

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

**In the Matter of the First Amended  
Accusation Against:**

**Sekhar Suryadevara Rao, M.D.**

**Physician's and Surgeon's  
Certificate No. A 93250**

**Respondent.**

**Case No. 800-2019-062775**

**DECISION**

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

**This Decision shall become effective at 5:00 p.m. on January 17, 2023.**

**IT IS SO ORDERED January 10, 2023.**

**MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA**



**Reji Varghese  
Deputy Director**

1 ROB BONTA  
Attorney General of California  
2 STEVE DIEHL  
Supervising Deputy Attorney General  
3 MICHAEL C. BRUMMEL  
Deputy Attorney General  
4 State Bar No. 236116  
California Department of Justice  
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*Attorneys for Complainant*

8  
9 **BEFORE THE**  
10 **MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA**  
11 **DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS**  
12 **STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

13 In the Matter of the First Amended Accusation  
Against:

14 **SEKHAR SURYADEVARA RAO, M.D.**  
15 **9424 Bing Cherry Ln**  
**Austin, TX 78780-3446**

16 **Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate**  
17 **No. A 93250**

18 Respondent.

Case No. 800-2019-062775

OAH No. 2020070188

**STIPULATED SURRENDER OF  
LICENSE AND ORDER**

19  
20 IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED AND AGREED by and between the parties to the above-  
21 entitled proceedings that the following matters are true:

22 **PARTIES**

23 1. William Prasifka (Complainant) is the Executive Director of the Medical Board of  
24 California (Board). He brought this action solely in his official capacity and is represented in this  
25 matter by Rob Bonta, Attorney General of the State of California, by Michael C. Brummel,  
26 Deputy Attorney General.

27 2. SEKHAR SURYADEVARA RAO, M.D. (Respondent) is representing himself in this  
28 proceeding and has chosen not to exercise his right to be represented by counsel.

1           3.     On or about November 4, 2005, the Board issued Physician's and Surgeon's  
2     Certificate No. A 93250 to SEKHAR SURYADEVARA RAO, M.D. (Respondent). The  
3     Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate expired on February 28, 2021, and has not been renewed.

4                                   **JURISDICTION**

5           4.     First Amended Accusation No. 800-2019-062775 was filed before the Board, and is  
6     currently pending against Respondent. The First Amended Accusation and all other statutorily  
7     required documents were properly served on Respondent on September 26, 2022. Respondent  
8     timely filed his Notice of Defense contesting the First Amended Accusation. A copy of First  
9     Amended Accusation No. 800-2019-062775 is attached as Exhibit A and incorporated by  
10    reference.

11                                   **ADVISEMENT AND WAIVERS**

12          5.     Respondent has carefully read, and understands the charges and allegations in First  
13     Amended Accusation No. 800-2019-062775. Respondent also has carefully read, and  
14     understands the effects of this Stipulated Surrender of License and Order.

15          6.     Respondent is fully aware of his legal rights in this matter, including the right to a  
16     hearing on the charges and allegations in the First Amended Accusation; the right to be  
17     represented by counsel, at his own expense; the right to confront and cross-examine the witnesses  
18     against him; the right to present evidence and to testify on his own behalf; the right to the  
19     issuance of subpoenas to compel the attendance of witnesses and the production of documents;  
20     the right to reconsideration and court review of an adverse decision; and all other rights accorded  
21     by the California Administrative Procedure Act and other applicable laws.

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

24                                   **CULPABILITY**

25          8.     Respondent understands that the charges and allegations in First Amended  
26     Accusation No. 800-2019-062775, if proven at a hearing, constitute cause for imposing discipline  
27     upon his Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate.

28     ///

9. For the purpose of resolving the Accusation without the expense and uncertainty of further proceedings, Respondent agrees that, at a hearing, Complainant could establish a factual basis for the charges in the Accusation and that those charges constitute cause for discipline. Respondent hereby gives up his right to contest that cause for discipline exists based on those charges.

10. Respondent understands that by signing this stipulation he enables the Board to issue an order accepting the surrender of his Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate without further process.

## RESERVATION

11. The admissions made by Respondent herein are only for the purposes of this proceeding, or any other proceedings in which the Medical Board of California or other professional licensing agency is involved, and shall not be admissible in any other criminal or civil proceeding.

