

BEFORE THE  
BOARD OF NATUROPATHIC MEDICINE  
STATE OF OREGON

In the Matter of the License of:

**Nathalie Paravicini, N.D ,**

Licensee.

Case No. 21-03-11

**CONSENT ORDER AND SETTLEMENT  
AGREEMENT**

1.

The Board of Naturopathic Medicine (Board) is the state agency responsible for licensing, regulating, and disciplining naturopathic physicians in the State of Oregon, pursuant to Oregon Revised Statutes (ORS) chapter 685 and Oregon Administrative Rules (OAR) chapter 850. Dr. Nathalie Paravicini, N.D. (Licensee) is a licensed naturopathic physician in Oregon and is subject to the jurisdiction of the Board.

2.

The parties wish to resolve this matter informally, without any hearing, appeal or judicial review, by entering this Settlement Agreement and Consent Order, pursuant to ORS 183.417(3) on the terms set forth below. The Board finds, Licensee denies, but stipulates to the following:

3.

Licensee first saw Patient in November 2016, continuing treatment on a regular basis in 2019. Licensee treated patient for multiple health issues, including but not limited to, fibromyalgia, mood disorders, sinusitis, gastrointestinal symptoms, high levels of pain throughout her body following a c-section delivery, several teeth extractions, the development of facial neuralgia and what was subsequently diagnosed as tethered cord. After attempting other pain strategies, Licensee referred the patient to pain management, and first refilled prescription opioids to Patient in August 2020.

4.

PDMP records for Patient from September 1, 2020, through March 1, 2021, show Licensee prescribed Patient Oxycontin ER 10mg, Hydromorphone 8mg, and Oxycodone 5mg in differing doses, resulting in an MME dose of 94.41 with a 30-day average to 132.92.

5.

PDMP report for Patient from 12/01/2020 through 10/20/2021, show Licensee prescribed Hydrocodone HCL powder, Oxycodone HCl 15 mg tabs, Fentanyl 12 MCG/HR patch in various doses, resulting in an MME dose of 357, with a 30-day average of 389.81. PDMP report for Patient from 10/01/21 to 01/19/22 showed Patient with a MME dose of 321, with a 30-day average of 388.

6.

PDMP and medical records show that Licensee's opioid prescribing to Patient remained high from December 2020 through December 2021.

7.

Prescription opioids such as oxycodone, hydrocodone, and fentanyl, among others, are powerful medications that have pain-reducing benefits but also may lead to misuse, addiction, overdose, and even death. Various factors will increase an individual's risk of misuse, addiction or overdose while taking opioids. These risk factors include high doses, prolonged durations and extended release and long-acting formulations.

8.

Based on this conduct, Licensee denies, but the Board finds that Licensee committed negligence related to the practice of naturopathic medicine, in violation of ORS 685.110(8), and engaged in negligent prescribing in violation of OAR 850-050-0010(1)(c)(A).

9.

Patient medical records from September 1, 2020, through March 31, 2021, show Licensee did not implement a pain contract or order urine drug testing before or while prescribing opioids to

Patient to assess whether Patient was using opioids as prescribed, using other substances, or potentially diverting opioids.

10.

Based on this conduct, Licensee denies, but the Board finds that Licensee committed negligence related to the practice of naturopathic medicine, in violation of ORS 685.110(8).

11.

Patient medical records demonstrate past addictive behaviors, including compulsive shopping, alcohol use, anxiety, stress and depression.

12.

As opioids have highly addictive properties, they pose a substantial risk of addiction and overuse. Some individuals with certain healthcare conditions or characteristics are at higher risk of misuse, which may lead to overdose, including mental health disorders (Depression, Anxiety) and history of alcohol or substance abuse.

13.

Based on this conduct, Licensee denies, but the Board finds Licensee committed negligence related to the practice of naturopathic medicine, in violation of ORS 685.110(8), and engaged in negligent prescribing in violation of OAR 850-050-0010(1)(c)(A).

#### SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

14.

