



**PRESS RELEASE**  
**IOWA BOARD OF MEDICINE**  
**(October 7, 2021)**

Recently, the Iowa Board of Medicine took the following action:

[Christina R. Anderson, M.D.](#), a 31-year-old Iowa physician was granted a permanent Iowa medical license subject to the terms of a Consent Agreement on September 30, 2021. Upon verifying Dr. Anderson's residency training, the Board received information which indicates the residency program had concerns with Dr. Anderson's ability to successfully care for patients of very high acuity with multiple comorbidities in inpatient settings. Under the terms of the September 30, 2021, Consent Agreement, Dr. Anderson may provide inpatient care so long as all such care is assigned to a second physician, who shall supervise all of Dr. Anderson's provision of care to such patients and who shall jointly be responsible for patient care. Dr. Anderson may apply for termination of this restriction no less than six (6) months from the date of this order. The Board also placed Dr. Anderson on probation for a period of three years subject to Board monitoring.

[Arthur P. Fine, M.D.](#), a 66-year-old Iowa licensed physician who practices surgical medicine in Huntington, West Virginia, had a Statement of Charges filed by the Iowa Board on September 30, 2021. The Iowa Board alleged that Dr. Fine was disciplined by a licensing authority of another state and failed to report the disciplinary action to the Iowa Board in violation of the laws and rules governing the practice of medicine in Iowa. A contested case hearing shall be scheduled by the Iowa Board in the future.

[Linda M. Iler, M.D.](#), a 68-year-old Iowa licensed physician who formerly practiced family medicine in Carroll, Iowa, entered into a combined Statement of Charges and Settlement Agreement with the Board on September 30, 2021. The Board alleged that Dr. Iler demonstrated substantial professional incompetency following a competency evaluation by the Center for Personalized Education for Physicians (CPEP), including but not limited to the following: medical knowledge; clinical judgement and reasoning; patient care documentation and communication skills. Under the terms of the September 30, 2021, combined Statement of Charges and Settlement Agreement, Dr. Iler voluntarily surrendered her Iowa medical license.

[Thomas A. Novak, M.D.](#), a 62-year-old Iowa licensed physician who practices family medicine in West Branch, Iowa, entered into a combined Statement of Charges and Settlement Agreement with the Board on September 30, 2021. The Board alleged that Dr. Novak engaged in professional incompetency and inappropriate prescribing of controlled substances regarding his care of patients identified by a Board-ordered peer review, wherein it was found that Dr. Novak's patient care fell below the standard of care,

including poor documentation of pain management, Prescription Monitoring Program (PMP) checks, urine drug screens, and patient counseling, and use of inappropriate drug regimens. Under the terms of the September 30, 2021, combined Statement of Charges and Settlement Agreement, the Board issued Dr. Novak a Citation and Warning and ordered him to pay a \$5,000 civil penalty. The Board also prohibited Dr. Novak from prescribing, administering or dispensing controlled substances for the treatment of chronic pain under his Iowa medical license. This prohibition does not prohibit Dr. Novak from prescribing, administering or dispensing controlled substances for the treatment of acute pain or to patients in residential hospice and nursing home settings. This prohibition shall take effect ninety (90) days from the date of this Order to allow Dr. Novak time to transition current patients to alternative providers. The Board also placed Dr. Novak on probation for a period of five years subject to Board monitoring.

**When appropriate, disciplinary actions are reported to the National Practitioner Data Bank, an electronic repository administered by the U.S. Health Resources and Services Administration to track adverse license actions.**

**CONSUMER COMPLAINTS: Consumers can submit complaints against physicians at <https://medicalboard.iowa.gov/consumers/filing-complaint>, by calling (515) 281-5847 or mail to 400 SW 8<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite C, Des Moines, IA 50309.**

**To view these actions, please visit our Find a Physician page at the link below: <https://eservices.iowa.gov/PublicPortal/iowa/IBM/licenseQuery/LicenseQuery.jsp?Profession=Physician>**