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10 **BEFORE THE**
MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
11 **STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

12 In the Matter of the Accusation and Petition to
Revoke Probation Against:

Case No. 800-2025-122823

13
14 **Chigurupati Venkata Ramana, M.D.**
145 Trevino Ave.
Manteca, CA 95337-4200

**ACCUSATION AND PETITION TO
REVOKE PROBATION**

15
16 **Physician's & Surgeon's Certificate**
No. C 170471,

17
18 Respondent.

19 **PARTIES**

20 1. Reji Varghese (Complainant) brings this Accusation and Petition to Revoke Probation
21 solely in his official capacity as the Executive Director of the Medical Board of California,
22 Department of Consumer Affairs (Board).

23 2. On or about October 7, 2020, the Board issued Physician's & Surgeon's Certificate
24 Number C 170471 to Chigurupati Venkata Ramana, M.D. (Respondent). The Physician's &
25 Surgeon's Certificate was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought
26 herein and will expire on October 31, 2026, unless renewed.

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1 **JURISDICTION**

2 3. This Accusation and Petition to Revoke Probation is brought before the Board, under
3 the authority of the following laws and the prior disciplinary action entitled *In the Matter of the*
4 *Accusation Against Chigurupati Venkata Ramana, M.D.*, before the Medical Board of California
5 in Case Number 800-2021-077069. All section references are to the Business and Professions
6 Code (Code) unless otherwise indicated.

7 4. In the prior disciplinary action entitled *In the Matter of the Accusation Against*
8 *Chigurupati Venkata Ramana, M.D.*, before the Medical Board of California in Case Number
9 800-2021-077069,¹ the Board issued a Decision and Order, effective September 28, 2022, in
10 which Respondent's California Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate was revoked. However, the
11 revocation was stayed, and Respondent's Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate was placed on
12 probation for seven years with terms and conditions. (See California Medical Board's Decision
13 in Case Number 800-2021-077069 attached hereto as Exhibit A and incorporated by reference as
14 if fully set forth herein.)

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

19 6. Section 2004 of the Code states:

20 The board shall have the responsibility for the following:

21 (a) The enforcement of the disciplinary and criminal provisions of the Medical
22 Practice Act.

23 (b) The administration and hearing of disciplinary actions.

24 (c) Carrying out disciplinary actions appropriate to findings made by a panel or
an administrative law judge.

25 (d) Suspending, revoking, or otherwise limiting certificates after the conclusion

26 ¹ The California Medical Board's Decision in Case No. 800-2021-077069 was based on
27 Respondent's first disciplinary action in Oklahoma arising from Oklahoma State Board of
28 Medical Licensure and Supervision, Case No. 18-12-5685, effective March 17, 2021, which is
referenced in the Disciplinary Considerations section of this Accusation and Petition to Revoke
Probation.

1 of disciplinary actions.

2 (e) Reviewing the quality of medical practice carried out by physician and
3 surgeon certificate holders under the jurisdiction of the board.

4 (f) Approving undergraduate and graduate medical education programs.

5 (g) Approving clinical clerkship and special programs and hospitals for the
6 programs in subdivision (f).

7 (h) Issuing licenses and certificates under the board's jurisdiction.

8 (i) Administering the board's continuing medical education program.

9 **STATUTORY PROVISIONS**

10 7. Section 141 of the Code states:

11 For any licensee holding a license issued by a board under the jurisdiction of
12 the department, a disciplinary action taken by another state, by any agency of the
13 federal government, or by another country for any act substantially related to the
14 practice regulated by the California license, may be a ground for disciplinary action
15 by the respective state licensing board. A certified copy of the record of the
16 disciplinary action taken against the licensee by another state, an agency of the
17 federal government, or another country shall be conclusive evidence of the events
18 related therein.

19 (b) Nothing in this section shall preclude a board from applying a specific
20 statutory provision in the licensing act administered by that board that provides for
21 discipline based upon a disciplinary action taken against the licensee by another state,
22 an agency of the federal government, or another country.

23 8. Section 2234 of the Code states:

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

27 (a) Violating or attempting to violate, directly or indirectly, assisting in or
28 abetting the violation of, or conspiring to violate any provision of this chapter.

...

(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.

....

9. Unprofessional conduct under California Business and Professions Code
section 2234 also includes conduct which breaches the rules or ethical code of the
medical profession or conduct which is unbecoming to a member in good standing

1 of the medical profession, and which demonstrates an unfitness to practice
2 medicine. (*Shea v. Board of Medical Examiners* (1978) 81 Cal.App.3d 564, 575.)

3 10. Section 2261 of the Code states:

4 Knowingly making or signing any certificate or other document directly or
5 indirectly related to the practice of medicine or podiatry which falsely represents the
6 existence or nonexistence of a state of facts, constitutes unprofessional conduct.

7 11. Section 2305 of the Code states:

8 The revocation, suspension, or other discipline, restriction, or limitation
9 imposed by another state upon a license or certificate to practice medicine issued by
10 that state, or the revocation, suspension, or restriction of the authority to practice
11 medicine by any agency of the federal government, that would have been grounds for
12 discipline in California of a licensee under this chapter [Chapter 5, the Medical
13 Practice Act] shall constitute grounds for disciplinary action for unprofessional
14 conduct against the licensee in this state.

15 COST RECOVERY

16 12. Section 125.3 of the Code states:

17 (a) Except as otherwise provided by law, in any order issued in resolution of a
18 disciplinary proceeding before any board within the department or before the
19 Osteopathic Medical Board, upon request of the entity bringing the proceeding, the
20 administrative law judge may direct a licensee found to have committed a violation or
21 violations of the licensing act to pay a sum not to exceed the reasonable costs of the
22 investigation and enforcement of the case.

23 (b) In the case of a disciplined licensee that is a corporation or a partnership, the
24 order may be made against the licensed corporate entity or licensed partnership.

25 (c) A certified copy of the actual costs, or a good faith estimate of costs where
26 actual costs are not available, signed by the entity bringing the proceeding or its
27 designated representative shall be prima facie evidence of reasonable costs of
28 investigation and prosecution of the case. The costs shall include the amount of
investigative and enforcement costs up to the date of the hearing, including, but not
limited to, charges imposed by the Attorney General.

(d) The administrative law judge shall make a proposed finding of the amount
of reasonable costs of investigation and prosecution of the case when requested
pursuant to subdivision (a). The finding of the administrative law judge with regard to
costs shall not be reviewable by the board to increase the cost award. The board may
reduce or eliminate the cost award, or remand to the administrative law judge if the
proposed decision fails to make a finding on costs requested pursuant to subdivision
(a).

(e) If an order for recovery of costs is made and timely payment is not made as
directed in the board's decision, the board may enforce the order for repayment in any
appropriate court. This right of enforcement shall be in addition to any other rights
the board may have as to any licensee to pay costs.

(f) In any action for recovery of costs, proof of the board's decision shall be

1 (g)(1) Except as provided in paragraph (2), the board shall not renew or
2 reinstate the license of any licensee who has failed to pay all of the costs ordered
under this section.

3 (2) Notwithstanding paragraph (1), the board may, in its discretion,
4 conditionally renew or reinstate for a maximum of one year the license of any
5 licensee who demonstrates financial hardship and who enters into a formal agreement
with the board to reimburse the board within that one-year period for the unpaid
costs.

6 (h) All costs recovered under this section shall be considered a reimbursement
7 for costs incurred and shall be deposited in the fund of the board recovering the costs
to be available upon appropriation by the Legislature.

8 (i) Nothing in this section shall preclude a board from including the recovery of
9 the costs of investigation and enforcement of a case in any stipulated settlement.

