



Kentucky Board of Medical Licensure Newsletter

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Summer 2018

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KASPER Report Change for Buprenorphine Prescriptions

Buprenorphine prescriptions currently included on KASPER reports include the daily morphine milligram equivalent dosage (MED). The KASPER MED calculation is based on a morphine milligram equivalent conversion table distributed by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The CDC recently released a new MME conversion table that does not include conversion factors for any buprenorphine products. Following is the guidance provided by the CDC related to this change.

Buprenorphine products are listed in this file but do not have an associated MME conversion factor. The conversion factors for drugs prescribed or provided as part of medication-assisted treatment for opioid use disorder should not be used to benchmark against dosage thresholds meant for opioids prescribed for pain. These buprenorphine products, as partial opioid agonists, are not expected to be associated with overdose risk in the same dose-dependent manner as doses for full agonist opioids.

The Cabinet for Health and Family Services plans to begin using the new CDC MED conversion table effective October 1, 2018. Please be aware that after that date, KASPER reports will no longer show a MED value for any buprenorphine product, and they will not be included in the Active Cumulative Morphine Equivalent (ACME) calculation. If you have questions, please email eKASPER.Admin@ky.gov.

Free Board Opioid Prescribing CME Coming to Louisville and Northern Kentucky in October

On June 23rd, the Kentucky Board of Medical Licensure held a free day long continuing medical education activity at Baptist Health Lexington. The event was a success and due to the interest from physicians throughout the state, the Board is planning to hold additional opportunities in Louisville on **October 13, 2018**, and in Northern Kentucky in **October 2018**.

The focus of the education will be on the requirements of House Bill 1 and House Bill 333 along with 201 KAR 9:260 and the critical components of opioid management. This in-depth course will also provide critical information on managing patients on opioids, interpreting urine drug screens, weaning opioids and recognizing and dealing with addiction.

There will be no costs for attending the educational event and the course is approved for HB 1 CME and for the Board's current CME cycle. Once the events are finalized, the Board will announce registration via email and on our website.

Board Orders can be viewed under the Physician Profile/
Verification of License link on the Board's website at
www.kbml.ky.gov

Board Action Report (actions taken since 04/01/18)

Scotty R. Akers, M.D., Pikeville, KY, License # 34819
Agreed Order entered into 05/24/18.

James T. Allen, M.D., Louisville, KY, License # 22964
Agreed Order entered into 05/08/18.

Elizabeth Veeneman Bates, M.D., Louisville, KY, License # 36808
Order of Indefinite Restriction issued 06/22/18, effective
07/23/18.

Sanjay Chavda, M.D., Hopkinsville, KY, License # 33784
Agreed Order entered into 05/08/18.

Brandon Nelson Conrad, M.D., Danville, KY, License # 47034
Order of Indefinite Restriction issued 04/20/18, effective
05/23/18.

Gregory G. Duma, M.D., Mason, OH, License # 28974
Amended Agreed Order entered into 05/17/18.

Gregory G. Duma, M.D., Mason, OH, License # 28974
Second Amended Agreed Order entered into 05/23/18.

Wayne R. Edwards, M.D., Pikeville, KY, License # 34226
Fifth Amended Agreed Order entered into 04/09/18.

Miechia Ashawn Esco, M.D., St. Petersburg, FL, License # 49513
Agreed Order entered into 05/01/18.

Miechia Ashawn Esco, M.D., St. Petersburg, FL, License # 49513
Order Terminating Agreed Order issued 06/04/18.

Chris A. Ethridge, M.D., Louisville, KY, License # R4620
Agreed Order entered into 06/26/18.

Ali Farooqui, M.D., Louisville, KY, License # 51657
Agreed Order entered into 06/25/18.

Theodore Gerstle, M.D., Lexington, KY, License # 47125
Agreed Order entered into 06/27/18.

C. Fred Gott, M.D., Bowling Green, KY, License # 20987
Agreed Order of Permanent Surrender entered into
05/17/18.

Shawn Greschel, M.D., Louisville, KY, License # R4287
Agreed Order of Surrender entered into 04/26/18.

Bill H. Harris, M.D., Dandridge, TN, License # 17915
Agreed Order entered into 05/31/18.

Teresa A. Howard, M.D., Largo, FL, License # 28096
Agreed Order entered into 05/31/18.

