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

In the Matter of the Accusation Against:

Bipin Dayalji Patel, M.D.

Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. C 50311

Respondent.

Case No.: 800-2020-066056

DECISION

The attached Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary 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 April 26, 2024.

IT IS SO ORDERED: March 28, 2024.

MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA

Richard E. Thorp, Chair

Panel B

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1	ROB BONTA Attorney General of California ROBERT MCKIM BELL Supervising Deputy Attorney General TRINA L. SAUNDERS Deputy Attorney General State Bar No. 207764 300 South Spring Street, Suite 1702		
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5	Los Angeles, California 90013 Telephone: (213) 269-6516		
6	Facsimile: (916) 731-2117 Attorneys for Complainant		
7	Thiorneys for Compramain		
8	BEFORE THE		
9	MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS		
10	STATE OF CALIFORNIA		
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12	In the Matter of the Accusation Against:	Case No. 800-2020-066056	
13	BIPIN DAYALJI PATEL, M.D.	OAH No. 2023070511	
14	9100 McInnes Boulevard	STIPULATED SETTLEMENT AND DISCIPLINARY ORDER	
15	Bakersfield, California 93311	DISCH LINARY ORDER	
16	Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. C 50311,		
17 18	Respondent.		
19	IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED AND AGREED by and between the parties to the above-		
20	entitled proceedings that the following matters are true:		
21	PARTIES		
22	1. Reji Varghese (Complainant) is the Executive Director of the Medical Board of		
23	California (Board). He brought this action solely in his official capacity and is represented in this		
24	matter by Rob Bonta, Attorney General of the State of California, by Trina L. Saunders, Deputy		
25	Attorney General.		
26	2. Respondent Bipin Dayalji Patel, M.D. is represented in this proceeding by attorney		
27	Michael L. Fell, whose address is 900 Roosevelt, Irvine, California 92620-3664.		
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STIPULATED SETTLEMENT (Bipin Dayalji Patel, M.D., Case No. 800-2020-066056)

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3. On October 1, 1999, the Board issued Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. C 50311 to Bipin Dayalji Patel, M.D. (Respondent). That license was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought in Accusation No. 800-2020-066056, and will expire on November 30, 2024, unless renewed.

JURISDICTION

- 4. Accusation No. 800-2020-066056 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 February 24, 2023. Respondent timely filed a Notice of Defense contesting the Accusation.
- 5. A copy of Accusation No. 800-2020-066056 is attached as Exhibit A and is 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. 800-2020-066056. Respondent has also carefully read, fully discussed with his counsel, and understands the effects of this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order.
- Respondent is fully aware of his legal rights in this matter, including the right to a 7. 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. 800-2020-066056, if proven at a hearing, constitute cause for imposing discipline upon his Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate.

- 10. Respondent agrees that, at a hearing, Complainant could establish a prima facie case or factual basis for the charges in the Accusation, and that Respondent hereby gives up his right to contest those charges.
- 11. Respondent does not contest that, at an administrative hearing, Complainant could establish a prima facie case with respect to the charges and allegations in Accusation No. 800-2020-066056, a true and correct copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit A, and that he has thereby subjected his Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate, No. C 50311 to disciplinary action.
- 12. 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

- 13. 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.
- 14. 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. 800-2020-066056 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.

- 15. 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.
- 16. 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

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. C 50311 issued to Respondent Bipin Dayalji Patel, M.D. is revoked. However, the revocation is stayed and Respondent is placed on probation for two (2) years on the following terms and conditions:

1. <u>MEDICAL RECORD KEEPING COURSE</u>. 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.

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2. PROFESSIONALISM PROGRAM (ETHICS COURSE). Within 60 calendar days of the effective date of this Decision, Respondent shall enroll in a professionalism program, that meets the requirements of Title 16, California Code of Regulations (CCR) section 1358.1. Respondent shall participate in and successfully complete that program. Respondent shall provide any information and documents that the program may deem pertinent. Respondent shall successfully complete the classroom component of the program not later than six (6) months after Respondent's initial enrollment, and the longitudinal component of the program not later than the time specified by the program, but no later than one (1) year after attending the classroom component. The professionalism program shall be at Respondent's expense and shall be in addition to the Continuing Medical Education (CME) requirements for renewal of licensure.

A professionalism program 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 program would have been approved by the Board or its designee had the program 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 program or not later than 15 calendar days after the effective date of the Decision, whichever is later.