10 (j) This section does not apply to any board if a specific statutory provision in
11 that board's licensing act provides for recovery of costs in an administrative
disciplinary proceeding.

12 FIRST CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

13 (Out of State Discipline)

14 13. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under section 2227 and 2234, as defined
15 by sections 141 and 2305, of the Code in that he has been subjected to out-of-state discipline in
16 the State of Oklahoma that would have been grounds for discipline in California.

17 14. On or about July 13, 2023, in a disciplinary action entitled *State of Oklahoma, ex rel.,*
18 *Oklahoma State Board of Medical Licensure and Supervision vs. Chigurupati Ramana, M.D.,*
19 *License No. MB 31923*, before the Oklahoma State Board of Medical Licensure and Supervision
20 (Oklahoma Board) Case No. 20-12-5948, the Oklahoma Board entered an "Order of Revocation
21 without the Right to Reapply and Order Denying Defendant's Special Appearance and Objection
22 to Jurisdiction (hereinafter "Order of Revocation"). This was Respondent's second disciplinary
23 action in Oklahoma. The Order of Revocation set forth findings of fact that were established by
24 "default an/or by clear and convincing evidence" as to Dr. Ramana's inadequate care and
25 treatment of four patients which resulted in Dr. Ramana being found "guilty" of the following
26 unprofessional conduct: (a) dishonorable or immoral conduct likely to deceive, defraud, or harm
27 the public; (b) the inability to practice medicine with reasonable skills and safety to patients; (c)
28 failure to maintain adequate medical records; (d) failure to provide a safe medical facility setting

1 failure to maintain adequate medical records; (d) failure to provide a safe medical facility setting
2 and qualified assistive personnel for a recognized medical act, including but not limited to an
3 initial in person patient examination, office surgery, diagnostic service or any other medical
4 procedure or treatment; (e) conduct likely to deceive, defraud, or harm the public; (f) gross or
5 repeated negligence in the practice of medicine and surgery; (g) being physically or mentally
6 unable to practice medicine and surgery with reasonable skill and safety; (h) practice or other
7 behavior that demonstrates an incapacity or incompetence to practice medicine and surgery; (i)
8 the inability to practice medicine with reasonable skills and safety to patients; and (j) failure to
9 provide a safe medical facility setting and qualified assistive personnel for a recognized medical
10 act, including but not limited to examination, surgery, or other treatment.”² The Oklahoma
11 Board’s Order of Revocation resulted in Respondent’s Oklahoma medical license number 31923
12 being revoked without the right to reapply. (See Oklahoma Board’s Order of Revocation, which
13 is now final, attached hereto as Exhibit B and incorporated by reference as if fully set forth
14 herein.)

15 **SECOND CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

16 **(Dishonesty)**

17 15. Respondent is further subject to disciplinary action under sections 2227 and 2234, as
18 defined by section 2234, subdivision (e), of the Code, in that he has committed an act or acts of
19 dishonesty or corruption, as more particularly alleged herein.

20 16. The allegations of the First Cause for Discipline are incorporated by reference as if
21 fully set forth herein.

22 17. On or about October 26, 2021, the Oklahoma Board filed a Verified Complaint in
23 Oklahoma Board Case No. 20-12-5948 charging Respondent with various violations of the
24 Oklahoma Medical Practice Act which generally related to Respondent’s medical care and
25 treatment concerning four patients, primarily the inadequate and/or unnecessary placement of
26

27
28 ² The duplicate charges for the inability to practice medicine with reasonable skills and
safety to patients are based on different Oklahoma statutes.

1 stents. Respondent and his attorney were advised of the filing of the Verified Complaint on the
2 same date.

3 18. On or about March 25, 2022, the Oklahoma Board issued an Order granting
4 Respondent's motion of recusal, in part, as to one of the Oklahoma Board members. The order
5 was served on Respondent and his counsel by certified mail.

6 19. On or about November 28, 2022, the Oklahoma Board filed an order granting
7 Respondent's motion to continue the hearing on the Verified Complaint. The order was served
8 on Respondent and his counsel by certified mail.

9 20. On or about July 13, 2023, the Oklahoma Board filed its Order of Revocation in Case
10 No. 20-12-5948. The Oklahoma Board's Order of Revocation resulted in Respondent's
11 Oklahoma medical license number 31923 being revoked without the right to reapply.

12 21. On or about October 10, 2023, the Board's Probation Unit received Respondent's
13 signed third quarter declaration for the period covering July through September 2023.³ As part
14 of the quarterly declaration, Respondent was asked the following question:

15 Question 12 – Have you been denied, had a license or certification to practice
16 business or profession suspended, revoked, or surrendered or otherwise disciplined
17 by any other federal, state, government agency or other country? (Emphasis
18 added.)

19 Respondent answered "No" to Question 12 in the aforementioned quarterly declaration,
20 which constituted an act of dishonesty because the Oklahoma Board entered an Order of
21 Revocation against him on July 13, 2023.

22 22. On or about October 26, 2023, Respondent met with his California Board Probation
23 Officer and was asked whether all of the statements in his signed third quarter declaration for the
24 period covering July through September 2023 were correct and "Dr. Ramana confirmed all
25 responses provided in his Quarterly Declaration were correct." Respondent's statement to his

26 ³ Each quarterly declaration contains the following attestation above the signature line, "I
27 hereby submit this Quarterly Declaration as required by the Medical Board of California and its
28 Order of probation thereof and declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of
California that I have read the foregoing declaration and any attachments in their entirety and
know their contents and that all statements made are true in every respect and I understand and
acknowledge that any misstatements, misrepresentations, or omissions of material fact or failure
to submit complete and timely reports may be cause for further disciplinary action."

1 Probation Officer constituted an act of dishonesty because he incorrectly (and falsely) answered
2 Question 12, and failed to disclose that the Oklahoma Board entered an Order of Revocation
3 against him on July 13, 2023.

4 23. During the period of October 27, 2023, through the time of the filing of this
5 Accusation and Petition to Revoke Probation, Respondent has continued to fail to disclose to his
6 California Medical Board Probation Officer that his medical license in Oklahoma was revoked by
7 the Oklahoma Board.

8 24. On or about September 22, 2024, Respondent filed his online application to renew his
9 Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate Number C 170471 with the Board. As part of the online
10 application process, he was asked the following question, "Since you last renewed your license,
11 have you had any license disciplined by a government agency or other disciplinary body, or, have
12 you been convicted of any crime in any state, the U.S.A. and its territories, military court or a
13 foreign country?" Respondent answered "No." In truth and fact, and as discussed more fully
14 herein, the Oklahoma Board entered an Order of Revocation against his Oklahoma medical
15 license number 31923 on July 13, 2023.

16 **THIRD CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

17 **(Making False Statements)**

18 25. Respondent is further subject to disciplinary action under sections 2227 and 2234, as
19 defined by section 2261, of the Code, in that he knowingly made or signed a certificate or
20 document directly or indirectly related to the practice of medicine which falsely represented the
21 existence or nonexistence of a state of facts, as more particularly alleged in the First and Second
22 Causes for Discipline, above, which are hereby incorporated by reference and realleged as if fully
23 set forth herein.

24 **FOURTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

25 **(General Unprofessional Conduct)**

26 26. Respondent is further subject to disciplinary action under sections 2227 and 2234, as
27 defined by section 2234 of the Code, in that he engaged in conduct which breaches the rules or
28 ethical code of the medical profession, or conduct which is unbecoming to a member in good

1 standing of the medical profession, and which demonstrates an unfitness to practice medicine, as
2 more particularly alleged in the First through Third Causes for Discipline, above, which are
3 hereby incorporated by reference and realleged as if fully set forth herein.