Teresa A. Howard, M.D., Largo, FL, License # 28096
Order Terminating Agreed Order issued 06/08/18.

William A. James, M.D., Dyersburg, TN, License # 26231
Agreed Order entered into 05/04/18.

Mark K. Jordan, M.D., Edgewood, KY, License # 38774
Order Terminating Agreed Order issued 04/26/18

John B. Kelly, M.D., Crestview Hills, KY, License # 27953
Order Terminating Agreed Order issued 05/21/18.

Allison Koetter, M.D., Lexington, KY, License # R4623
Agreed Order entered into 06/27/18.

Pedro Juan Loredo, M.D., Southlake, TX, License # 40806
Order Terminating Agreed Order issued 04/20/18.

Stephen P. Meese, D.O., Sardinia, OH, License # 02536
Agreed Order entered into 06/07/18.

Steven R. Mills, D.O., Hartford, KY, License # 03089
Order Terminating Agreed Order issued 05/21/18.

Stephen Lee Moore, D.O., Avon Lake, OH, License # 03919
Order Terminating Second Amended Agreed Order
issued 05/21/18.

Shane Thomas Napier, D.O., Central City, KY, License # 03486
Amended Agreed Order entered into 04/26/18.

Miguel A. Ordonez, PA-C, Florence, KY, License # PA2048
Agreed Order entered into 06/04/18.

John V. Payne, M.D., Berea, KY, License # 14498
Agreed Order entered into 05/29/18.

Chandra M. Reddy, M.D., Glasgow, KY, License # 32087
Second Amended Agreed Order entered into 06/28/18.

Morgan D. Schulz, M.D., Richmond, KY, License # 47557
Agreed Order entered into 06/05/18.

Prakash N. Shah, M.D., Hopkinsville, KY, License # 31011
Order Terminating Amended Agreed Order issued
05/23/18.

Cindy Sirois, M.D., Sea Ranch Lakes, FL, License # 45122
Agreed Order entered into 05/23/18.

Cindy Sirois, M.D., Sea Ranch Lakes, FL, License # 45122
Order Terminating Agreed Order issued 06/18/18.

James A. Summa, M.D., San Diego, CA, License # 51254
Agreed Order of Fine entered into 04/02/18.

Abdolkarim Tahanasab, M.D., Frankfort, KY, License # 17210
Agreed Order entered into 06/01/18.

Shawn D. Trask, M.D., Montgomery, AL, License # 43235
Order Terminating Agreed Order issued 04/20/18.

Restrictions have also been placed on the following physicians' licenses pending resolution of charges brought against them.

Martin A. Barrios, M.D., Jackson, KY, License # 42222

Complaint and Amended Emergency Order of Restriction issued 05/18/18, effective 05/19/18.

Elizabeth Bates, M.D., Louisville, KY, License # 36808

Order Granting Motion for Interlocutory Relief issued 05/11/18.

Thomas D. Falls, M.D., Louisville, KY, License # 49515

Emergency Order of Suspension issued 05/09/18, effective 05/11/18, Complaint issued 05/17/18.

Suresh B. Kodali, M.D., Elizabethtown, KY, License # 24553

Complaint and Emergency Order of Restriction issued 06/05/18, effective 06/06/18.

Help Protect Your Practice – Review Your Prescribing Report Card

One of the best ways to help protect your practice is to review your personal KASPER Prescriber Report card on a regular basis. The Kentucky Health & Family Services Cabinet recently updated this resource and expanded the information that is available to help physicians monitor their controlled substances prescribing and actually compare your prescribing practices with physicians in same specialty throughout the Commonwealth.

KASPER Prescriber Report Cards are available on a quarterly basis and annual (calendar year) basis. A copy of the new user guide for this option is now available on the KASPER public web site: www.chfs.ky.gov/KASPER. To simplify access, KASPER prescriber master account holders have the option to authorize one or more of their delegates to request an electronic or hardcopy of the prescriber report card on their behalf.

Prescribers with multiple DEA licenses should contact the KASPER Help Desk to add them to their account so they will be included in the prescriber report card calculations. The Board strongly encourages all physicians who are authorized to prescribe controlled substances to take advantage of this information and also periodically run obtain a reverse KASPER report in order to determine whether there may be any diversion taking place in the office setting.