## CONTINGENCY

12. Business and Professions Code section 2224, subdivision (b), provides, in pertinent part, that the Medical Board “shall delegate to its executive director the authority to adopt a ... stipulation for surrender of a license.”

13. Respondent understands that, by signing this stipulation, he enables the Executive Director of the Board to issue an order, on behalf of the Board, accepting the surrender of his Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. A 93250 without further notice to, or opportunity to be heard by, Respondent.

14. This Stipulated Surrender of License and Disciplinary Order shall be subject to the approval of the Executive Director on behalf of the Board. The parties agree that this Stipulated Surrender of License and Disciplinary Order shall be submitted to the Executive Director for his consideration in the above-entitled matter and, further, that the Executive Director shall have a reasonable period of time in which to consider and act on this Stipulated Surrender of License and Disciplinary Order after receiving it. By signing this stipulation, Respondent fully understands

1 and agrees that he may not withdraw his agreement or seek to rescind this stipulation prior to the  
2 time the Executive Director, on behalf of the Medical Board, considers and acts upon it.

3 15. The parties agree that this Stipulated Surrender of License and Disciplinary Order  
4 shall be null and void and not binding upon the parties unless approved and adopted by the  
5 Executive Director on behalf of the Board, except for this paragraph, which shall remain in full  
6 force and effect. Respondent fully understands and agrees that in deciding whether or not to  
7 approve and adopt this Stipulated Surrender of License and Disciplinary Order, the Executive  
8 Director and/or the Board may receive oral and written communications from its staff and/or the  
9 Attorney General's Office. Communications pursuant to this paragraph shall not disqualify the  
10 Executive Director, the Board, any member thereof, and/or any other person from future  
11 participation in this or any other matter affecting or involving respondent. In the event that the  
12 Executive Director on behalf of the Board does not, in his discretion, approve and adopt this  
13 Stipulated Surrender of License and Disciplinary Order, with the exception of this paragraph, it  
14 shall not become effective, shall be of no evidentiary value whatsoever, and shall not be relied  
15 upon or introduced in any disciplinary action by either party hereto. Respondent further agrees  
16 that should this Stipulated Surrender of License and Disciplinary Order be rejected for any reason  
17 by the Executive Director on behalf of the Board, Respondent will assert no claim that the  
18 Executive Director, the Board, or any member thereof, was prejudiced by its/his/her review,  
19 discussion and/or consideration of this Stipulated Surrender of License and Disciplinary Order or  
20 of any matter or matters related hereto.

#### 21 ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS

22 16. This Stipulated Surrender of License and Disciplinary Order is intended by the parties  
23 herein to be an integrated writing representing the complete, final and exclusive embodiment of  
24 the agreements of the parties in the above-entitled matter.

25 17. The parties agree that copies of this Stipulated Surrender of License and Disciplinary  
26 Order, including copies of the signatures of the parties, may be used in lieu of original documents  
27 and signatures and, further, that such copies shall have the same force and effect as originals.

28 ///

18. In consideration of the foregoing admissions and stipulations, the parties agree the Executive Director of the Board may, without further notice to or opportunity to be heard by Respondent, issue and enter the following Disciplinary Order on behalf of the Board:

## ORDER

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. A 93250, issued to Respondent SEKHAR SURYADEVARA RAO, M.D., is surrendered and accepted by the Board.

1. The surrender of Respondent's Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate and the acceptance of the surrendered license by the Board shall constitute the imposition of discipline against Respondent. This stipulation constitutes a record of the discipline and shall become a part of Respondent's license history with the Board.

2. Respondent shall lose all rights and privileges as a physician and surgeon in California as of the effective date of the Board's Decision and Order.

3. Respondent shall cause to be delivered to the Board his pocket license and, if one was issued, his wall certificate on or before the effective date of the Decision and Order.

4. If Respondent ever files an application for licensure or a petition for reinstatement in the State of California, the Board shall treat it as a petition for reinstatement. Respondent must comply with all the laws, regulations and procedures for reinstatement of a revoked or surrendered license in effect at the time the petition is filed, and all of the charges and allegations contained in First Amended Accusation No. 800-2019-062775 shall be deemed to be true, correct and admitted by Respondent when the Board determines whether to grant or deny the petition.

5. Respondent shall pay the agency its costs of investigation and enforcement in the amount of \$15,190.00 prior to issuance of a new or reinstated license.