4 **FIRST CAUSE TO REVOKE PROBATION**

5 **(Failure to Obey All Laws)**

6 27. At all times after the effective date of Respondent's probation in California Board
7 Case No. 800-2021-077069, Probation Condition No. 11 of Respondent's probation provided:

8 "11. OBEY ALL LAWS [¶] Respondent shall obey all federal, state and
9 local laws, all rules governing the practice of medicine in California and remain in
10 full compliance with any court ordered criminal probation, payments, and other
orders."

11 28. Respondent's probation in Case No. 800-2021-077069 is subject to revocation
12 because he failed to comply with Probation Condition 11, referenced above, in that he has
13 violated rules governing the practice of medicine, as more particularly alleged in the First through
14 Fourth Causes for Discipline which are incorporated by reference as if fully set forth herein.

15 **SECOND CAUSE TO REVOKE PROBATION**

16 **(Quarterly Declarations)**

17 29. At all times after the effective date of Respondent's probation in California Board
18 Case No. 800-2021-077069, Probation Condition No. 12 of Respondent's probation provided:

19 "12. QUARTERLY DECLARATIONS [¶] Respondent shall submit
20 quarterly declarations under penalty of perjury on forms provided by the Board,
21 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."

22 30. Respondent's probation in Case No. 800-2021-077069 is subject to revocation
23 because he failed to comply with Probation Condition 12, referenced above, in that he submitted
24 quarterly declaration(s) under penalty of perjury which failed to disclose his Oklahoma Board
25 disciplinary action in Oklahoma Board Case No. 20-12-5948, as more particularly alleged in the
26 First through Fourth Causes for Discipline and First Cause to Revoke Probation which are
27 incorporated by reference as if fully set forth herein.

28 ////

1 **THIRD CAUSE TO REVOKE PROBATION**

2 **(Violation of Probation)**

3 31. At all times after the effective date of Respondent's probation in California Board
4 Case No. 800-2021-077069, Probation Condition No. 17 of Respondent's probation provided:

5 "17. Failure to fully comply with any term or condition of probation is a
6 violation of probation. If Respondent violates probation in any respect, the Board,
7 after giving Respondent notice and the opportunity to be heard, may revoke
8 probation and carry out the disciplinary order that was stayed. If an Accusation, or
9 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."

10 32. Respondent's probation in Case No. 800-2021-077069 is subject to revocation
11 because he failed to comply with Probation Condition 17, referenced above, in that he has failed
12 to fulfill his condition(s) of probation, as more particularly alleged in the First through Fourth
13 Causes for Discipline and First through Second Causes to Revoke Probation which are
14 incorporated by reference as if fully set forth herein.

15 **DISCIPLINARY CONSIDERATIONS**

16 33. To determine the degree of discipline, if any, to be imposed on Respondent,
17 Complainant alleges that on or about March 17, 2021, in a prior disciplinary action entitled *State*
18 *of Oklahoma, ex rel., Oklahoma State Board of Medical Licensure and Supervision vs.*
19 *Chigurupati Ramana, M.D., License No. MB 31923*, before the Oklahoma Board, in Case
20 Number 18-12-5684, Respondent was found guilty of (1) failing to maintain office records for
21 eight patients which accurately reflected the evaluation, treatment and medical necessity of
22 treatment of the eight patients in violation of Oklahoma's Title 59 section 509, subdivision (18);
23 and (2) violation of any provisions of the medical practice act or the rules and regulations of the
24 Oklahoma Board or of an action, stipulation, or agreement of the Oklahoma Board in violation of
25 the Oklahoma Administrative Code (OAC) 435:10-7-4, subdivision (39). As a result, the
26 Oklahoma Board ordered that Respondent was permanently prohibited from engaging in any
27 venous stenting and that he was precluded from requesting that the prohibition be lifted. That
28 decision is now final and is incorporated by reference as if fully set forth herein. (See Oklahoma

1 Board's Order Accepting Voluntary Submittal to Jurisdiction attached hereto as Exhibit C and
2 incorporated by reference, as if fully set forth herein.)

3 **PRAYER**

4 WHEREFORE, Complainant requests that a hearing be held on the matters herein alleged,
5 and that following the hearing, the Medical Board of California issue a decision:

- 6 1. Revoking or suspending Physician's & Surgeon's Certificate Number C 170471,
7 issued to Respondent Chigurupati Venkata Ramana, M.D.;
- 8 2. Revoking, suspending or denying approval of Respondent Chigurupati Venkata
9 Ramana, M.D.'s authority to supervise physician assistants and advanced practice nurses;
- 10 3. Ordering Respondent Chigurupati Venkata Ramana, M.D., to pay the Board the costs
11 of the investigation and enforcement of this case, and if placed on probation, the costs of
12 probation monitoring; and
- 13 4. Taking such other and further action as deemed necessary and proper.

14
15 DATED: JAN 08 2026



16 REJI VARGHESE
17 Executive Director
18 Medical Board of California
19 Department of Consumer Affairs
20 State of California
21 *Complainant*

22 SF2025305958
23 39444952
24
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28

EXHIBIT A

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

In the Matter of the Accusation
Against:

Chigurupati Venkata Ramana, M.D.

Physician's and Surgeon's
Certificate No. C 170471

Respondent.

Case No.: 800-2021-077069

DECISION

The attached Decision 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 Wednesday, September 28, 2022.

IT IS SO ORDERED: August 29, 2022.

MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA



Richard E. Thorp, M.D., Chair
Panel B

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

**In the Matter of the Accusation Against:
CHIGURUPATI VENKATA RAMANA, M.D.,
Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. C 170471
Respondent.**

Agency Case No. 800-2021-077069

OAH No. 2022010602

PROPOSED DECISION

Administrative Law Judge Juliet E. Cox, State of California, Office of Administrative Hearings, heard this matter on May 5, 2022, by videoconference.

Supervising Deputy Attorney General Mary Cain-Simon represented complainant William Prasifka, Executive Director of the Medical Board of California.

Respondent Chigurupati Venkata Ramana, M.D., appeared representing himself.

The matter was submitted for decision on May 5, 2022.

FACTUAL FINDINGS

1. Respondent Chigurupati Venkata Ramana, M.D., holds California Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. C 170471. The Medical Board of California (CA Board) issued this certificate to respondent on October 7, 2020. The certificate is active and is scheduled to expire October 31, 2022.

2. Acting in his official capacity as Executive Director of the CA Board, complainant William Prasifka signed an accusation and later a first amended accusation against respondent. Complainant alleges that the Oklahoma State Board of Medical Licensure and Supervision (OK Board) has restricted respondent's authority to practice medicine in Oklahoma, and that the CA Board likewise should revoke or restrict respondent's authority to practice medicine in California. Respondent requested a hearing.

Education and Professional Experience

3. Respondent graduated from medical school in 1989. He completed a two-year internship in 1991, and a four-year residency in diagnostic radiology in 1995. After his residency, he completed a one-year fellowship in vascular and interventional radiology in 1996.

4. Respondent has worked in private practice as a diagnostic radiologist, and also as an interventional and vascular radiologist, since 1996. He has worked, and has held medical licenses, in Ohio, Florida, Georgia, and Oklahoma. At the time of the hearing, his Ohio and Oklahoma licenses remained active and his Florida and Georgia licenses were inactive.

5. Most recently, since May 2016, respondent has worked as an interventional and vascular radiologist in Oklahoma City. His practice emphasizes treatment for vascular disease.

6. Respondent obtained the California license described above in Finding 1 after initiation of the OK Board disciplinary action described below in Finding 7, but before entry of the OK Board order described above in Finding 2 and more fully below in Findings 8 and 9. He has not worked in California. If this matter does not result in revocation of his California license, respondent intends to begin working at an outpatient clinic in Manteca (with plans to expand to Turlock) that also focuses on treating vascular disease.

