient interface such as nasal prongs or a mask and are often trialed prior to endotracheal intubation.
- When less invasive measures fail, a small percentage of pediatric patients with croup will require tracheal intubation and a period of mechanical assisted ventilation. Once airway edema and lung injury subside, invasive mechanical yentilatory support is weaned and the trachea is extubated. Post-extubation respiratory failure is seen in a small proportion of children. The signs of failure are similar to those observed with respiratory distress previously described. These signs are well known to the pediatric intensivist and when they occur, targeted therapies such as HFNC or NIV (CPAP or BIPAP) are employed. When these therapies fail, prompt re-intubation of the trachea is warranted.
- Respondent's failure to recognize the signs of impending respiratory failure and to intervene appropriately in a timely manner constitutes negligence. Respondent's inappropriate request of the respiratory therapist to try different facial mask and nasal prong sizes for noninvasive ventilation rather than proceeding expeditiously to direct laryngoscopy and replacement of the endotracheal tube constitutes negligence.
- 29. The standard of care requires that the most experienced person on the team perform endotracheal intubation in a code setting. Respondent permitting the transport respiratory care practitioner to attempt the first laryngoscopy during the code constitutes negligence.

SECOND CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE (Recordkeeping) Respondent has further subjected his Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate Number A 99927 to disciplinary action under sections 2227 and 2234, as defined by section 2266 in that he failed to maintain adequate and accurate records in his care and treatment of Patient A. The circumstances are set forth in paragraphs 21 through 22 above, which are incorporated here by reference as if fully set forth. PRAYER WHEREFORE, Complainant requests that a hearing be held on the matters herein alleged, and that following the hearing, the Medical Board of California issue a decision: 1. Revoking or suspending Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate Number A 99927, issued to Victor Manuel Vargas, M.D.; 2. Revoking, suspending or denying approval of Victor Manuel Vargas, M.D.'s authority to supervise physician assistants and advanced practice nurses; 3. Ordering Victor Manuel Vargas, M.D., to pay the Board the costs of the investigation and enforcement of this case, and if placed on probation, the costs of probation monitoring; and 4. Taking such other and further action as deemed necessary and proper. DATED: Executive Director Medical Board & California Department of Consumer Affairs State of California Complainant FR2021306202 35985374.docx

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