3. NOTIFICATION. Within seven (7) days of the effective date of this Decision, the Respondent shall provide a true copy of this Decision and Accusation to the Chief of Staff or the Chief Executive Officer at every hospital where privileges or membership are extended to Respondent, at any other facility where Respondent engages in the practice of medicine, including all physician and locum tenens registries or other similar agencies, and to the Chief Executive Officer at every insurance carrier which extends malpractice insurance coverage to Respondent. Respondent shall submit proof of compliance to the Board or its designee within 15 calendar days.

This condition shall apply to any change(s) in hospitals, other facilities or insurance carrier.

- 4. SUPERVISION OF PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS AND ADVANCED PRACTICE
- <u>NURSES</u>. During probation, Respondent is prohibited from supervising physician assistants and advanced practice nurses.
- 5. <u>OBEY ALL LAWS</u>. Respondent shall obey all federal, state and local laws, all rules governing the practice of medicine in California and remain in full compliance with any court ordered criminal probation, payments, and other orders.
- 6. <u>INVESTIGATION/ENFORCEMENT COST RECOVERY</u>. 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 \$17,871.00 (seventeen thousand eight hundred seventy-one dollars). 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 to repay investigation and enforcement costs.

7. <u>QUARTERLY DECLARATIONS</u>. Respondent shall submit quarterly declarations under penalty of perjury on forms provided by the Board, stating whether there has been compliance with all the conditions of probation.

Respondent shall submit quarterly declarations not later than 10 calendar days after the end of the preceding quarter.

8. <u>GENERAL PROBATION REQUIREMENTS</u>.

Compliance with Probation Unit

Respondent shall comply with the Board's probation unit.

Address Changes

Respondent shall, at all times, keep the Board informed of Respondent's business and

residence addresses, email address (if available), and telephone number. Changes of such addresses shall be immediately communicated in writing to the Board or its designee. Under no circumstances shall a post office box serve as an address of record, except as allowed by Business and Professions Code section 2021, subdivision (b).

Place of Practice

Respondent shall not engage in the practice of medicine in Respondent's or patient's place of residence, unless the patient resides in a skilled nursing facility or other similar licensed facility.

License Renewal

Respondent shall maintain a current and renewed California physician's and surgeon's license.

Travel or Residence Outside California

Respondent shall immediately inform the Board or its designee, in writing, of travel to any areas outside the jurisdiction of California which lasts, or is contemplated to last, more than thirty (30) calendar days.

In the event Respondent should leave the State of California to reside or to practice Respondent shall notify the Board or its designee in writing 30 calendar days prior to the dates of departure and return.

- 9. <u>INTERVIEW WITH THE BOARD OR ITS DESIGNEE</u>. Respondent shall be available in person upon request for interviews either at Respondent's place of business or at the probation unit office, with or without prior notice throughout the term of probation.
- 10. NON-PRACTICE WHILE ON PROBATION. Respondent shall notify the Board or its designee in writing within 15 calendar days of any periods of non-practice lasting more than 30 calendar days and within 15 calendar days of Respondent's return to practice. Non-practice is defined as any period of time Respondent is not practicing medicine as defined in Business and Professions Code sections 2051 and 2052 for at least 40 hours in a calendar month in direct patient care, clinical activity or teaching, or other activity as approved by the Board. If Respondent resides in California and is considered to be in non-practice, Respondent shall

comply with all terms and conditions of probation. All time spent in an intensive training program which has been approved by the Board or its designee shall not be considered non-practice and does not relieve Respondent from complying with all the terms and conditions of probation. Practicing medicine in another state of the United States or Federal jurisdiction while on probation with the medical licensing authority of that state or jurisdiction shall not be considered non-practice. A Board-ordered suspension of practice shall not be considered as a period of non-practice.

In the event Respondent's period of non-practice while on probation exceeds 18 calendar months, Respondent shall successfully complete the Federation of State Medical Boards's Special Purpose Examination, or, at the Board's discretion, a clinical competence assessment program that meets the criteria of Condition 18 of the current version of the Board's "Manual of Model Disciplinary Orders and Disciplinary Guidelines" prior to resuming the practice of medicine.

Respondent's period of non-practice while on probation shall not exceed two (2) years. Periods of non-practice will not apply to the reduction of the probationary term.

Periods of non-practice for a Respondent residing outside of California will relieve
Respondent of the responsibility to comply with the probationary terms and conditions with the
exception of this condition and the following terms and conditions of probation: Obey All Laws;
General Probation Requirements; Quarterly Declarations; Abstain from the Use of Alcohol and/or
Controlled Substances; and Biological Fluid Testing..