Oklahoma Disciplinary Action

7. On December 26, 2019, the OK Board initiated the disciplinary action that resulted in its order restricting respondent's Oklahoma medical practice. The action involved allegations of substandard medical care, and unnecessary medical procedures, for several patients.

8. To resolve the OK Board action described in Finding 7, respondent agreed that an evidentiary hearing before the OK Board could result in disciplinary action against him, although he did not admit any specific allegation. Based on respondent's agreement, the OK Board found that he had failed "to maintain an office record for each patient which accurately reflects the evaluation, treatment, and medical necessity of treatment" and that he had committed one or more otherwise unspecified violations of the Oklahoma "medical practice act."

9. Effective March 17, 2021, the OK Board ordered that respondent may not perform venous stenting procedures ever again in Oklahoma. The order applies to

respondent's "current practice" as well as to "any future medical practice or organization of which he is a member or affiliate in any way." It states in addition that respondent "is precluded from requesting that this prohibition be lifted." The OK Board did not impose any retraining or probationary supervision requirement on respondent, or limit his medical practice in any other way.

10. At the time of the hearing, a second disciplinary action was pending against respondent in Oklahoma. This second action involves further allegations of substandard medical care in arterial (rather than venous) stenting procedures. Respondent is defending this action vigorously and the OK Board has not yet made any findings or disciplinary order.

Additional Evidence

11. By the time respondent agreed never again to perform venous stenting in Oklahoma, he had begun pursuing his plan to begin practicing in California. Although venous stenting has not historically been a large component of his practice, he does wish to perform this procedure, as well as arterial stenting and other vascular interventions, in California.

12. Respondent denies ever having delivered substandard medical care, or having provided medically unnecessary care. He is willing, however, to undergo additional training to improve his skills and to demonstrate to the CA Board that he can practice medicine safely in California. Respondent had not taken any such training before the hearing in this matter, because the OK Board's order did not require any. He explained credibly that before investing time and money in further training, he wants to know whether the CA Board will permit him to practice in California and if so what (if any) additional training the CA Board will require.

Costs

13. The Board has incurred \$821.25 in costs for legal services provided to complainant by the California Department of Justice in this matter since January 1, 2022. Complainant's claim for reimbursement of these costs is supported by a declaration that complies with California Code of Regulations, title 1, section 1042, subdivision (b)(2).

14. No evidence contradicted the necessity for these costs, and respondent did not argue that they were unreasonably high. Complainant's prosecution costs are reasonable.

LEGAL CONCLUSIONS

1. The CA Board may discipline respondent only upon clear and convincing proof, to a reasonable certainty, of the facts establishing cause for discipline. (*Ettinger v. Board of Medical Quality Assurance* (1982) 135 Cal.App.3d 853, 856.) Clear and convincing evidence supports the factual findings above.

Cause for Discipline

2. Disciplinary action, including "revocation, suspension, or other discipline, restriction, or limitation imposed by" another state's medical licensing authority is grounds for discipline in California if the basis for the other state's action also would have been grounds for discipline under California law. (Bus. & Prof. Code, § 2305.) The out-of-state disciplinary order itself is "conclusive evidence" of the facts the order states. (*Id.*, § 141, subd. (a).)

3. Unprofessional conduct, including negligent medical care, unnecessary invasive medical procedures, and inadequate medical record keeping, is cause for discipline against a California physician. (Bus. & Prof. Code, §§ 725, 2227, 2234, 2266.) The matters stated in Findings 7 through 9 constitute cause for discipline against respondent in California.

Disciplinary Considerations

4. The matters stated in Findings 3 through 5 show that respondent has received extensive training and has practiced medicine for about 30 years. Nevertheless, the matters stated in Findings 7 through 10 raise serious questions about his skill and judgment. In addition, the matters stated in Findings 6 and 11 suggest that respondent obtained his California physician's and surgeon's certificate in the hope that he simply could walk away from allegations against him in Oklahoma and start fresh in California. He cannot.

5. Because of respondent's stated willingness to undergo further remedial training, the CA Board may protect public safety in California by putting respondent on probation rather than revoking his California license. The CA Board's Manual of Model Disciplinary Orders and Disciplinary Guidelines (12th ed. 2016) (Guidelines, Cal. Code Regs., tit. 16, § 1361) recommend a minimum probation term of five years for a physician who uses excessive treatments or who commits gross negligence in the practice of medicine. (Guidelines, at pp. 22, 24.) In this matter, a seven-year probation period is appropriate.

6. In addition, before he begins practicing in California, respondent should undergo an assessment of his clinical competence, with the corresponding obligation to undertake any remedial education the assessment shows to be necessary and to

have an ongoing monitor for his medical and billing practices. He should undertake ongoing additional continuing medical education, and should take courses in medical record keeping and professional ethics. Finally, respondent should be prohibited from any solo practice during his California probation, and from performing any stenting procedures except under another physician's direct supervision or as part of a formal training program the Board has approved.

Costs

7. A physician found to have committed a violation of the laws governing medical practice in California may be required to pay the CA Board the reasonable costs of the investigation and enforcement of the case, but only as incurred on and after January 1, 2022. (Bus. & Prof. Code, § 125.3.) The matters stated in Findings 13 and 14 establish that these costs for this matter total \$821.25.

8. In *Zuckerman v. State Bd. of Chiropractic Examiners* (2002) 29 Cal.4th 32, the California Supreme Court set forth the standards by which a licensing board or bureau must exercise its discretion to reduce or eliminate cost awards to ensure that the board or bureau does not deter licensees with potentially meritorious claims from exercising their administrative hearing rights. The court held that a licensing board requesting reimbursement for costs relating to a hearing must consider the licensee's "subjective good faith belief" in the merits of his position and whether the licensee has raised a "colorable challenge" to the proposed discipline. (*Id.*, at p. 45.) The board also must consider whether the licensee will be "financially able to make later payments." (*Ibid.*) Lastly, the board may not assess full costs of investigation and enforcement when it has conducted a "disproportionately large investigation." (*Ibid.*) All these matters have been considered. They do not justify any reduction in respondent's obligation to reimburse the CA Board for its reasonable costs in this matter.

ORDER

Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. C 170471, issued to respondent Chigurupati Venkata Ramana, M.D., is revoked. The revocation is stayed, however, and respondent is placed on probation for seven years upon the following terms and conditions.

1. Clinical Competence Assessment

Within 60 calendar days after the effective date of this decision, respondent shall enroll in a clinical competence assessment program approved in advance by the CA Board or its designee. Respondent shall successfully complete the program not later than six months after respondent's initial enrollment, unless the CA Board or its designee agrees in writing to an extension of that time.

The program shall consist of a comprehensive assessment of respondent's physical and mental health and the six general domains of clinical competence as defined by the Accreditation Council on Graduate Medical Education and American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS) pertaining to respondent's current or intended area of practice. The program shall take into account data obtained from the pre-assessment, self-report forms and interview, and the decision(s), accusation(s), and any other information that the CA Board or its designee deems relevant (including information regarding respondent's pending and concluded professional disciplinary actions in Oklahoma). The program shall require respondent's on-site participation for a minimum of 3 and no more than 5 days as determined by the program for the assessment and clinical education evaluation. Respondent shall pay all expenses associated with the clinical competence assessment program.

At the end of the evaluation, the program will submit a report to the CA Board or its designee that states unequivocally whether respondent has demonstrated the ability to practice safely and independently. Based on respondent's performance on the clinical competence assessment, the program will advise the CA Board or its designee of its recommendation(s) for the scope and length of any additional educational or clinical training, evaluation or treatment for any medical condition or psychological condition, or anything else affecting respondent's practice of medicine. Respondent shall comply with the program's recommendations.