6. 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 agency in the State of California, all of the charges and allegations contained in First Amended Accusation, No. 800-2019-062775 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 licensure.

ACCEPTANCE

I have carefully read the Stipulated Surrender of License and Order. I understand the stipulation and the effect it will have on my Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate. I enter into this Stipulated Surrender of License and Order voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently, and agree to be bound by the Decision and Order of the Medical Board of California.

DATED:

10/05/2022

Sekhar S. Rao MD  
SEKHAR SURYADEVARA RAO, M.D.  
*Respondent*

ENDORSEMENT

The foregoing Stipulated Surrender of License and Order is hereby respectfully submitted for consideration by the Medical Board of California of the Department of Consumer Affairs.

DATED: \_\_\_\_\_

Respectfully submitted,

ROB BONTA  
Attorney General of California  
STEVE DIEHL  
Supervising Deputy Attorney General

MICHAEL C. BRUMMEL  
Deputy Attorney General  
*Attorneys for Complainant*

SF2020400125  
95474847

1 ACCEPTANCE

2 I have carefully read the Stipulated Surrender of License and Order. I understand the  
3 stipulation and the effect it will have on my Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate. I enter into  
4 this Stipulated Surrender of License and Order voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently, and  
5 agree to be bound by the Decision and Order of the Medical Board of California.

6  
7 DATED: \_\_\_\_\_

8 SEKHAR SURYADEVARA RAO, M.D.  
9 *Respondent*

10 ENDORSEMENT

11 The foregoing Stipulated Surrender of License and Order is hereby respectfully submitted  
12 for consideration by the Medical Board of California of the Department of Consumer Affairs.

13 DATED: October 5, 2022

14 Respectfully submitted,

15 ROB BONTA  
16 Attorney General of California  
17 STEVE DIEHL  
18 Supervising Deputy Attorney General

19 

20 MICHAEL C. BRUMMEL  
21 Deputy Attorney General  
22 *Attorneys for Complainant*

23 SF2020400125  
24 95474847

**Exhibit A**

**First Amended Accusation No. 800-2019-062775**

1 ROB BONTA  
Attorney General of California  
2 STEVE DIEHL  
Supervising Deputy Attorney General  
3 MICHAEL C. BRUMMEL  
Deputy Attorney General  
4 State Bar No. 236116  
California Department of Justice  
5 2550 Mariposa Mall, Room 5090  
Fresno, CA 93721  
6 Telephone: (559) 705-2307  
Facsimile: (559) 445-5106  
7 *Attorneys for Complainant*

8  
9 **BEFORE THE**  
**MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA**  
10 **DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS**  
11 **STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

12 In the Matter of the First Amended Accusation  
Against:

13 **Sekhar Suryadevara Rao, M.D.**  
14 **9424 Bing Cherry Ln.**  
15 **Austin, TX 78750**

16 **Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate**  
**No. A 93250,**

17 Respondent.

Case No. 800-2019-062775

OAH No. 2020070188

**FIRST AMENDED ACCUSATION**

18  
19 **PARTIES**

20 1. William J. Prasifka (Complainant)<sup>1</sup> brings this First Amended Accusation solely in  
21 his official capacity as the Executive Director of the Medical Board of California, Department of  
22 Consumer Affairs (Board).

23 2. On November 4, 2005, the Medical Board issued Physician's and Surgeon's  
24 Certificate Number A 93250 to Sekhar Suryadevara Rao, M.D. (Respondent). The Physician's  
25 and Surgeon's Certificate expired on February 28, 2021, and is SUSPENDED by virtue of an  
26 Order issued by the Board on April 24, 2020 pursuant to Business and Professions Code section  
27 2310, subdivision (a).

28 <sup>1</sup> The original Accusation was filed by then-Interim Executive Director, Christine J. Lally.

## JURISDICTION

3. This First Amended Accusation is brought before the Medical Board of California under the authority of the following sections of the California Business and Professions Code (Code) and/or other relevant statutory enactment:

A. Section 2227 of the Code provides in part that the Board may revoke, suspend for a period not to exceed one year, or place on probation, the license of any licensee who has been found guilty under the Medical Practice Act, and may recover the costs of probation monitoring.

B. Section 2305 of the Code provides, in part, that the revocation, suspension, or other discipline, restriction or limitation imposed by another state upon a license to practice medicine issued by that state, or the revocation, suspension, or restriction of the authority to practice medicine by any agency of the federal government, that would have been grounds for discipline in California under the Medical Practice Act, constitutes grounds for discipline for unprofessional conduct.

