

IN THE MATTER OF

Joseph Couvillon, M.D.

Respondent

License Number: D0080260

BEFORE THE

MARYLAND STATE

BOARD OF PHYSICIANS

Case Number: 2226-0166

CONSENT ORDER

PROCEDURAL BACKGROUND

The Maryland Board of Physicians (the “Maryland Board”) received information that Joseph Couvillon, M.D., (the “Respondent”) License Number D0080260, was disciplined by the Colorado Department of Regulatory Agencies (the “Colorado Board”). In a Letter of Admonition dated October 28, 2024, the Colorado Board disciplined the Respondent by admonishing him.

Based on the above referenced Colorado sanction, the Maryland Board has grounds to charge the Respondent with violating the following provisions of the Maryland Medical Practice Act (the “Act”), under H. O. § 14-404(a):

- (a) Subject to the hearing provisions of § 14-405 of this subtitle, a disciplinary panel, on the affirmative vote of a majority of the quorum of the disciplinary panel, may reprimand any licensee, place any licensee on probation, or suspend or revoke a license if the licensee:
 - (21) Is disciplined by a licensing or disciplinary authority or convicted or disciplined by a court of any state or country or disciplined by any branch of the United States uniformed services or the Veteran’s Administration for an act that would be grounds for disciplinary action under this section,

Disciplinary Panel A (“Panel A”) has determined that the acts for which the Respondent was disciplined in Colorado would be grounds for disciplinary action under

H.O. § 14-404(a). The grounds for disciplinary action under H.O. § 14-404(a) are as follows:

(3) Is guilty of:

(ii) Unprofessional conduct in the practice of medicine[.]

Based on the action taken by the Colorado and Michigan Boards, the Respondent agrees to enter into this Consent Order with Panel A, consisting of Procedural Background, Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, Order and Consent.

FINDINGS OF FACT

Panel A makes the following findings of fact:

1. At all times relevant hereto, the Respondent was a physician licensed to practice medicine in the State of Maryland. The Respondent was initially licensed in Maryland on or about August 13, 2015.
2. On January 9, 2019, the Respondent provided medical care in his role as an interventional radiologist to a patient ("Patient A") who had a large "ultrasound-guided aspiration and alcohol sclerosis of the two fluid collection areas of the cyst."
3. During the procedure, the Respondent drained approximately 2.7 liters of fluid from the cyst pockets and then injected a total of 300 milliliters of absolute ethanol alcohol into those areas. After the procedure concluded, the Respondent only aspirated 40 milliliters of the injected ethanol. After the procedure, Patient A was noted to be unarousable due to alcohol intoxication and had to be transferred to the Emergency Department.

4. After conducting an inquiry into the matter, the Colorado Board found that the Respondent had “committed unprofessional conduct, in violation of section 12-240-121(1)(j) of the Colorado Revised Statutes.” This was due to instilling a volume of ethanol that far exceeded standard practice for treatment of hepatic cysts, which should be “10% of the drained volume, but with a maximum volume limitation of 100 mL to minimize the possibility of systemic toxicity.” As such, the Respondent’s care “fell below generally accepted standards of medical practice.”
5. By Letter dated October 28, 2024, the Colorado Board disciplined the Respondent by admonishing him for his conduct.
6. Based on the discipline by the Colorado Board, on November 20, 2025, the Medical Board of California issued the Respondent a Public Letter of Reprimand.
7. Based on the discipline by the Colorado Board, on January 21, 2026, the Michigan Board of Medicine issued a Consent Order imposing a \$500.00 fine.

A copy of the Colorado Letter of Admonition is attached hereto.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Based on the foregoing Findings of Fact, Panel A concludes as a matter of law that the Respondent is subject to discipline under Health Occ. § 14-404(a)(21) for the disciplinary action taken by the Colorado Board against the Respondent for an act or acts that would be grounds for disciplinary action under Health Occ. §14-404(a)(3ii).

ORDER

It is, thus, by Panel A, hereby:

ORDERED that the Respondent is hereby **REPRIMANDED**; and it is further

ORDERED that this Consent Order shall not be amended or modified and future requests for modification will not be considered; and it is further,

ORDERED that the effective date of the Consent Order is the date the Consent Order is signed by the Executive Director of the Board or her designee. The Executive Director or her designee signs the Consent Order on behalf of the disciplinary panel which has imposed the sanction of this Consent Order; and it is further

ORDERED that this Consent Order is a public document. *See* Health Occ. §§1-607, 14-411.1(b)(2) and Gen. Prov. §4-333(b)(6).

09/09/2026
Date

Signature on File

Christine A. Farrelly
Executive Director
Maryland Board of Physicians

CONSENT

I, Joseph Covillon, acknowledge that I have consulted with legal counsel before signing this document.

By this Consent, I agree to be bound by this Consent Order and all its terms and conditions and understand that the disciplinary panel will not entertain any request for amendments or modifications to any condition.

I assert that I am aware of my right to a formal evidentiary hearing, pursuant to Md. Code Ann., Health Occ. § 14-405 and Md. Code Ann., State Gov't §§ 10-201 *et seq.* concerning the pending charges. I waive this right and have elected to sign this Consent Order instead.