Determination as to whether respondent successfully completed the clinical competence assessment program is solely within the program's jurisdiction.

Respondent shall not practice medicine in California until respondent has successfully completed the program and has been so notified by the CA Board or its designee in writing.

2. Professional Enhancement Program

Within 60 days after respondent has successfully completed the clinical competence assessment program (Condition 1), respondent shall begin participating in a professional enhancement program approved in advance by the CA Board or its designee. The professional enhancement program shall include quarterly chart review, semi-annual practice assessment, and semi-annual review of professional growth and education, and shall involve monitoring that is substantially similar overall to practice and billing monitoring as described below in Condition 3. Respondent shall participate in the professional enhancement program at respondent's expense during the term of probation, or until the CA Board or its designee determines that further participation is no longer necessary.

3. Practice and Billing Monitor

If no professional enhancement program is available to satisfy Condition 2, respondent shall arrange for practice and billing monitors in accordance with this Condition 3.

Within 30 calendar days after respondent has successfully completed the clinical competence assessment program (Condition 1), respondent shall submit to the CA Board or its designee, for prior approval as practice and billing monitor(s), the name and qualifications of one or more licensed physicians and surgeons whose licenses are valid and in good standing, and who are preferably ABMS-certified. A monitor shall have no prior or current business or personal relationship with respondent, or other relationship that could reasonably be expected to compromise the ability of the monitor to render fair and unbiased reports to the CA Board, including but not limited to any form of bartering; shall be in respondent's field of practice; and must agree to serve as respondent's monitor. Respondent shall pay all monitoring costs.

The CA Board or its designee shall provide the approved monitor with copies of the decision(s) and accusation(s), and a proposed monitoring plan. Within 15 calendar days of receipt of the decision(s), accusation(s), and proposed monitoring plan, the monitor shall submit a signed statement that the monitor has read the decision(s) and accusation(s), fully understands the role of a monitor, and agrees or disagrees with the proposed monitoring plan. If the monitor disagrees with the proposed monitoring plan, the monitor shall submit a revised monitoring plan with the signed statement for approval by the CA Board or its designee.

Within 60 calendar days after respondent has successfully completed the clinical competence assessment program (Condition 1), and continuing throughout probation,

respondent's practice and billing shall be monitored by the approved monitor. Respondent shall make all records available for immediate inspection and copying on the premises by the monitor at all times during business hours and shall retain the records for the entire term of probation.

If respondent fails to obtain approval of a monitor within 60 calendar days of the effective date of this decision, respondent shall receive a notification from the CA Board or its designee to cease the practice of medicine within three calendar days after being so notified. Respondent shall cease the practice of medicine until a monitor is approved to provide monitoring responsibility.

The monitor(s) shall submit a quarterly written report to the CA Board or its designee which includes an evaluation of respondent's performance, indicating whether respondent's practices are within the standards of practice of medicine and billing, and whether respondent is practicing medicine safely and billing appropriately. It shall be the sole responsibility of respondent to ensure that the monitor submits the quarterly written reports to the CA Board or its designee within 10 calendar days after the end of the preceding quarter.

If the monitor resigns or is no longer available, respondent shall, within five calendar days of such resignation or unavailability, submit to the CA Board or its designee, for prior approval, the name and qualifications of a replacement monitor who will be assuming that responsibility within 15 calendar days. If respondent fails to obtain approval of a replacement monitor within 60 calendar days of the resignation or unavailability of the monitor, respondent shall receive a notification from the CA Board or its designee to cease the practice of medicine within three calendar days after being so notified respondent shall cease the practice of medicine until a replacement monitor is approved and assumes monitoring responsibility.

4. Education

Within 60 calendar days of the effective date of this decision, and on an annual basis thereafter, respondent shall submit to the CA 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 CA 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.

5. 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 CA 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 months after respondent's initial enrollment. Respondent shall successfully complete any other component of the course within one year of enrollment. The medical record keeping course shall be at respondent's expense and shall be in addition to the 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 CA Board or its designee, be accepted towards the fulfillment of this condition if the course would have been approved by the CA 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 CA 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.

6. 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 California Code of Regulations, title 16, 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 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 year after attending the classroom component. The professionalism program shall be at respondent's expense and shall be in addition to the 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 CA Board or its designee, be accepted towards the fulfillment of this condition if the program would have been approved by the CA 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 CA 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.

7. Solo Practice Prohibition

Respondent is prohibited from engaging in the solo practice of medicine. Prohibited solo practice includes, but is not limited to, a practice where: 1) respondent merely shares office space with another physician but is not affiliated for purposes of providing patient care, or 2) respondent is the sole physician practitioner at that location.

If respondent fails to establish a practice with another physician or secure employment in an appropriate practice setting within 60 calendar days of the effective date of this decision, respondent shall receive a notification from the CA Board or its designee to cease the practice of medicine within three calendar days after being so notified. Respondent shall not resume practice until an appropriate practice setting is established.

If, during the course of the probation, respondent's practice setting changes and respondent is no longer practicing in a setting in compliance with this decision, respondent shall notify the CA Board or its designee within five calendar days of the practice setting change. If respondent fails to establish a practice with another physician or secure employment in an appropriate practice setting within 60 calendar days of the practice setting change, respondent shall receive a notification from the CA Board or its designee to cease the practice of medicine within three calendar days

after being so notified. Respondent shall not resume practice until an appropriate practice setting is established.

8. Practice Restriction

During probation, respondent is prohibited from performing arterial or venous stenting, except under direct supervision by another physician or within the course of a formal training program approved in advance by the CA Board or its designee. After the effective date of this decision, all patients being treated by respondent for any vascular disorder shall be notified that respondent is prohibited from performing arterial or venous stenting, except under direct supervision by another physician or within the course of a formal training program approved in advance by the CA Board or its designee. Respondent must provide this notification to any patient in whom he diagnoses, or for whom he proposes to treat, any vascular disorder, at the time of the initial diagnosis or consultation.

Respondent shall maintain a log of all patients to whom the required oral notification was made. The log shall contain the: 1) patient's name, address, and phone number; 2) patient's medical record number, if available; 3) the full name of the person making the notification; 4) the date the notification was made; and 5) a description of the notification given. Respondent shall keep this log in a separate file or ledger, in chronological order, shall make the log available for immediate inspection and copying on the premises at all times during business hours by the CA Board or its designee, and shall retain the log for the entire term of probation.

9. Notification

Within seven days of the effective date of this decision, respondent shall provide a true copy of the decision and the accusation in this matter 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 CA Board or its designee within 15 calendar days.

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

10. Supervision of Physician Assistants and Advanced Practice Nurses

During probation, respondent is prohibited from supervising physician assistants and advanced practice nurses.

11. Obey All Laws

Respondent shall obey all federal, state, and local laws, and all rules governing the practice of medicine in California. Respondent shall remain in full compliance with any court ordered criminal probation, payments, and other orders.

12. Quarterly Declarations

Respondent shall submit quarterly declarations under penalty of perjury on forms provided by the CA 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.

13. General Probation Requirements

Compliance with Probation Unit: Respondent shall comply with the CA Board's probation unit and all terms and conditions of this decision.

Address Changes: Respondent shall, at all times, keep the CA 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 CA 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 CA 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 CA Board or its designee in writing 30 calendar days prior to the dates of departure and return.

14. Interview with the CA Board or its Designee

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.

