



North Carolina Medical Board

John W. Rusher, MD, JD: President | Michaux R. Kilpatrick, MD, PhD: President-Elect | Christine M. Khandelwal, DO: Secretary/Treasurer

May 5, 2022

Via Attorney of Record

Wesley Hsu, M.D.
Wake Forest University Baptist Medical Center
Medical Center Boulevard
Winston-Salem, NC 27157

Dear Dr. Hsu:

The North Carolina Medical Board (“Board”) has concluded its investigation regarding your care of Patient A. It is the Board’s decision not to commence formal proceedings against your license. However, the Board voted to issue you this public letter of concern. The Board does not consider a public letter of concern to be a disciplinary action or a limitation or restriction on your license.

In June 2017, you evaluated a seventy-two-year-old male (“Patient A”) with thoracic and lumbar stenosis. An MRI of the lumbar showed severe stenosis at thoracic vertebrae (“T10/11”) and stenosis and spondylolistheses of the fourth and fifth lumbar vertebrae (“L4/5”). A dedicated thoracic MRI also showed stenosis at T10/11 but was interpreted and documented by an independent radiologist to be at T11/12. On August 1, 2017, you performed decompression and fusion surgery on Patient A at levels T11/12 and L4/L5.

The Board is concerned you relied on the thoracic MRI which incorrectly labeled the stenosis at T11/12 without reconciling the thoracic MRI with the lumbar MRI, which correctly labeled the stenosis at T10/11. This failure to reconcile the two conflicting MRI reports led to you incorrectly diagnosing stenosis at T11/12. The Board reminds you that you should review all available imaging and correlate different studies to confirm difficult to localize lesions in the thoracic spine both preoperatively and intraoperatively.

The Board is concerned that your care of Patient A may have failed to conform to the standards of acceptable and prevailing medical practice in North Carolina. The Board urges you to take steps to ensure the conduct giving rise to the Board’s concerns does not happen again. Otherwise, the Board may take additional action against your license to practice medicine. If that happens, this letter may be reviewed in determining the appropriate action.

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.

Sincerely,


John W. Rusher, M.D., J.D.
President

JWR/MJ/jhg

Consent and Waiver

I, Wesley Hsu, 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 above matter. I hereby waive any requirement under any law or rule that this public letter of concern be served on me.

Consented to this the 5th day of may, 2022.

Wesley Hsu
Wesley Hsu, M.D.

State of North Carolina

County of Forsyth

I, Christopher West, do hereby certify that Wesley Hsu, 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 5th day of may, 2022.

Christopher West
Notary Public

(Official Seal)

My Commission Expires: 9-30-2023