The Board finds, and the Licensee denies the findings of facts and conclusions of law regarding the violations referenced in this settlement agreement and consent order. Licensee agrees that the Board may enter the Consent Order set forth below, including the following terms and conditions:

A. Civil penalties in the total amount of \$10,000. The Board suspends payment of \$5,000 of these civil penalties, which the Board will waive if Licensee complies with the terms of this Settlement Agreement and Consent Order, ORS Chapter 685 and the administrative rules adopted by the Board in OAR Chapter 850. If Licensee fails to pay the civil penalties or

otherwise fails to comply with this Settlement Agreement and Consent Order, the Board may assess all or a portion of the suspended penalties. A payment plan for the amount of civil penalties due upon entry of this order (\$5,000) must be approved by the Board's executive director.

B. Five (5) years of probation, with the following conditions:

- i. For a period of two years from the effective date of the Final Order in this matter, Licensee is prohibited from prescribing opioids.
- ii. Following the expiration of the prescribing restriction, Licensee will submit 10 patient charts, for any patients she is actively prescribing opioids, per quarter, to the Board for review. Licensee shall incur the costs of chart review. If Licensee does not prescribe opioids to any patient in any given quarter, Licensee shall provide the Board with a quarterly PDMP report in lieu of quarterly chart reviews.
- iii. In addition to the Board's annual continuing education requirements, Licensee must obtain and submit directly to the Board, twenty-nine continuing education credits:
  - a. In the first year of probation, Licensee must complete twelve (12) hours focused on pain management, opioid management and prescribing. Five (5) hours focused on ethics and establishing doctor patient boundaries
  - b. In the second year of probation, Licensee must complete twelve (12) hours of Board approved continuing education regarding substance abuse disorders and opioid addiction.

C. Licensee shall comply with the statutes, rules and orders of the Board.

D. Licensee's failure to comply with any term of this order, ORS chapter 685 or OAR chapter 850 shall be grounds for additional discipline by the Board.

E. Licensee enters into this Settlement Agreement and Consent Order voluntarily and without any force or duress. Licensee states that the Board and Board staff have not made promises or representations not stated herein to induce her to sign this document and agree to issuance of the Order.

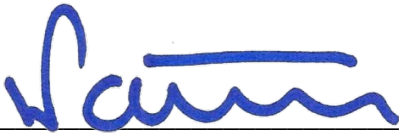
F. Licensee acknowledges that she had the opportunity to seek the advice of legal counsel. Licensee further acknowledges that he understands and agrees to the terms of this Order.

G. Licensee understands that she has the right to a contested case hearing under the Administrative Procedures Act (ORS Chapter 183), and fully and finally waives any and all right to a hearing and any rights to appeal or otherwise challenge this Settlement Agreement and Consent Order.

H. The parties acknowledge that this Settlement Agreement and Consent Order is a public document.

I. This Settlement Agreement and Consent Order shall take effect on the date it is signed by the Board.

IT IS SO STIPULATED.



Nathalie Paravicini, N.D

8/24/2022

Date

### **CONSENT ORDER**

The Board issues the following order:

A. Civil penalties in the total amount of \$10,000. The Board suspends payment of \$5,000 of these civil penalties, which the Board will waive if Licensee complies with the terms of this Settlement Agreement and Consent Order, ORS Chapter 685 and the administrative rules adopted by the Board in OAR Chapter 850. If Licensee fails to pay the civil penalties or otherwise fails to comply with this Settlement Agreement and Consent Order, the Board may assess all or a portion of the suspended penalties. A payment plan for the amount of civil penalties due upon entry of this order (\$5,000) must be approved by the Board's executive director.

B. Five (5) years of probation, with the following conditions:

- i. For a period of two years from the effective date of the Final Order in this matter, Licensee is prohibited from prescribing opioids.

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  - a. In the first year of probation, Licensee must complete twelve (12) hours focused on pain management, opioid management and prescribing. Five (5) hours focused on ethics and establishing doctor patient boundaries
  - b. In the second year of probation, Licensee must complete twelve (12) hours of Board approved continuing education regarding substance abuse disorders and opioid addiction.

DATED this 25 day of August 2022.

BOARD OF NATUROPATHIC MEDICINE - State of Oregon

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M/B Baptista', with a horizontal line extending to the right.

Mary-Beth Baptista, Executive Director