15. Non-Practice While on Probation

Respondent shall notify the CA 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 in California 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 CA Board. All time spent in an intensive training program which has been approved by the CA Board or its designee shall not be considered non-practice. 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 CA 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 a clinical training program that meets the criteria of Condition 18 of the current version of the CA 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 years.

Periods of non-practice will not apply to the reduction of the probationary term.

Periods of non-practice 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, Quarterly Declarations, and General Probation Requirements.

16. Completion of Probation

Respondent shall comply with all financial obligations (e.g., restitution, probation costs) not later than 120 calendar days prior to the completion of probation. Upon successful completion of probation, respondent's certificate shall be fully restored.

17. Violation of Probation

Failure to fully comply with any term or condition of probation is a violation of probation. If respondent violates probation in any respect, the CA Board, after giving respondent notice and the opportunity to be heard, may revoke probation and 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 CA Board shall have continuing jurisdiction until the matter is final, and the period of probation shall be extended until the matter is final.

18. License Surrender

Following the effective date of this decision, if 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 license. The CA 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 CA 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.

19. Cost Recovery

Respondent is hereby ordered to reimburse the Medical Board of California the amount of \$821.25 for its enforcement costs. Respondent shall complete this reimbursement within 90 days from the effective date of this decision.

20. Probation Monitoring Costs

Respondent shall pay the costs associated with probation monitoring each and every year of probation, as designated by the CA Board, which may be adjusted on an annual basis. Such costs shall be payable to the Medical Board of California and delivered to the CA Board or its designee no later than January 31 of each calendar year.

DATE: 05/23/2022

Juliet E. Cox

JULIET E. COX

Administrative Law Judge

Office of Administrative Hearings

EXHIBIT B

IN AND BEFORE THE OKLAHOMA STATE BOARD
OF MEDICAL LICENSURE AND SUPERVISION
STATE OF OKLAHOMA

STATE OF OKLAHOMA, *ex rel.*,)
THE OKLAHOMA STATE BOARD)
OF MEDICAL LICENSURE AND)
SUPERVISION,)
)
Plaintiff,)
)
vs.)
)
CHIGURUPATI VENKATA RAMANA., M.D.,)
LICENSE NO. MD 31923,)
)
Defendant.)

FILED
JUL 13 2023
OKLAHOMA STATE BOARD OF
MEDICAL LICENSURE & SUPERVISION

Case No. 20-12-5948

ORDER OF REVOCATION WITHOUT THE RIGHT TO REAPPLY

AND

ORDER DENYING DEFENDANT'S SPECIAL APPEARENCE AND OBJECTION TO JURISDICTION

This matter comes on for hearing before the Oklahoma State Board of Medical Licensure and Supervision ("Board") on May 11, 2023, at the office of the Board, 101 N.E. 51st Street, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73105, pursuant to notice given as required by law and the rules of the Board.

Joe L. Ashbaker, Assistant Attorney General ("AAG Ashbaker"), appears for Plaintiff. Defendant Chigurupati Venkata Ramana appeared not. Additionally, no representative or attorney for Defendant appeared.

AAG Ashbaker made an offer of proof as to the evidence. Dr. Robert Hass was duly sworn and testified. The Board, having considered representations of counsel, briefs of the parties, as well as the exhibits that were admitted into evidence, and being fully apprised of the premises therein, finds the following has been established by default and/or by clear and convincing evidence.

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. This complaint was filed by an attorney representing patient named E. C., who underwent numerous procedures performed by Defendant from May 2018 through October 2019. The patient's attorney alleged that Defendant damaged vessels in patient E.C.'s legs to the extent that the right leg was amputated in October 2019.

2. Patient E.C.'s medical records were subpoenaed on December 28, 2020. The subpoena was sent directly to Defendant.
3. On February 24, 2021, an electronic copy of E.C.'s records were received from Defendant's counsel and a printed copy was received from Cioxx, the company that manages the electronic records for St. Anthony's Hospital, on March 4, 2021. On May 24, 2021, Defendant supplied a CD with the imaging related to the procedures Defendant performed on E.C.
4. On June 7, 2021, the sister of a patient of Defendant, called to ask questions about limitations on Defendant's license. The caller explained that her brother, patient E.L., had recently been referred to Defendant, who subsequently performed multiple stenting procedures over a period of several days. This occurred after Defendant entered a VSJ prohibiting him placing venous stents. The caller was not sure if the stents placed by Dr. Ramana were venous or arterial, but on June 6, 2021, patient E.L. was taken to the hospital for a suspected blood clot in his leg, and it was unclear if the leg would ultimately need to be amputated.
5. It was decided that the records for E.L and patients with current court cases pending against Defendant be obtained and reviewed. In addition to E.C. and E.L., four (4) more patient records were checked. Two of those did not concern arterial stenting as E.C. and E.L. appeared to. However, the records for patients S.L. and T.P. did have allegations involving problems with arterial stenting. In spite of the subpoenas for these records calling for every page of medical records as well as any diagnostic radiological images belonging to these patients, very few images were provided. Whether that is because Defendant did not have sufficient radiological images created, did not record them in the records, did not cooperate with Board staff, did not maintain the records, or some combination thereof is unclear.
6. The records show that Defendant demonstrates inadequate documentation throughout the records reviewed. Defendant demonstrated poor judgment and technical ability. Stents were overutilized and utilized in instances when it was inappropriate or premature. There were continued and repeated instances of stent thrombosis and very little if any discussion on the record regarding how or why it happened and what to do about it. Defendant continually treated patients in an outpatient lab rather than admitting them to the hospital. When the treatment failed, he didn't seek counsel from others and didn't seem to consider surgical options or alternative treatments. There were instances where the record lacked historical or physical exam findings that supported the care plan.
7. The records for patients E.C., E.L., S.L. and T.P. were sent for expert review. The expert found that Defendant's patient care fell well below the standard of care on numerous occasions. He went on to say, "this provider displays consistent inadequacy in documentation, judgement, technical ability and choosing when, where and how to intervene as well as a stunning lack of ability to manage his patients carefully, thoughtfully or effectively."

8. Any conclusion of law below which is more properly characterized as a finding of fact law is hereby incorporated as a finding of fact.

The Board, having considered representations of counsel, briefs of the parties, as well as the exhibits that were admitted into evidence, and being fully apprised of the premises therein, finds the following has been established by default and by clear and convincing evidence.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

9. The Board has jurisdiction over the subject matter and is a duly authorized agency of the State of Oklahoma empowered to license and oversee the activities of physicians and surgeons in the State of Oklahoma. 59 O.S. § 480 et seq. and Okla. Admin. Code §§ 435:5-1-1 et seq.
10. Notice was provided as required by law and the rules of the Board. 75 O.S. § 309; 59 O.S. § 504; Okla. Admin. Code §§ 435:3-3-5, 435:3-3-6.
11. The Board is authorized to suspend, revoke, or order any other appropriate conditions against the license of any physician or surgeon holding a license to practice medicine in the State of Oklahoma for unprofessional conduct. 59 O.S. §§ 503, 513(A)(1). The Board's action is authorized by 59 O.S. § 509.1.
12. Based on the foregoing, the Defendant is guilty of unprofessional conduct as follows:
- a. Dishonorable or immoral conduct which is likely to deceive, defraud, or harm the public in violation of Title 59 § 509(8):
 - b. The inability to practice medicine with reasonable skill and safety to patients by reason of age, illness, drunkenness, excessive use of drugs, narcotics, chemicals, or any other type of material or as a result of any mental or physical condition in violation of Title 59 § 509(15):
 - c. Failure to maintain an office record for each patient which accurately reflects the evaluation, treatment, and medical necessity of treatment of the patient in violation of Title 59 § 509(18):
 - d. Failure to provide a proper and safe medical facility setting and qualified assistive personnel for a recognized medical act, including but not limited to an initial in-person patient examination, office surgery, diagnostic service or any other medical procedure or treatment. Adequate medical records to support diagnosis, procedure, treatment, or prescribed medications must be produced and maintained in violation of Title 59 § 509(20):
 - e. Conduct likely to deceive, defraud, or harm the public in violation of OAC 435:10-7-4(11):
 - f. Gross or repeated negligence in the practice of medicine and surgery in violation of OAC 435:10-7-4(15):