- obligations (e.g., restitution, probation costs) not later than 120 calendar days prior to the completion of probation. This term does not include cost recovery, which is due within 30 calendar days of the effective date of the Order, or by a payment plan approved by the Medical Board and timely satisfied. Upon successful completion of probation, Respondent's certificate shall be fully restored.
- 12. <u>VIOLATION OF PROBATION</u>. Failure to fully comply with any term or condition of probation is a violation of probation. If Respondent violates probation in any respect, the Board, after giving Respondent notice and the opportunity to be heard, may revoke probation and

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carry out the disciplinary order that was stayed. If an Accusation, or Petition to Revoke Probation, or an Interim Suspension Order is filed against Respondent during probation, the Board shall have continuing jurisdiction until the matter is final, and the period of probation shall be extended until the matter is final.

- Respondent ceases practicing due to retirement or health reasons or is otherwise unable to satisfy the terms and conditions of probation, Respondent may request to surrender his or her license.

 The Board reserves the right to evaluate Respondent's request and to exercise its discretion in determining whether or not to grant the request, or to take any other action deemed appropriate and reasonable under the circumstances. Upon formal acceptance of the surrender, Respondent shall within 15 calendar days deliver Respondent's wallet and wall certificate to the Board or its designee and Respondent shall no longer practice medicine. Respondent will no longer be subject to the terms and conditions of probation. If Respondent re-applies for a medical license, the application shall be treated as a petition for reinstatement of a revoked certificate.
- 14. PROBATION MONITORING COSTS. Respondent shall pay the costs associated with probation monitoring each and every year of probation, as designated by the Board, which may be adjusted on an annual basis. Such costs shall be payable to the Medical Board of California and delivered to the Board or its designee no later than January 31 of each calendar year.
- 15. <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. 800-2020-066056 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.

ACCEPTANCE

I have carefully read the above Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order and have fully discussed it with my attorney, Michael L. Fell, Esq. 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: 12-11-23

BIPIN DAYALJI PATEL, M.D.

Respondent

I have read and fully discussed with Respondent Bipin Dayalji Patel, M.D. the terms and conditions and other matters contained in the above Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order.

I approve its form and content.

DATED: /2/19/23

MICHAEL L. FELL
Attorney for Respondent

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ENDORSEMENT ŀ The foregoing Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order is hereby respectfully submitted for consideration by the Medical Board of California. Respectfully submitted, **ROB BONTA** Attorney General of California ROBERT MCKIM BELL Supervising Deputy Attorney General Trina L. Saunders Deputy Attorney General Attorneys for Complainant LA2021603265 Stipulation Bipin Dayalji Patel M.D. - SDAG Reviewed.docx

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1	ROB BONTA		
2	Attorney General of California ROBERT MCKIM BELL Supervising Deputy Attorney General TRINA L. SAUNDERS Deputy Attorney General State Bar No. 207764		
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5	300 So. Spring Street, Suite 1702 Los Angeles, CA 90013		
6	Telephone: (213) 269-6516 Facsimile: (916) 731-2117		
7	Attorneys for Complainant		
8	BEFORE THE		
9	MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE OF CALIFORNIA		
10			
-11			
12	In the Matter of the Accusation Against:	Case No. 800-2020-066056	
13	BIPIN DAYALJI PATEL, M.D.	ACCUSATION	
14	9100 McInnes Boulevard Bakersfield, California 93311		
15	Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate C 50311,		
16	Respondent.		
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19	PARTIES		
20	1. Reji Varghese (Complainant) brings this Accusation solely in his official capacity as		
21	the Interim Executive Director of the Medical Board of California (Board).		
22		Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate Number	
23	C 50311 to Bipin Dayalji Patel, M.D. (Respondent). That license was in full force and effect at		
24	all times relevant to the charges brought herein and will expire on November 30, 2024, unless		
25	renewed.		
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(BIPIN DAYALJI PATEL, M.D.) ACCUSATION NO. 800-2020-066056

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JURISDICTION

- 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.
- 4. Section 2227 of the Code provides that a licensee who is found guilty under the Medical Practice Act may have his or her license revoked, suspended for a period not to exceed one year, placed on probation, and required to pay the costs of probation monitoring, or such other action taken in relation to discipline as the Board deems proper.
 - 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 2400 of the Code states:

Corporations and other artificial legal entities shall have no professional rights, privileges, or powers. However, the Division of Licensing may in its discretion, after such investigation and review of such documentary evidence as it may require, and under regulations adopted by it, grant approval of the employment of licensees on a salary basis by licensed charitable institutions, foundations, or clinics, if no charge for professional services rendered patients is made by any such institution, foundation, or clinic

7. Section 2402 of the Code states:

The provisions of Section 2400 do not apply to a medical or podiatry corporation practicing pursuant to the Moscone-Knox Professional Corporation Act (Part 4 (commencing with Section 13400) of Division 3 of Title 1 of the Corporations Code) and this article, when such corporation is in compliance with the requirements of these statutes and all other statutes and regulations now or hereafter enacted or adopted pertaining to such corporations and the conduct of their affairs.