Reminder on 3 Day Prescribing Limitations for Acute Pain

The Board would like to remind all physicians who are authorized to prescribe controlled substances in Kentucky of the 3 day limitation on prescribing opioids for acute pain, which is in accordance with the CDC Guideline for Prescribing Opioids for Chronic Pain. Back on November 15, 2017, the Board completed its work on amending 201 KAR 9:260 to comply with 2017's HB 333, which was enacted by the Kentucky General Assembly and signed by Governor Bevin. Due to this fact, please note the changes to the regulation are complete and now effective.

Physicians are strongly encouraged to review this information and become familiar with the changes in the regulation and the exceptions. By visiting the Board's website, www.kbml.ky.gov, you can find a copy of the regulation along with an updated summary and answers to some frequently asked questions on this issue.

Dr. Buser Announces Retirement from University of Pikeville - Kentucky College of Osteopathic Medicine

During the proceedings of the Board's regular meeting on June 21, 2018, Boyd R. Buser, D.O. was formally recognized for his contributions toward the enhancement of medicine and dedication to the citizens of the Commonwealth while serving on the Kentucky Board of Medical Licensure from September 1, 2007 to July 1, 2018.

Dr. Buser earned the deep admiration of his peers for his outstanding leadership in his role as the Vice President for Health Affairs and Dean at the University Of Pikeville - Kentucky College Of Osteopathic Medicine.

He was also recognized for his many contributions to osteopathic physicians in Kentucky and the nation as he served as the 120th president of the American Osteopathic Association. In addition, the Board noted that Dr. Buser is a fellow of the American College of Osteopathic Family Physicians and is a past president of the American Academy of Osteopathy. Dr. Buser is also a past chair of the National Board of Osteopathic Medical Examiners and has served in numerous other roles in organized medicine.

The Board would like to express its deepest gratitude to Dr. Buser for his service and wishes him the very best on a well-deserved retirement.

In response to Dr. Buser's retirement, Dana C. Shaffer, D.O., has been officially named Dean of the University of Pikeville – Kentucky College of Osteopathic Medicine effective July 1, 2018. The Board welcomes Dr. Shaffer to his new role and looks forward to working with him in the future.

Important Treatment Resources for Patients and Families

As part of the state's Don't Let Them Die campaign, the Justice and Public Safety Cabinet and Operation UNITE have created the KY Help Call Center to connect residents with drug treatment. The toll-free hotline — 1-833-8KY-HELP (1-833-859-4357) — opened on Dec. 1 and is intended for individuals struggling with substance abuse as well as family members. The call center provides referrals across the state to both public and private treatment providers and is staffed with specialists available 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. Otherwise, callers can leave a message. All calls are kept confidential.

In addition to the Don't Let Them Die Campaign, a new website has been rolled out that provides a vital link for Kentucky health care providers, court officials, families and individuals seeking options for substance abuse treatment and recovery. "Find Help Now KY" (www.findhelpnowky.org) delivers real-time information about available space in substance use disorder treatment programs, and guides users to the right type of treatment for their needs.

The website is a project of the [Kentucky Injury Prevention and Research Center \(KIPRC\)](#) at the [University of Kentucky College of Public Health](#), a bona fide agent of the Kentucky Department for Public Health. The project is in partnership with the office of Kentucky Gov. Matt Bevin and the Kentucky Cabinets for Health and Family Services and Justice and Public Safety. The site, funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), links to Kentucky's current, "[Don't Let Them Die](#)" website. The "Find Help Now KY" website also includes the statewide hotline number (1-833-8KY-HELP) for direct assistance.

"Find Help Now KY" features a near real-time treatment opening locator for substance use disorder (SUD, commonly known as addiction). The locator guides individuals to available SUD treatment openings based on the type of treatment needed. It takes into consideration the substance(s) being used, payment options including commercial and public insurance programs, gender identity, preference for in- or out-patient treatment, and needed co-occurring treatments such as mental health care, plus 30 more criteria. The site provides daily availability information for treatment openings, to enable rapid admission to addiction programs. The "Find Help Now KY" landing page also allows high priority populations, such adolescents and those who are pregnant, to find treatment availability options more easily.

Evidence That Pilots Are Increasingly Using Over-the-Counter, Prescription, and Illicit Drugs

The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) analyzed toxicology tests from 6,677 pilots who died in a total of 6,597 aviation accidents between 1990 and 2012. The results demonstrate a significant increase in the use of a variety of potentially impairing drugs.

