



# COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Robert A. Nebiker  
Director

## Department of Health Professions

6603 West Broad Street, 5th Floor  
Richmond, Virginia 23230-1712

February 5, 2003

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Vincent J. Speckhart, M.D.  
902 Graydon Avenue  
Norfolk, Virginia 23507

**CERTIFIED MAIL**  
7160 3901 9844 7522 9658

RE: License No.: 0101-020185

Dear Dr. Speckhart:

This letter is official notification that an informal conference of the Virginia Board of Medicine ("Board") will be held on **Wednesday, March 12, 2003, at 9:00 a.m., at the Williamsburg Marriott, 50 Kingsmill Road, Williamsburg, Virginia.** The conference will be conducted pursuant to Sections 54.1-2919, 2.2-4019 and 2.2-4021 of the Code of Virginia (1950), as amended ("Code").

An Informal Conference Committee ("Committee"), composed of three members of the Board, will inquire into allegations that you may have violated certain laws governing the practice of medicine in Virginia.

1. You may have violated Sections 54.1-2915.A(4) and (3), as further defined in Sections 54.1-2914.A(8) and (11) in that from in or about April 1996, to in or about June 1998, you continuously prescribed Estriol, a form of estrogen, to Patient A without performing a preliminary examination or follow-up evaluations including pelvic exams and pap smears.

2. You may have violated Sections 54.1-2915.A(1), (2), (4) and (3), as further defined in Sections 54.1-2914.A(8) and (11) of the Code, by diagnosing and treating patients exclusively with an Electro-Acupuncture of Voll ("EAV"), a machine previously deemed unworthy of scientific reliance by the Board. Specifically:

a. On August 17, 1998, Patient A presented to your office with lower back pain radiating down her left leg. During this visit, you failed to perform or document a physical examination or perform other diagnostic testing; however, you diagnosed the patient with inflammation of the meninges.

b. On August 24, 1998, Patient A returned to your office with increased pain. You noted in the patient's record that her general health was "normal" and diagnosed her with Newcastle Disease Virus and neuralgia.

c. On August 31, 1998, Patient A returned to your office with right lower quadrant pain and no improvement. You noted that her general health was "normal" and diagnosed her with gangrenous appendicitis.

d. After diagnosing Patient A with several conditions and prescribing various treatments with no improvement, you failed to refer her to a qualified specialist to assist in evaluating her condition and properly diagnose her ailment.

e. On December 23, 1998, following EAV testing and without performing a physical examination, MRI or CT scan, you told Patient A that her tumor had decreased in size by 90%.

The following actions may be taken by this Committee:

1. If a majority of the Committee is of the opinion that a suspension or revocation of your license may be justified, the Committee shall present to the Board in writing its findings, and the Board may proceed with a formal hearing.
2. The Committee may notify you in writing that you are fully exonerated of any charge that might affect your right to practice medicine in Virginia.
3. The Committee may reprimand or censure you.
4. The Committee may impose a monetary penalty pursuant to Section 54.1-2401 of the Code.
5. The Committee may place you on probation for such time as it may designate and direct that during such period you furnish the Committee or its chairman, at such intervals as the Committee may direct, evidence that you are not practicing in violation of the provisions of Chapter 29, Title 54.1 of the Code, which governs the practice of medicine in Virginia.

You have the right to information that will be relied upon by the Committee in making a decision. Therefore, I enclose a copy of the documents that will be distributed to the members of the Committee, and will be considered by the Committee when deliberating upon your case. These documents are enclosed only with the original notice sent by certified mail and must be claimed at the post office. Copies of these documents has been provided to Mr. Algis Augustine, Esquire. You may be represented by an attorney at the informal conference.

Absent good cause shown to support a request for a continuance, the informal conference will be held on March 12, 2003. A request to continue this proceeding must state in detail the reason for the request and must establish good cause. Such request must be made in writing to me at the address listed on this letter and must be received by 12:00 noon on February 17, 2003. Only one such motion will be considered. Absent exigent circumstances, such as personal or family illness, a request for a continuance after February 17, 2003, will not be considered.

To facilitate this proceeding, you must submit eight (8) copies of any documents you wish for the Committee to consider to Reneé S. Dixon, Discipline Case Manager, Virginia Board of Medicine, 6603 West Broad Street, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor, Richmond, Virginia 23230-1717, by 12 noon on February 20, 2003. Your documents may not be submitted by facsimile or e-mail. Should you or Senior Assistant Attorney General Frank Pedrotty wish to submit any documents for the Committee's consideration after February 20, 2003, such documents shall be considered only upon a ruling by the Chair of the informal conference committee that good cause has been shown for late submission.

Relevant sections of the Administrative Process Act, which govern proceedings of this nature, as well as laws relating to the practice of medicine and other healing arts in Virginia cited in this notice can be found at <http://leg1.state.va.us>. To access this information, please click on the *Code of Virginia* for laws and *Virginia Administrative Code* for regulations.

Please advise the Board, in writing, of your intention to be present. Should you fail to appear at the informal conference, the Board may proceed to a formal administrative hearing in order to impose sanctions.

If you have any questions regarding this notice, please contact Whitney Lou, Senior Adjudication Analyst, at (804) 662-7677.

Sincerely,



William L. Harp, M.D.  
Executive Director  
Virginia Board of Medicine

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Enclosures:  
Informal Conference Package  
Map

Notice of Informal Conference - Vincent J. Speckhart, M.D.

February 5, 2003

Page 4

cc: Harry C. Beaver, M.D., President, Virginia Board of Medicine  
Robert A. Nebiker, Director, Department of Health Professions  
Frank Pedrotty, Senior Assistant Attorney General [w/enclosures]  
Whitney Lou, Senior Adjudication Analyst  
Algis Augustine, Esquire [w/enclosures/CERTIFIED MAIL 7160 3901 9844 7522 9665]  
Renee Dixson, Discipline Case Manager  
Doris J. Berrier, Senior Investigator (80205)