8. Section 2406 of the Code states:

A medical or podiatry corporation is a corporation which is authorized to render professional services, as defined in Section 13401 of the Corporations Code, so long as that corporation and its shareholders, officers, directors and employees rendering professional services who are physicians and surgeons, psychologists, registered nurses, optometrists, podiatrists, chiropractors, acupuncturists, naturopathic doctors, physical therapists, occupational therapists, or, in the case of a medical corporation only, physician assistants, marriage and family therapists, clinical counselors, or clinical social workers, are in compliance with the Moscone-Knox Professional Corporation Act [Corporations Code section 13400 et seq.], the provisions of this article and all other statutes and regulations now or hereafter enacted or adopted pertaining to the corporation and the conduct of its affairs.

With respect to a medical corporation or podiatry corporation, the governmental agency referred to in the Moscone-Knox Professional Corporation Act is the board.

9. Section 2407 of the Code states: A medical or podiatry corporation shall be subject to the provisions of Sections 2285 and 2415.

10. Section 2408 of the Code states:

Except as provided in Sections 13401.5 and 13403 of the Corporations Code, each shareholder, director and officer of a medical or podiatry corporation, except an assistant secretary or an assistant treasurer, shall be a licensed person as defined in Section 13401 of the Corporations Code. Notwithstanding the provisions of this section or Sections 13401.5, 13403, 13406, and 13407 of the Corporations Code, a shareholder of a medical corporation which renders professional services may be a medical corporation which has only one shareholder who shall be a licensed person as defined in Section 13401 of the Corporations Code. The shareholder of the latter corporation may be an officer or director of the former corporation. Nothing in this section shall be construed as prohibiting a no licensed person

from using the business titles of executive vice president, chief executive officer, executive secretary, or any other title denoting an administrative function within the professional corporation.

11. Section 2410 of the Code states:

A medical or podiatry corporation shall not do or fail to do any act the doing of which or the failure to do which would constitute unprofessional conduct under any statute or regulation now or hereafter in effect. In the conduct of its practice, it shall observe and be bound by such statutes and regulations to the same extent as a licensee under this chapter [Chapter 5, the Medical Practice Act].

12. Section 2411 of the Code states:

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the offering and operation by a medical corporation of a health care service plan licensed pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 2.2 (commencing with Section 1340) of Division 2 of the Health and Safety Code is hereby authorized. For such purpose a medical corporation may employ, or enter into contracts or other arrangements with, any person or persons authorized to practice any of the healing arts, but no such employment, contract, or arrangement shall provide for the rendering, supervision, or control of professional services other than as authorized by law.

13. Section 2412 of the Code states:

The Division of Licensing may adopt and enforce regulations to carry out the purposes and objectives of this article and the Moscone-Knox Professional Corporation Act including regulations requiring (a)that the bylaws of a medical or podiatry corporation shall include a provision whereby the capital stock of such corporation owned by a disqualified person (as defined in Section 13401 of the Corporations Code), or a deceased person, shall be sold to the corporation or to the remaining shareholders of such corporation within such time as such regulations may provide, and (b)that a medical or podiatry corporation shall provide adequate security by insurance or otherwise for claims against it by its patients arising out of the rendering of professional services.

14. Section 2416 of the Code states:

Physicians and surgeons and doctors of podiatric medicine may conduct their professional practices in a partnership or group of physicians and surgeons or a partnership or group of doctors of podiatric medicine, respectively. Physicians and surgeons and doctors of podiatric medicine may establish a professional partnership that includes both physicians and surgeons and doctors of podiatric medicine, if both of the following conditions are satisfied:

- (a) A majority of the partners and partnership interests in the professional partnership are physicians and surgeons or osteopathic physicians and surgeons.
- (b) Notwithstanding Chapter 2 (commencing with Section 15001) of Title 1 of the Corporations Code, a partner who is not a physician and surgeon shall not practice in the partnership or vote on partnership matters related to the practice of medicine that are outside his or her scope of practice. All partners may vote on general administrative, management, and business matters.

15. 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.

