



**NORTH CAROLINA
MEDICAL BOARD**

William A. Walker, MD
President

Paul S. Camnitz, MD
President-Elect

Cheryl L. Walker-McGill, MD
Secretary/Treasurer

November 12, 2013

Via Certified Mail, Return Receipt Requested

Benedict Onwukwe Okwara, M.D.
First Care Medical Clinic
404 South Sutherland Avenue
Monroe, NC 28112

Dear Dr. Okwara:

The North Carolina Medical Board ("Board") has concluded its investigation regarding the agreement you entered into with the Department of Health and Human Services ("DHHS") made in April 2013. Although the Board decided not to commence formal proceedings against your license, it did vote to issue you this public letter of concern.

The Board is concerned that you entered into an Agreement with the DHHS in resolution of claims overpaid by Medicaid for immunotherapy services and other services provided without sufficient billing support from November 2010 to April 2012. To resolve the matter, you have agreed to pay \$1,172,647.00 to the Medicaid program. Improper billing reflects poorly on both you individually and on the medical profession as a whole.

The Board urges you to ensure that conduct like that giving rise to the Agreement with DHHS does not occur again. Otherwise, the Board may vote to commence formal disciplinary proceedings against your license to practice medicine. If that happens, this letter may be entered into evidence in determining the appropriate discipline.

The Board does not consider a public letter of concern to be a disciplinary action or a limitation or restriction on your license. However, the Board does consider its inquiry into this matter to be an investigation. Under certain circumstances, other credentialing, regulatory or licensing boards may require that you report this investigation. If so, a photocopy of this letter may be used for that purpose.

This letter is a public record within the meaning of Chapter 132 of the North Carolina General Statutes and is subject to public inspection and dissemination as required by that law. It will be reported to the Federation of State Medical Boards; however, it will not be reported to the National Practitioner Data Bank.

Sincerely,

Paul S. Camnitz, M.D.
Board President

PSC/DTB/bjs

R. David Henderson
Executive Director

1203 Front Street
Raleigh, North Carolina 27609-7533

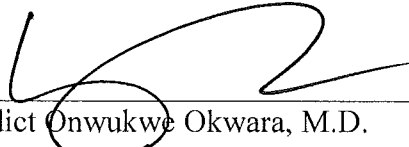
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P.O. Box 20007
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Web: www.ncmedboard.org

Consent and Waiver

I, Benedict Onwukwe Okwara, M.D., would like to resolve this matter without the need for more formal proceedings and consent to the Board's issuance of this public letter of concern in resolution of the matter referenced above.

Consented to this the 30th day of October, 2013.



Benedict Onwukwe Okwara, M.D.

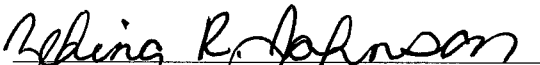
State of North Carolina

County of Union

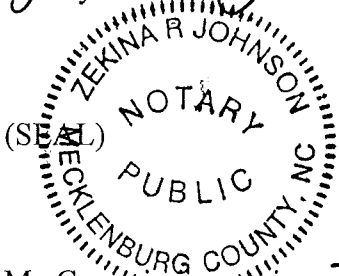
I, Zekina R. Johnson, a Notary Public for the above named County and State, do hereby certify that Benedict Onwukwe Okwara, M.D. personally appeared before me this day and acknowledged the due execution of the foregoing instrument.

Witness my hand and official seal

this the 30th day of October, 2013.



Notary Public



My Commission expires: July 17, 2016