The study found significantly increasing trends in pilots' use of all drugs, potentially impairing drugs (those with a US Food and Drug Administration warning about sedation or behavior changes in routine use), controlled substances, and illicit drugs (those defined as Schedule I by the US Drug Enforcement Administration). The final report, [Drug Use Trends in Aviation: Assessing the Risk of Pilot Impairment](#), is available on the NTSB's web page under report number SS-14/01.

In this study, the pilot was considered to be positive for a drug if it could be qualitatively or quantitatively identified in blood or tissue; drugs identified only in urine or used as part of resuscitative efforts were excluded.

Overall, 98% of the study pilots were male and 96% were flying privately rather than for commercial purposes. The average age of study pilots increased from 46 to 57 years over the study period.

Over the course of the study, for fatally injured pilots, the following was found:

The proportion of pilots testing positive for at least one drug increased from 10% to 40%.

More than 20% of all pilots from 2008-2012 were positive for a potentially impairing drug, and 6% of all pilots were positive for more than one potentially impairing drug.

Overall, the most common potentially impairing drug pilots had used was diphenhydramine, a sedating antihistamine (the active ingredient in many Benadryl and Unisom products).

During the most recent 5 years studied, 8% of all pilots tested positive for controlled substances; hydrocodone and diazepam each accounted for 20% of the positive findings.

The percentage of pilots testing positive for marijuana use increased to about 3% during the study period, mostly in the last 10 years.

The large increase in the proportion of fatally injured pilots with evidence of potentially impairing drugs suggests an increasing risk of impairment in general aviation. Aviation is the only transportation mode in which a fatally injured operator (pilot) routinely undergoes extensive toxicology testing; no similar testing is routinely performed for fatally injured operators of boats, trains, trucks, or cars. Given the general increase in drug use in the population, it is likely that there has been a similar trend in drug use among operators across all modes of transportation. (continued on next page)

-Continued from page 4

These results highlight the importance of routine discussions between health care providers and pharmacists and their patients about the potential risks that drugs and medical conditions can create when patients are operating a vehicle in any mode of transportation.

As a result of this report and recommendations of the NTSB, the Kentucky Board of Medical Licensure would like to remind all physicians authorized to prescribe controlled substances in the Commonwealth of Kentucky they **should routinely** address and implement the NTSB recommendations when following the standards set out in 201 KAR 9:260 by **discussing and documenting their discussion with patients on the effect and their medical conditions and medication use may have on their ability to safely operate a vehicle in any mode of transportation.**

Passing of Former Board Member

Recently, the Board became aware of the sad news that one of our former members, Thangam "Sam" Rangaswamy, PhD, passed away on June 10, 2018. Dr. Rangaswamy served as a consumer member on the Board for 12 years and selflessly dedicated countless hours to the citizens and physicians of the Commonwealth. In addition to serving on the Board, Dr. Rangaswamy was the founder of the respected Engineering firm, Rangaswamy and Associates, Inc., and served many other organizations throughout Kentucky and was a selfless humanitarian.

Dr. Rangaswamy is survived by his wife, Kohl, of 47 years and his son Chandran Rangaswamy, M.D., who is a cardiologist in Louisville, and their family. The members of the Board and staff are grateful for the opportunity to have associated and collaborated with Dr. Rangaswamy for so many years and would like to express our condolences to his family.

DEA Sponsoring Practitioner Diversion Awareness Conference

The Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) has announced it is holding a Practitioner Diversion Awareness Conference on August 6-7 at the Seelbach Hilton Hotel in downtown Louisville. Participants are eligible to receive 6.5 hours CME/CM, with two of those hours being eligible to be used to meet the HB 1 CME mandate as set forth in 201 KAR 9:230.

For those interested, registration for the conference is free and if you cannot attend the event on the 6th, you can make plans to attend the training on the 7th, as it is being repeated. You can find information about registering for the event on the Board's website.

**Kentucky Board of Medical Licensure
310 Whittington Pkwy., #1B
Louisville, KY 40222**

Change of Address Notice

Please Note: The information that you provide on this Change of Address Notice will be used to update your profile on the Board's web site at www.kbml.ky.gov.

You may also change your address online <http://kbml.ky.gov/address/Pages/default.aspx>

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