C. Section 141 of the Code provides:

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

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

D. Section 2236 of the Code states:

“(a) The conviction of any offense substantially related to the qualifications, functions, or duties of a physician and surgeon constitutes unprofessional conduct within the meaning of this chapter [Chapter 5, the Medical Practice Act]. The record of conviction shall be conclusive evidence only of the fact that the conviction occurred.

“(b) The district attorney, city attorney, or other prosecuting agency shall notify the Medical Board of the pendency of an action against a licensee

1 charging a felony or misdemeanor immediately upon obtaining information  
2 that the defendant is a licensee. The notice shall identify the licensee and  
3 describe the crimes charged and the facts alleged. The prosecuting agency  
4 shall also notify the clerk of the court in which the action is pending that the  
5 defendant is a licensee, and the clerk shall record prominently in the file that  
6 the defendant holds a license as a physician and surgeon.

7 “(c) The clerk of the court in which a licensee is convicted of a crime  
8 shall, within 48 hours after the conviction, transmit a certified copy of the  
9 record of conviction to the board. The division may inquire into the  
10 circumstances surrounding the commission of a crime in order to fix the  
11 degree of discipline or to determine if the conviction is of an offense  
12 substantially related to the qualifications, functions, or duties of a physician  
13 and surgeon.

14 “(d) A plea or verdict of guilty or a conviction after a plea of nolo  
15 contendere is deemed to be a conviction within the meaning of this section  
16 and Section 2236.1. The record of conviction shall be conclusive evidence of  
17 the fact that the conviction occurred.”

18 E. Section 1360 of Title 16 of the California Code of Regulations states:

19 “For the purposes of denial, suspension or revocation of a license, certificate  
20 or permit pursuant to Division 1.5 (commencing with Section 475) of the code, a  
21 crime or act shall be considered to be substantially related to the qualifications,  
22 functions or duties of a person holding a license, certificate or permit under the  
23 Medical Practice Act if to a substantial degree it evidences present or potential  
24 unfitness of a person holding a license, certificate or permit to perform the  
25 functions authorized by the license, certificate or permit in a manner consistent  
26 with the public health, safety or welfare. Such crimes or acts shall include but not  
27 be limited to the following: Violating or attempting to violate, directly or  
28 indirectly, or assisting in or abetting the violation of, or conspiring to violate any  
provision of the Medical Practice Act.”

### 19 COST RECOVERY

20 4. Section 125.3 of the Code provides, in pertinent part, that the Board may request the  
21 administrative law judge to direct a licensee found to have committed a violation or violations of  
22 the licensing act to pay a sum not to exceed the reasonable costs of the investigation and  
23 enforcement of the case<sup>2</sup>, with failure of the licensee to comply subjecting the license to not being  
24 renewed or reinstated. If a case settles, recovery of investigation and enforcement costs may be  
25 included in a stipulated settlement.

26  
27 <sup>2</sup> As of November 18, 2021, Section 125.3 of the Code has been amended to remove subsection (k), which  
28 precluded the Board from collecting costs. The Board may collect investigation, prosecution, and other costs incurred  
for a disciplinary proceeding against a licensee beginning January 1, 2022.

1 **FIRST CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

2 **(Discipline, Restriction, or Limitation Imposed by Another State)**

3 5. On October 25, 2019, the Texas Medical Board issued an Order of Temporary  
4 Suspension. Respondent's Texas medical license was suspended based on a September 25, 2019  
5 Federal Court indictment alleging that Respondent participated in a scheme to file tens of millions  
6 of dollars in false claims and tests involving TRICARE, the health care program of the United  
7 States Department of Defense Military Health System. A copy of the Order of Temporary  
8 Suspension issued by the Texas Medical Board is attached as Exhibit A.

9 6. Respondent's conduct and the action of the Texas Medical Board as set forth in  
10 paragraph 5, above, constitute cause for discipline pursuant to sections 2305 and/or 141 of the  
11 Code.

