

IN THE MATTER OF	*	BEFORE THE
PANAYIOTIS A. BALTATZIS, M.D.	*	MARYLAND STATE
Respondent	*	BOARD OF PHYSICIANS
License Number: D28949	*	Case Number: 7716-0095

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**ORDER FOR SUMMARY SUSPENSION OF LICENSE TO PRACTICE MEDICINE**

Disciplinary Panel A of the Maryland State Board of Physicians (the "Board") hereby **SUMMARILY SUSPENDS** the medical license of Panayiotis A. Baltatzis, M.D. (the "Respondent"), License Number D28949. Disciplinary Panel A takes such action pursuant to its authority under Md. Code Ann., State Gov't § 10-226(c)(2)(i) (2014 Repl. Vol. & 2015 Supp.), concluding that the public health, safety, or welfare imperatively requires emergency action.

**INVESTIGATIVE FINDINGS<sup>1</sup>**

Based on information received by, and made known to Disciplinary Panel A of the Board, and the investigatory information obtained by, received by and made known to and available to Disciplinary Panel A and the Office of the Attorney General, including the instances described below, Disciplinary Panel A has reason to believe that the following facts are true:

**BACKGROUND**

1. At all times relevant, the Respondent was a physician licensed to practice medicine in the State of Maryland. The Respondent was initially licensed in

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<sup>1</sup> The statements regarding the Respondent's conduct are intended to provide the Respondent with notice of the basis of the suspension. They are not intended as, and do not necessarily represent a complete description of the evidence, either documentary or testimonial, to be offered against the Respondent in connection with this matter.

Maryland on or about February 15, 1983, and his license is presently active through September 30, 2018.

2. The Respondent practices internal medicine.
3. The Respondent has a lengthy disciplinary history with the Board. Pursuant to an April 4, 1994 Consent Order, a March 22, 2005 Final Order and Opinion, an October 20, 2009 Final Decision and Order and a November 5, 2015 Consent Order, the Respondent has been required to successfully complete numerous remedial courses including but not limited to: Controlled Dangerous Substances (“CDS”) prescribing; polypharmacy; diabetes management and related comorbidities; and multiple medical record keeping courses. The Respondent has further been required to have a Board-approved physician monitor his practice (2009) and has been subject to approximately eight chart or peer reviews in which it was found that he failed to meet the standard of quality care and failed to keep adequate medical records.
4. On May 14, 2015, Disciplinary Panel A charged the Respondent with violating a condition of probation set forth in the October 20, 2009 Final Decision and Order. Specifically, the Board charged the Respondent with violating the condition that required him to meet the standard of care for the delivery of quality medical services.
5. Effective November 5, 2015, the Respondent entered into a Consent Order to resolve the Board’s charges.
6. Under the terms and conditions of the 2015 Consent Order, the Respondent was reprimanded. The requirements of the Consent Order further provided:

**ORDERED** that the Respondent shall permanently close his practice in May 2017, when he reaches age 66. The Respondent shall provide to the Panel written documentation of the office closure; and it is further

**ORDERED** that the Respondent shall not accept any new patients to his practice at any time; and it is further

**ORDERED** that the Respondent shall remain on probation for the entire duration of his licensure[.]

7. Disciplinary Panel A has received information that the Respondent has violated the 2015 Consent Order. Specifically, Disciplinary Panel A's investigation has revealed that the Respondent continues to treat patients at his practice subsequent to May 2017. The investigation further revealed that subsequent to May 2017, the Respondent continues to renew prescriptions and write new prescriptions for his private practice patients. The Respondent has written numerous prescriptions for CDS and non-CDS medications.

### **CONCLUSION OF LAW**

Based on the foregoing facts, the Board concludes that the public health, safety or welfare imperatively require emergency action in this case, pursuant to Md. Code Ann., State Gov't. § 10-226 (c)(2)(i) (2014 Repl. Vol.).

### **ORDER**

Based on the foregoing, it is, by a majority of the quorum of Disciplinary Panel A, **ORDERED** that pursuant to the authority vested by Md. Code Ann., State Gov't § 10-226(c)(2), the Respondent's license to practice medicine in the State of Maryland be and is hereby **SUMMARILY SUSPENDED**; and be it further

**ORDERED** that a post-deprivation hearing in accordance with Code Regs. Md. 10.32.02.09B (7) (c), D and E on the Summary Suspension has been scheduled for **October 11, 2017, at 1:00 p.m.**, at the Maryland State Board of Physicians, 4201 Patterson Avenue, Baltimore, Maryland 21215-0095; and be it further

**ORDERED** that at the conclusion of the **SUMMARY SUSPENSION** hearing held before Disciplinary Panel A, the Respondent, if dissatisfied with the result of the hearing, may request within ten (10) days an evidentiary hearing, such hearing to be held within thirty (30) days of the request, before an Administrative Law Judge at the Office of Administrative Hearings, Administrative Law Building, 11101 Gilroy Road, Hunt Valley, Maryland 21031-1301; and be it further


**ORDERED** that on presentation of this Order, the Respondent **SHALL SURRENDER** to the Board's Compliance Analyst, the following items:

- (1) the Respondent's original Maryland License **D28949**; and
- (2) the Respondent's current renewal certificate; and be it further

**ORDERED** that a copy of this Order of Summary Suspension shall be filed with the Board in accordance with Md. Code Ann., Health Occ. § 14-407 (2014 Repl. Vol. & 2015 Supp.); and be it further

**ORDERED** that this is an Order of Disciplinary Panel A and, as such, is a **PUBLIC DOCUMENT** pursuant to Md. Code Ann., Gen. Prov. §§ 4-101 *et seq.*

09/29/2017  
Date

  
Christine A. Farrelly  
Executive Director  
Maryland State Board of Physicians