- g. Being physically or mentally unable to practice medicine and surgery with reasonable skill and safety in violation of OAC 435:10-7-4(17):
- h. Practice or other behavior that demonstrates an incapacity or incompetence to practice medicine and surgery in violation of OAC 435:10-7-4(18):
- i. OAC 475:10-7-4(40): The inability to practice medicine and surgery with reasonable skill and safety to patients by reason of age, illness, drunkenness, excessive use of drugs, narcotics, chemicals, or any other type of material or as a result of any mental or physical condition in violation of OAC 435:10-7-4(40):
- j. Failure to provide a proper setting and assistive personnel for medical act, including but not limited to examination, surgery, or other treatment. Adequate medical records to support treatment or prescribed medications must be produced and maintained in violation of OAC 435:10-7-4(41).

13. Any finding of fact above which is more properly characterized as a conclusion of law is hereby incorporated as a conclusion of law.

ORDER

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the Oklahoma State Board of Medical Licensure and Supervision that Defendant's Special Appearance and Objection to Jurisdiction is **DENIED**.

IT IS FURTHER THEREFORE ORDERED by the Oklahoma State Board of Medical Licensure and Supervision that Oklahoma medical license no. 31923 is hereby **REVOKED**, without the right to reapply.

1. Promptly upon receipt of an invoice, Defendant shall pay all costs of this action authorized by law, including without limitation, legal fees, investigation costs, staff time, salary and travel expenses, witness fees and attorney's fees. The Board reaffirms that Defendant shall pay all costs and fees as previously ordered by the Board at any time.
2. A copy of this Order shall be provided to Defendant, as well as the California Medical Board as soon as it is processed.

This Order is subject to review and approval by the Oklahoma Attorney General, and this Order shall become final upon completion of the review by the Oklahoma Attorney General unless disapproved, in which case this Order shall be null and void.

Dated this 13th day of July, 2023.


Steven B. Katsis, MD (Jul 13, 2023 10:34 CDT)

Steven Katsis, President
OKLAHOMA STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL
LICENSURE AND SUPERVISION

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

This is to certify that on the 13th day of July, 2023, a true and correct copy of this Order was transmitted as indicated, postage prepaid, the following:

U.S. Certified mail

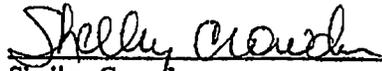
Chigurupati Venkata Ramana
7032 Willow Pine Way
Port Saint Lucie, FL 34986
DEFENDANT

E-mail

Joe L. Ashbaker, OBA No. 33584
Assistant Attorney General
101 N.E. 51st Street
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73105
Joe.Ashbaker@oag.ok.gov
ATTORNEY FOR OKLAHOMA STATE BOARD OF
MEDICAL LICENSURE AND SUPERVISION

U.S. Certified mail and E-mail

Daniel J. Gamino
3035 NW 63rd Street, Suite 214
Oklahoma City, OK 73116
ATTORNEY FOR DEFENDANT



Shelley Crowder

FILED

JUL 13 2023

OKLAHOMA STATE BOARD OF
MEDICAL LICENSURE & SUPERVISION



OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
STATE OF OKLAHOMA

ATTORNEY GENERAL OPINION
2023-26A

Billy H. Stout, M.D., Board Secretary
State Board of Medical Licensure and Supervision
101 N.E. 51st Street
Oklahoma City, OK 73105-1821

July 12, 2023

Re: Ramana ("Defendant"); Case No. 20-12-5948

Dear Dr. Stout:

This office has received your request for a written Attorney General Opinion regarding action that the State Board of Medical Licensure and Supervision intends to take in case 23-02-6202.

The Oklahoma Allopathic Medical and Surgical Licensure and Supervision Act authorizes the Board to suspend, revoke or order other appropriate sanctions against the license of a physician for unprofessional conduct.¹ 59 O.S.2021, § 503.

According to a Board complaint, filed in October 2021, Defendant committed multiple breaches of professional conduct, including dishonorable or immoral conduct likely to deceive, defraud, or harm the public; inadequate documentation, judgment, ability, and decision making; and negligent patient care. Finding clear and convincing evidence of the above-mentioned unprofessional conduct, the Board proposes to revoke Respondent's license without the right to reapply and require Respondent to pay costs related to the disciplinary action. *See* 59 O.S.2021 §§ 509(8), (15), (18), (21), 509.1(A); OAC 435:10-7-4(11), (15), (18), (40-41). The Board may reasonably believe that the proposed action is necessary to deter future violations and to protect the public.

It is, therefore, the official opinion of the Attorney General that the State Board of Medical Licensure and Supervision has adequate support for the conclusion that this board action advances the State's policy of protecting the health, safety, and well-being of the citizens of Oklahoma.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rob Johnson".

ROB JOHNSON
GENERAL COUNSEL

¹Oklahoma statutes and the Board rules define "unprofessional conduct" to include 1) [c]onduct "likely to deceive, defraud, or harm the public[;]" 2) "inability to practice medicine with reasonable skill and safety[;]" 3) [f]ailure to maintain records which "accurately reflect[] the evaluation, treatment, and medical necessity of treatment[;]" 4) "[f]ailure to provide a proper and safe medical facility setting[;]" and 5) "[g]ross or repeated negligence" or "behavior that demonstrates" inability, incapacity or incompetence to practice medicine or surgery "with reasonable skill and safety." 59 O.S.2021 § 509(8), (15), (18), (21); OAC 435:10-7-4(11), (15), (18), (40-41).

EXHIBIT C

IN AND BEFORE THE OKLAHOMA STATE BOARD
OF MEDICAL LICENSURE AND SUPERVISION
STATE OF OKLAHOMA

STATE OF OKLAHOMA, *ex rel.*)
OKLAHOMA STATE BOARD)
OF MEDICAL LICENSURE)
AND SUPERVISION,)
)
Plaintiff,)
)
vs.)
)
CHIGURUPATI RAMANA, M.D.,)
LICENSE NO. MD 31923,)
)
Defendant.)

FILED

MAR 17 2021

OKLAHOMA STATE BOARD OF
MEDICAL LICENSURE & SUPERVISION

Case No. 18-12-5685

**ORDER ACCEPTING
VOLUNTARY SUBMITTAL TO JURISDICTION**

The State of Oklahoma, *ex rel.* the Oklahoma State Board of Medical Licensure and Supervision ("Board"), by and through its attorney, Joseph L. Ashbaker, Assistant Attorney General, for the State of Oklahoma ("State") and the staff of the Board, as represented by the Secretary of the Board, Billy H. Stout, M.D., and the Executive Director of the Board, Lyle Kelsey, along with Chigurupati Ramana, M.D. ("Defendant"), Oklahoma medical license no. 31923, (collectively, the "Parties") who appears in person and through counsel Elizabeth A. "Libby" Scott and Timothy J. Gallegly of Crowe & Dunlevy, P.C., offer this Order Accepting Voluntary Submittal to Jurisdiction (herein, "Order" or "Agreement") effective ~~November 17, 2020~~ ^{MAR 17 2021} for acceptance by the Board *en banc* pursuant to Okla. Admin. Code § 435:5-1-5.1. *Ja*

By voluntarily submitting to jurisdiction and entering into this Order, Defendant acknowledges that a hearing before the Board could result in some sanction under the Oklahoma Allopathic Medical and Surgical Licensure and Supervision Act ("Act"), 59 O.S. 2011, § 480, *et seq.* Defendant otherwise has not admitted or denied the allegations herein.