I acknowledge the validity and enforceability of this Consent Order as if entered after the conclusion of a formal evidentiary hearing in which I would have had the right to counsel, to confront witnesses, to give testimony, to call witnesses on my behalf, and to all other substantive and procedural protections as provided by law. I waive those procedural and substantive protections. I acknowledge the legal authority and the jurisdiction of the disciplinary panel to initiate these proceedings and to issue and enforce this Consent Order.

I voluntarily enter into and agree to comply with the terms and conditions set forth in the Consent Order as a resolution of the charges. I waive any right to contest the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law and Order set out in the Consent Order. I waive all rights to appeal this Consent Order.

I sign this Consent Order, without reservation, and fully understand the language and meaning of its terms.

9/1/2026
Date

Signature on File

Joseph Covillon, MD
Respondent

NOTARY

STATE OF Virginia

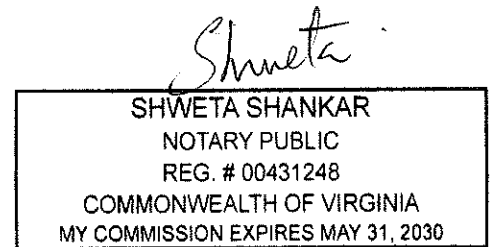
CITY/COUNTY OF loudoun

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on this 1st day of September 2026, before me, a Notary Public of the State and City/County aforesaid, personally Joseph Couvillon, MD, and made oath in due form of law that the foregoing Consent Order was his voluntary act and deed.

AS WITNESS my hand and notarial seal.

Shweta Shankar
Notary Public

My Commission expires: 05/31/2030



City/County of loudoun
Commonwealth of Virginia

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me This 1st day of September, 2026, by Joseph Anthony Couvillon
Shweta Shankar Notary Public
Reg. # 00431248 Com. Exp. 05/31/2030

**Colorado Order,
dated October 28, 2024**



COLORADO

Department of
Regulatory Agencies

Division of Professions and Occupations

October 28, 2024

Joseph Anthony Couvillon, MD

Email Address: [REDACTED]

Re: License Number: DR.0069090
Case Number: 2023-8096-A

Dear Dr. Couvillon,

The Colorado Medical Board has concluded its inquiry into the aforementioned matter. It was the Panel's decision not to commence with formal proceedings against your professional license. However, the Panel did determine disciplinary action in the form of this letter of admonition is warranted.

As you know, on January 9, 2019, while providing medical care as an interventional radiologist you treated Patient, a 41-year-old female, who was suffering from a large recurrent liver cyst with two areas of contained fluid. You performed ultrasound-guided aspiration and alcohol sclerosis of the two fluid collection areas of the cyst. During the procedure you drained approximately 2.7 L of fluid from the two cyst pockets and subsequently placed approximately 150 mL of "absolute" ethanol alcohol into those areas for a total of 300 mL injected. At the conclusion of the procedure, you only aspirated 40 mL, a small percentage of the total injected volume of ethanol. Shortly after the procedure, the patient was transferred to the recovery area and thereafter she was noted to be unarousable due to alcohol intoxication and was transferred to the Emergency Department.

After consideration of the information in this case, the Panel finds that you committed unprofessional conduct, in violation of section 12-240-121(1)(j) of the Colorado Revised Statutes. Specifically, the maximum dose of instilled ethanol for the treatment of hepatic cysts should generally be 10% of the drained volume, but with a maximum volume limitation of 100 mL to minimize the possibility of systemic toxicity. Because your instilled volume of ethanol in total far exceeded standards, especially given the residual volume of ethanol after attempted aspiration from the cyst, your care fell below generally accepted standards of medical practice.

By this letter, the Board takes the formal disciplinary action of admonishing you for the conduct specified above and warns you that repetition of such practice may lead to imposition of more severe disciplinary action. This letter is an open public record and a reportable action to individuals or entities requesting disciplinary information. The Board strongly encourages you to review and understand the Medical Practice Act requirements and obligations for the practice of medicine in Colorado.

In accordance with 12-20-404(4)(b), the Board advises you that you have the right to make a written request that the Board initiate formal disciplinary proceedings in order to adjudicate the conduct or acts upon which this letter is based. You must make your written request within twenty (20) days after receipt of this letter and address your request to Paula E. Martinez, Program Director at paula.martinez@state.co.us. If you make a timely request, the Board will deem this letter of admonition vacated and may proceed with disciplinary and/or injunctive proceedings in accordance with 12-20-404(4)(b)(II), C.R.S., and applicable rules.



COLORADO

Department of
Regulatory Agencies

Division of Professions and Occupations

A Letter of Admonition, when accepted, becomes a permanent, public portion of your record. It is not, however, a restriction on your practice as a professional physician.

If you have further questions or concerns, please visit our website at <https://www.colorado.gov/dora/dpo> or you can contact our office at dora_medicalboard@state.co.us or by calling (303) 894-7716.

Sincerely,

FOR THE COLORADO MEDICAL BOARD
WITH DELEGATED AUTHORITY FROM INQUIRY PANEL A

Signature on File

Paula E. Martinez
Program Director

cc: Page Gravely, Esq.