12 **SECOND CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

13 **(Conviction of a Crime Substantially Related to the Practice of Medicine)**

14 7. On August 29, 2022, Respondent was found guilty of two counts in violation of 18  
15 U.S.C. sections 1347 and 2, health care fraud, by a jury in the U.S. District Court, Northern  
16 District of Texas, Case No. 3:19-cr-00507-L. The redacted indictment alleges that, between  
17 approximately May 2014 and June 2016, Respondent and another person not a party to the instant  
18 matter submitted or caused to be submitted false and fraudulent claims to TRICARE, a health  
19 care benefit program as defined in 18 U.S.C. section 24(b), for tests that were, among other  
20 things, not legitimately prescribed, not needed, not used, and induced through the payment of  
21 kickbacks and bribes, which resulted in TRICARE being defrauded of payments for said health  
22 care services.

23 8. Each of Respondent's convictions of committing health care fraud, as set forth above,  
24 separately constitutes cause for discipline pursuant to section 2236 of the Code and Section 1360  
25 of Title 16 of the California Code of Regulations.

26 ///

27 ///

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2 **PRAYER**

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

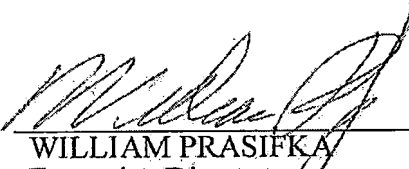
5 1. Revoking or suspending Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate Number A 93250,  
6 issued to Sekhar Suryadevara Rao, M.D.;

7 2. Revoking, suspending or denying approval of Sekhar Suryadevara Rao, M.D.'s  
8 authority to supervise physician assistants and advanced practice nurses;

9 3. Ordering Sekhar Suryadevara Rao, M.D., to pay the Board the costs of the  
10 investigation and enforcement of this case since January 1, 2022, and if placed on probation, the  
11 costs of probation monitoring; and

12 4. Taking such other and further action as deemed necessary and proper.

13  
14 DATED: SEP 26 2022

  
15 WILLIAM PRASIFKA  
16 Executive Director  
17 Medical Board of California  
18 Department of Consumer Affairs  
19 State of California  
20 Complainant

21 SF2020400125  
22 36560807.docx  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28

# Exhibit A

IN THE MATTER OF

THE LICENSE OF

SEKHAR SURYADEVARA RAO, M.D.

BEFORE THE

DISCIPLINARY PANEL OF THE

TEXAS MEDICAL BOARD

ORDER OF TEMPORARY SUSPENSION  
(WITHOUT NOTICE OF HEARING)

On October 25, 2019, at the direction and approval of Sheriff Zaafran, M.D., President of the Texas Medical Board (Board), three members of the Board were appointed to sit as a Disciplinary Panel in this matter, pursuant to §164.059(a) of the Medical Practice Act (the Act) and 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §187.56. Christopher M. Palazola represented Board Staff. Based on evidence submitted, the Board through this Panel makes the following Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law and enters this Order of Temporary Suspension:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Respondent is a Texas Physician and holds Texas Medical License No. L-1714, issued by the Board on March 30, 2001, which was in full force and effect at all times material and relevant to this Application.

2. On or about September 25, 2019, Respondent was indicted in the United State District Court for the Northern District of Texas in Case No. 3:19-CR-507-L. The indictment alleges the following:

- a. Dr. Rao, a Texas licensed physician, practicing in Austin, Texas, "signed toxicology and DNA cancer screen test orders for ADAR Group for TRICARE beneficiaries he did not know or treat".
- b. TRICARE is a health care program of the United States Department of Defense (DoD) Military Health System. It provides coverage for DoD beneficiaries including "active duty service members, National Guard and Reserve members, retirees, their dependents and survivors".
- c. Respondent participated in a scheme to file tens of millions of dollars in false claims for tests and screens that were "not legitimately prescribed, not needed,

- not used and induced through the payment of kickbacks and bribes”.
- d. Respondent was paid between \$6000 and \$8000 per month for ordering unnecessary toxicology and DNA Cancer screens for beneficiaries that were provided gift cards in exchange for urine and/or saliva samples. TRICARE was billed approximately \$36 million dollars and paid around \$4.8 million dollars for these unnecessary tests.
  - e. Respondent participated in a scheme that resulted in a nearly \$5 million dollar loss to the health care program that serves our nation’s military and their families.

Based upon the foregoing, the Board finds that Respondent’s continued practice of medicine poses a continuing threat to the public welfare.

#### CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Based on the above Findings of Fact, the Panel concludes the following:

1. Respondent's conduct, as described above, shows that Respondent’s continuation in the practice of medicine would constitute a continuing threat to the public welfare, as defined by Section 151.002(a)(2) of the Act. Continuing threat means “a real danger to the health of a physician’s patients or to the public from acts or omissions of the physician caused through the physician’s lack of competence, impaired status, or failure to care adequately for physician’s patients.”
2. Section 164.059 of the Act authorizes the temporary suspension or restriction of a person’s medical license upon a determination by a Disciplinary Panel that the person would, by the person’s continuation in practice, constitute a continuing threat to the public welfare.
3. 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE, Chapter 187, sets forth the Board’s Procedural Rules for all Board proceedings. 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE, Chapter 187, Subchapter F sets forth the Board’s Rules regarding temporary suspension proceedings.
4. Section 164.051(a)(1) of the Act authorizes the Board to take disciplinary action against Respondent based on Respondent’s commission of an act prohibited under Section 164.052 of the Act.
5. Section 164.052(a)(5) of the Act authorized the Board to take disciplinary action

against Respondent based upon Respondent's unprofessional or dishonorable conduct that is likely to deceive, defraud, or injure the public, and further defined by Board Rules 190.8(2)(J), providing medically unnecessary services to a patient; and 190.8(2)(R), commission of the following violations of federal and state laws whether or not there is a complaint, indictment, or conviction: any felony, and any criminal violation of the Medical Practice Act or other statutes regulating or pertaining to the practice of medicine, to wit: 18 U.S.C. § 1349, 18 U.S.C. §1347.

6. Section 164.053(a)(1) of the Act authorizes the Board to take disciplinary action against Respondent for committing an act that violates any state or federal law if the act is connected with the physician's practice of medicine; specifically, 18 U.S.C. §1347.

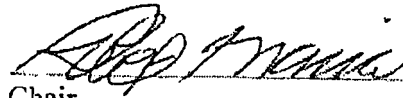
7. Respondent's conduct, as described above, shows that Respondent's continued practice of medicine would constitute a continuing threat to the public welfare, as defined by Section 151.002(a)(2) of the Act.

#### ORDER

Based on the above Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, the Panel ORDERS that:

1. Respondent's Texas medical license L-1714 is hereby temporarily suspended.
2. This Order of Temporary Suspension Without Notice of Hearing) is effective on the date rendered.
3. This Order shall remain in effect until it is superseded by an Order of the Board.

Signed and entered this 25<sup>TH</sup> day of October, 2019.



Chair  
Disciplinary Panel  
Texas Medical Board



## PUBLIC VERIFICATION / PHYSICIAN PROFILE

### PHYSICIAN

NAME: SEKHAR SURYADEVARA RAO MD DATE: 01/07/2020

THE INFORMATION IN THIS BOX HAS BEEN VERIFIED  
BY THE TEXAS MEDICAL BOARD

License Number: L1714 Full Medical License

Issuance Date: 03/30/2001

Expiration Date of Physician's Registration Permit: 02/28/2020

Registration Status: SUSPENDED, ACTIVE

Registration Date: 10/25/2019

Disciplinary Status: SUSPENDED BY BOARD

Disciplinary Date: 10/25/2019

Licensure Status: NONE

Licensure Date: NONE

#### Medical School of Graduation:

At the time of licensure, TMB verified the physician's graduation from medical school as follows:  
UNIV OF TEXAS MED SCHOOL AT SAN ANTONIO, SAN ANTONIO, TX

Medical School Graduation Year: 1998

#### TMB Filings, Actions and License Restrictions

The Texas Medical Board has the following board actions against this physician. (This may include any formal complaints filed by TMB, as well as petitions and/or responses related to licensure contested matters, at the State Office of Administrative Hearings.)

View the documents containing action taken by the Board against this individual.