Defendant, Chigurupati Ramana, M.D., states that he is of sound mind and is not under the influence of, or impaired by, any medication or drug and that he fully recognizes his right to appear before the Board for an evidentiary hearing on the allegations made against him. Defendant hereby voluntarily waives his right to a full hearing, submits to the jurisdiction of the Board and agrees to abide by the terms and conditions of this Order. Defendant acknowledges that he has read and understands the terms and conditions stated herein, and that this Agreement has been reviewed and discussed with him. Defendant also agrees not to pursue any motion to recuse the current Medical Board, and agrees to submit to their jurisdiction and present this action to the members currently appointed.

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If the Board does not accept this Order, the Parties stipulate that it shall be regarded as null and void. Admissions by Defendant herein, if any, shall not be regarded as evidence against him in a subsequent disciplinary hearing. Defendant will be free to defend himself, and no inferences will be made from his willingness to have this Order accepted by the Board. The Parties stipulate that neither the presentation of this Order nor the Board's consideration of this Order shall be deemed to have unfairly or illegally prejudiced the Board or its individual members and, therefore, shall not be grounds for precluding the Board nor any individual Board member from further participation in proceedings related to the matters set forth herein.

FINDINGS OF FACT

The State, the Defendant and the Board staff stipulate and agree as follows:

1. Defendant holds Oklahoma medical license number 31923, which was issued on February 5, 2016.
2. The acts and omissions complained of herein were made while Defendant was acting as a physician pursuant to the medical license conferred upon him by the State of Oklahoma. Such acts and omissions occurred within the physical territory of the State of Oklahoma.

CURRENT ALLEGATIONS IN COMPLAINT

1. Eight (8) patient records were subpoenaed and received. Each of those was sent for expert review. The expert rendered a summation of his medical record review as well as an opinion regarding each patient.
2. He stated that while venous stents should be applied only if necessary with visible stenosis, venous collaterals or cases of thrombus, this was not readily apparent in 3 of the cases he reviewed. He stated that Defendant has stented when unnecessary in one or more cases, and the fact that the stents are embolizing in the short term is evidence that the veins were normal in one or more cases. Further, he found that stents should be oversized and post angioplastied which did not occur appropriately in one or more cases.
3. The expert found that other cases demonstrated a pattern of unnecessary medical procedures. He found that Defendant has intervened on one or more patients when the ankle-brachial index (ABI) was normal. The expert determined the records reviewed demonstrated Defendant's venous stenting fell below the standard of care in one or more cases.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The Board has jurisdiction over the subject matter and is a duly authorized agency of the State of Oklahoma empowered to license and oversee the activities of physicians and surgeons in the State of Oklahoma. 59 O.S. 2011, § 480 *et seq.*

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2. Based on the foregoing and Defendant's voluntary submission to jurisdiction, the Defendant is guilty of the following:
3. Failure to maintain an office record for each patient which accurately reflects the evaluation, treatment and medical necessity of treatment of the patient in violation of Title 59 § 509(18).
4. Violation of any provision(s) of the medical practice act or the rules and regulations of the Board or of an action, stipulation, or agreement of the Board in violation of OAC 435:10-7-4(39).

ORDERS

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the Oklahoma State Board of Medical Licensure and Supervision as follows:

1. The Board *en banc* hereby adopts the Agreement of the Parties in this Voluntary Submittal to Jurisdiction, including the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law stated herein.
2. Defendant, **CHIGURUPATI RAMANA, M.D.** is not to engage in venous stenting permanently. This prohibition includes practice of venous stenting by him, whether in his current practice or in any future medical practice or organization of which he is a member or an affiliate in any way. Defendant is precluded from requesting this prohibition be lifted.
3. Promptly upon receipt of an invoice, Defendant shall pay all costs of this action authorized by law, including without limitation, legal fees, investigation costs, staff time, salary and travel expenses, witness fees and attorney's fees.
4. A copy of this Order shall be provided to Defendant as soon as it is processed.
5. **This Order is subject to review and approval by the Oklahoma Attorney General, and this Order shall become final upon completion of the review by the Oklahoma Attorney General unless disapproved, in which case this Order shall be null and void.**

Dated this 11th day of MARCH, 2020.



James (Jim) Brinkworth, M.D., President
OKLAHOMA STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL
LICENSURE AND SUPERVISION

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3-11-2021

Chigurupati Ramana, M.D.

Chigurupati Ramana
Chigurupati Ramana, M.D.
License No. 31923
Defendant

Billy H. Stout

Billy H. Stout, M.D., Board Secretary
OKLAHOMA STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL
LICENSURE AND SUPERVISION

Elizabeth A. "Libby" Scott
Elizabeth A. "Libby" Scott, OBA No. 12470
Timothy J. Gallegly, OBA No. 31554
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Braniff Building
324 North Robinson, Suite 100
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73102
T: (405) 235-7700
F: (405) 239-6651
Attorney for Defendant,
Chigurupati Ramana, M.D.

Joseph L. Ashbaker
Joseph L. Ashbaker, OBA No. 19395
Assistant Attorney General
OKLAHOMA STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL
LICENSURE AND SUPERVISION
313 NE 21st Street
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73105
T: (405) 962-1400
F: (405) 522-4536

Certificate of Service

2021

This is to certify that on the 17th day of March, 2020, a true and correct copy of the foregoing Order was transmitted as indicated, postage prepaid, to the following:

U.S. Certified Mail

Chigurupati Ramana
Pinnacle Interventional and Vascular Care
1 NW 64th Street
Oklahoma City, OK 73116-9107
Defendant

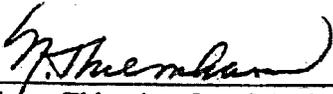
U.S. First Class Mail

Elizabeth Scott, OBA No. 12470
Timothy J. Gallegly, OBA No. 31554
CROWE & DUNLEVY, P.C.

BOARD *mw*

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Braniff Building
324 North Robinson, Suite 100
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73102
Attorneys for Defendant,
Chigurupati Ramana, M.D.



Nancy Thiemann, Legal Assistant

I do hereby certify that the above and
foregoing is a true copy of the original

Order Accepting Voluntary Submittal to
Jurisdiction (VST), filed March 17, 2021
now on file in my office.

Witness my hand and Official Seal of
the Oklahoma State Board of Medical
Licensure and Supervision this _____

RT 5/3/2021

BOARD RT

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MIKE HUNTER
ATTORNEY GENERAL

Billy H. Stout, M.D. Board Secretary
Oklahoma State Board of Medical
Licensure and Supervision
10 N.E. 51st St.
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73105-1821

March 17, 2021

Dear Secretary Stout:

This office has received your request for a written Attorney General Opinion regarding action that the Oklahoma State Board of Medical Licensure and Supervision intends to take pursuant to an agreed order in case 18-12-5685. Under Executive Order 2019-17, Qualifying Boards need not submit for review by this office Board "actions to which the respondent consents or agrees[.]" Because the respondent in this case consented to the Board's action, no review by our office is necessary. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

ETHAN SHANER
DEPUTY GENERAL COUNSEL

I do hereby certify that the above and foregoing is a true copy of the original Attorney General Letter, re VST,
dated March 17, 2021.
now on file in my office.

Witness my hand and Official Seal of the Oklahoma State Board of Medical Licensure and Supervision this _____
MT 5/3/2021