COST RECOVERY

FIRST CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Gross Negligence)

- 16. Respondent Bipin Dayalji Patel, M.D. is subject to disciplinary action under section 2234, subdivision (b) of the Code in that as the Medical Director of Body Del Sol Medical Spa (BDSMS) he failed to provide appropriate supervision of staff. The circumstances are as follows:
- 17. Ayde Mendibles opened BDSMS in April 2010. At the time, she was a licensed aesthetician and was offering facials and massages.
- 18. Sometime thereafter, Ms. Mendibles became a licensed vocational nurse (LVN). The corporate structure of BDSMS was changed to reflect a 49% ownership by Ms. Mendibles and a 51% ownership by her then-physician partner. Ultimately, the physician owner issued a 90-day notice letter resigning as medical director/owner of Body Del Sol on January 4, 2019.
- 19. On February 27, 2020, a search warrant was executed at Body Del Sol Medical Spa.

 While serving the search warrant, information was obtained that demonstrated that the Respondent was the then-current medical director and owner of BDSMS.
- 20. On March 3, 2020, the Respondent was interviewed by an investigator on behalf of the Medical Board of California. During that investigation, Respondent related that in April/May of 2019, he became a 51% owner of BDSMS, as well as the corporation's medical director, and received shares in the corporation when he entered into such an agreement. There is no written documentation to support such a claim. Respondent represented that Ms. Mendibles owned 49% of the business. He further reported that Ms. Mendibles and her attorneys handled the contract they entered into, the issuance of company stock/shares, and in obtaining Fictitious Name Permits (FNP).

Respondent did not purchase the shares of Body Del Sol that he received. In addition, the fictitious name permit for BDSMS did not list Respondent as an owner of the business.

- 21. Respondent received a \$2,000 per month flat fee for managing the medical spa.

 Respondent did not receive a share of the BDMS's profits and was unaware of the amount of profits BDMS was generating. The agreement Respondent entered into with Ms. Mendibles permitted Respondent to resign from his position as medical director of BDSMS pursuant to a 30-day notice.
- 22. Between April/May 2019 and March 3, 2020, Respondent visited BDSMS on approximately two to three occasions. Respondent was aware that all staff members of BDMS were practicing under his professional license. Respondent purports that he conducted his own background research of BDSMS employees. However, he was not involved in the hiring of BDSMS employees. During his subject interview, Respondent demonstrated that he was unfamiliar with the staff and was unaware that two registered nurses were providing laser services at BDSMS.
- 23. Respondent permitted Ms. Mendibles to provide injectable services on her own. Ms. Mendibles was the person responsible for consulting with patients for Botox, fillers, and Coolsculpting, and providing injectable treatments for such patients. Respondent reported that after observing her perform injections on several patients, he determined that he was comfortable with her providing such services without his supervision and admitted that he was comfortable with Ms. Mendibles injecting a maximum of 50 units of neurotoxin in women and 60-70 units in men per appointment.
- 24. Respondent reported that he entered into delegation of services agreements with each of the staff of BDSMS and had protocols in place with respect to services each staff member could provide without supervision. No such agreements or protocols exist.
- 25. During his two or three visits to BDSMS, Respondent reviewed a random sampling of patient charts at BDSMS, as well as those specifically set aside for his review. The respondent signed charts while visiting the medical spa.

- 26. When presented with the chart of Patient 1 during his interview and questioned about the lack of documentation maintained for Patient 1, as a certification of no records had been produced in response to a request for the patient record, Respondent was unaware of the policy at BDSMS, which called for the purging of some charts after one year.
- 27. Respondent performed no supervision of the medical staff at BDSMS. Unless otherwise indicated in this pleading, Respondent did not observe their work, train them, or assess their previous training.
- 28. Respondent informed Ms. Mendibles that effective June 30, 2020, he would no longer serve as the medical director of BDSMS.
- 29. Respondent committed an extreme departure from the standard of care by failing to provide adequate supervision of the practice he owned and operated, and of which he was the medical director. The respondent was not present at the practice on a frequent, regular basis to assess the medical care provided.

SECOND CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Repeated Negligent Acts)

- 30. Respondent Bipin Dayalji Patel, M.D. is subject to disciplinary action under section 2234 (c), in that he engaged in acts or omissions that constitute repeated negligent acts. The circumstances are as follows:
 - 31. Paragraphs 17 through 28 above are fully incorporated herein.
- 32. Respondent failed to establish a proper corporate structure in regard to BDSMS. Respondent purportedly established and operated a medical practice without taking steps to determine the true nature of the practice, the competence of the personnel, and the legality and safety of the practice. This constitutes negligence.
- 33. Respondent is subject to discipline within the meaning of Section 2234 (c) of the Code.

THIRD CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Violation of Moscone-Knox Act)

34. Paragraphs 17 through 33 above are fully incorporated herein.