[View Board Actions](#)

[Get Adobe Reader](#)

Action Date: 10/25/2019

**Description:** ON OCTOBER 25, 2019, A DISCIPLINARY PANEL OF THE TEXAS MEDICAL BOARD TEMPORARILY SUSPENDED, WITHOUT NOTICE, THE TEXAS MEDICAL LICENSE OF SEKHAR SURYADEVARA RAO, M.D., AFTER DETERMINING HIS CONTINUATION IN THE PRACTICE OF MEDICINE POSES A CONTINUING THREAT TO PUBLIC WELFARE. THE SUSPENSION WAS EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY. THE BOARD PANEL FOUND THAT DR. RAO WAS INDICTED ON CHARGES OF HEALTH CARE FRAUD AND CONSPIRACY TO COMMIT HEALTH CARE FRAUD RELATED TO HIS ROLE IN ALLEGED REFERRALS OF TRICARE BENEFICIARIES FOR MEDICALLY UNNECESSARY "CANCER SCREENING" GENETIC TESTS AND TOXICOLOGY TESTS. A TEMPORARY SUSPENSION HEARING WITH NOTICE WILL BE HELD AS SOON AS PRACTICABLE WITH 10 DAYS' NOTICE TO DR. RAO, UNLESS THE HEARING IS SPECIFICALLY WAIVED BY DR. RAO. THE TEMPORARY SUSPENSION REMAINS IN PLACE UNTIL THE BOARD TAKES FURTHER ACTION.

Chandra Boddipati, Secretary of the Texas Medical Board, certifies that I am an official in the official custody of records for the Texas Medical Board and that this is a true and correct copy of the original, as it appears on the file in this office.

Witness my official hand and seal of the BOARD.

This 7th day of January, 2020

Chandra Boddipati, Secretary of the Texas Medical Board

**Years of Active Practice in Texas:**

The physician reports that, of the above years he/she has actively practiced in the State of Texas for 8 year(s).

**Specialty Board Certification**

The physician reports that he/she holds the following specialty certifications issued by a board that is a member of the American Board of Medical Specialties or the Bureau of Osteopathic Specialists:

NONE

**Primary Specialty**

The physician reports his/her primary practice is in the area of INTERVENTIONAL RADIOLOGY.

**Secondary Specialty**

The physician reports his/her secondary practice is in the area of INTERVENTIONAL RADIOLOGY.

**Name, Location and Graduation Date of All Medical Schools Attended**

**Name:** UNIV. OF TX. HEALTH SCI. CTR.

**Location:** SAN ANTONIO, TX

**Graduation Date:** 1998

**Graduate Medical Education In The United States Or Canada**

**Program Name:** ST. JOSEPH S HOSP - CREIGHTON UNIVERSITY

**Location:** OMAHA, NE

**Begin Date:** 07/1998

**Type:** INTERNSHIP

**End Date:** 07/1999

**Specialty:** GENERAL SURGERY

**Program Name:** COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY - HARLEM HOSPITAL

**Location:** NEW YORK, NY

**Begin Date:** 07/1999

**Type:** RESIDENCY

**End Date:** 07/2000

**Specialty:** DIAGNOSTIC RADIOLOGY

**Program Name:** UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS MEDICAL CENTER

**Location:** WORCESTER, MA

**Begin Date:** 07/2002

**Type:** FELLOWSHIP

**End Date:** 07/2003

**Specialty:** INTERVENTIONAL RADIOLOGY

**Program Name:** UTHSC-SA

**Location:** SAN ANTONIO, TX

**Begin Date:** 07/2004

**Type:** FELLOWSHIP

**End Date:** 07/2004

**Specialty:** INTERVENTIONAL RADIOLOGY

**Program Name:** UNIV. OF MIAMI - JACKSON MEMORIAL HOSPIT

**Location:** MIAMI, FL

**Begin Date:** 07/2003

**Type:** FELLOWSHIP

**End Date:** 07/2004

competent jurisdiction."

The physician has reported the following:

**Description:** NONE

**Criminal history information is also obtained by TMB from the Texas Department of Public Safety. Resulting action, if any, will be reported under the TMB Action and Non-Disciplinary Restrictions section above.**

### **Disciplinary Actions By Other State Medical Boards**

The physician has reported the following:

**Description:** NONE

### **Physician Assistant Supervision**

To obtain  
primary source  
verifications,  
click name

**Description:** NONE

### **Advanced Practice Nurse Delegation**

To obtain  
primary source  
verifications,  
click name

**APN Name:** DAVIS, ROGER APN

**APN License Number:** AP121713

**Delegation Location Type:** Practice Site

**Approve Date:** 9/1/2019

**Hours Supervised:** 12

**Dangerous Drugs:** NO

**Controlled Substances:** YES

### **Summary of all License/Permit Types**

**Issue Date:**

03/30/2001

**Type:**

LICENSED PHYSICIAN

03/08/2001

PHYSICIAN TEMPORARY LICENSE