



MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA
Executive Office



April 8, 2008

Susan Davoodifar, M.D.
4199 Campus Drive, Suite 500
Irvine, CA 92612

RE: Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. A-62141
Case No. 06-2002-134548

Public Letter of Reprimand

On March 8, 2005, an Accusation was filed against you regarding your care and treatment of six patients who were seen from August 2001 through May 2002, while you were employed by Edward L. Tobinick, M.D., Inc. at the Institute for Neurological Research. You gave five of the six patients one injection each of etanercept (a tumor necrosis factor-inhibitor that has been approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration for several uses, including in cases of rheumatoid arthritis and other autoimmune diseases) to relieve pain resulting from disk injury. The use of etanercept required that a physician and surgeon take particular care with patients who may have infections, are at high risk of developing infections, or who have certain malignancies. Although no medical harm came to any of these six patients as a result of your care and treatment, you did not exercise that extra degree of care by:

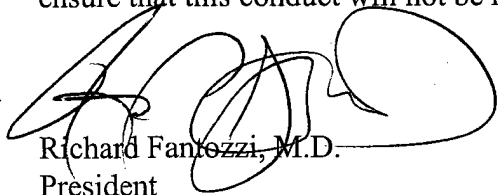
- (1) Failing to measure the body temperature or to perform a skin test for tuberculosis in any of the five patients before injecting them with etanercept, although none of the five patients had active tuberculosis.
- (2) Giving patient T.A. an injection of etanercept although he had a history of lymphoma, without further testing to assess whether or not he had active lymphoma at the time of treatment.
- (3) Failing to assure that the diabetes mellitus of patients J.B. and M.J. was under control by measuring Hemoglobin A_{1C}, although patient J.B. was a retired physician and surgeon, and you did make a note of his self-reported blood glucose level, which was well under control.

In addition, pursuant to your employer's policy at that time, some of the patients you saw had signed confidentiality agreements, and you did not fully explain to them that they could disclose the identity of the medication to their treating physicians.

Susan Davoodifar, M.D.

Page 2

Pursuant to the authority of the California Business and Professions Code section 2233, you are hereby issued this Public Letter of Reprimand by the Medical Board of California with the expectation that you have addressed the causes for this conduct, and that you have taken steps to ensure that this conduct will not be repeated.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Richard Fantozzi', is written over the printed name and title.

Richard Fantozzi, M.D.

President