

BEFORE THE
BOARD OF NATUROPATHIC MEDICINE
STATE OF OREGON

In the Matter of the License of:

Case No. 24-02-04

Dr. Laura Blevins, ND,

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. Laura Blevins, ND has been licensed as a naturopathic physician in the State of Oregon since October 2015 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, but Licensee denies to the following:

3.

Licensee established care with Patient in November 2020. Patient had a panic attack when Licensee attempted to do a blood draw. Licensee wrote a single dose prescription for a 0.5 milligram tab of Xanax to keep Patient calm during the blood draw.

4.

March 2, 2021, Licensee referred Patient to a counselor. Licensee saw Patient on June 14, 2022, and Patient reported a significant spike in her episodic anxiety. On that date, Licensee ran a pharmacogenomic test. Licensee wrote a prescription for 30 tablets of 0.5 milligram alprazolam (Xanax), to be taken daily as needed for 30 days, with one refill.

5.

Patient had a follow up appointment with Licensee on July 14, 2022. Licensee said Patient reported only taking Xanax five or six occasions in the prior 30 days. Patient PDMP record shows a prescription refill from June 14, prescription was filled on July 23, 2022. Patient returned to see Licensee on September 2, 2022, reporting her anxiety had worsened due to family interactions, and was taking a Xanax tab daily.

6.

When Patient saw Licensee on October 18, 2022, Patient told her she was working with a new counselor and having positive results. Patient said she was feeling more stable and was not taking Xanax daily. At Patient's mother's request, Licensee wrote Patient a prescription for thirty (30) 0.5 milligram tablets of alprazolam (Xanax), to take daily as needed with no refills. Patient's PDMP record shows that prescription was written and filled on October 18.

7.

Patient's mother called Licensee on November 17, 2022, asking for a prescription for Xanax for Patient. Patient's PDMP record shows Licensee wrote another prescription for thirty (30) 0.5 milligram tablets of alprazolam (Xanax), to take daily as needed, with no refills, on Nov. 17 and was filled on Nov. 18.

8.

Licensee saw Patient on December 1, 2022, noting in her chart that Patient still has ongoing acute anxiety due to family relationships and had a potential ADHD diagnosis. When Licensee saw patient Feb. 2, 2023, Patient reported acute anxiety, and struggling with symptoms and effects of ADHD. Licensee prescribed Patient 30-day supply of 0.5 milligram alprazolam (Xanax) tablets.

9.

On about August 31, 2023, Patient's mother notified Licensee Patient was taken via ambulance and admitted to Sky Lakes Medical Center for alcohol poisoning.

10.

Licensee saw Patient monthly from September – December 2023. During that time, Patient was managing her anxiety without consistent Xanax use. Licensee prescribed Patient Guanfacine to treat her ADHD. At her December 21, 2023, appointment, patient was responding well to Guanfacine but reported a resurgence of her anxiety. Licensee prescribed Patient fourteen (14)

0.5 milligram tablets of alprazolam (Xanax), to take daily as needed, with one refill. That prescription was filled on December 21.

11.

On February 13, 2024, Patient presented to Sky Lakes Medical Center with an acetaminophen overdose. Patient blood tests at the ER revealed Benzodiazepines in her system.

12.

Licensee was aware Patient was having significant anxiety from November 2020-December 2023. Licensee primarily treated Patient's anxiety from age twelve to fourteen with as-needed Xanax. Patient age, symptoms and behavior are contraindicated for Benzodiazepines (Alprazolam / Xanax). For the duration of their doctor patient relationship, Licensee did not conduct a psychological or behavior health assessment to evaluate Patient's anxiety. Licensee prescribed Patient Xanax on December 21, 2023, knowing that Patient was treated for alcohol poisoning at Sky Lakes Medical Center four months prior. Licensee's treatment and prescribing of Alprazolam (Xanax) does not meet the standards of care for pediatric patients and constitutes violations of 850-050-0010(1)(c)(A): Negligent prescribing and 850-050-0010(1)(c)(B): Negligent Treatment.

SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

13.

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 stipulates the Board may enter the Consent Order set forth below.

A. Licensee must comply with the following terms and conditions:

- Probation – 12 Months.
- Civil Penalty: \$5000 Civil Penalty imposed.
 - \$1,500 due per payment plan
 - \$3,500 suspended and waived with successful completion of probation
- Continuing Education: Due within six (6) months of signing this order. CE may be applied toward 2025-2026 annual renewal total.
 - Six (6) hours of mental health assessment and treatment
 - Two (2) hours of psychiatric prescribing management

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

C. 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.

D. 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.

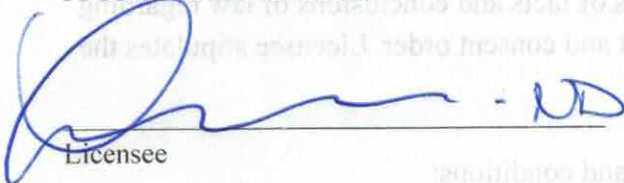
E. Licensee acknowledges that she had the opportunity to seek the advice of legal counsel. Licensee further acknowledges that she understands and agrees to the terms of this Order.

F. 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.

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

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

IT IS SO STIPULATED.



Licensee

6/2/25

Date

CONSENT ORDER

The Board issues the following order:

- Probation – 12 Months.
- Civil Penalty: \$5000 Civil Penalty imposed.
 - \$1,500 due per payment plan
 - \$3,500 suspended and waived with successful completion of probation
- Continuing Education: Due within six (6) months of signing this order. CE may be applied toward 2025-2026 annual renewal total.
 - Six (6) hours of mental health assessment and treatment
 - Two (2) hours of psychiatric prescribing management

DATED this 3rd day of June 2025.

BOARD OF NATUROPATHIC MEDICINE - State of Oregon

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'MB Baptista', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Mary-Beth Baptista, JD, Executive Director