

REFERENCE TITLE: unprofessional conduct; health professionals

State of Arizona
House of Representatives
Fifty-sixth Legislature
First Regular Session
2023

HB 2468

Introduced by
Representative Montenegro

AN ACT

AMENDING SECTIONS 32-1401 AND 32-1854, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES; AMENDING
TITLE 32, CHAPTER 32, ARTICLE 1, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES, BY ADDING
SECTION 32-3230.02; RELATING TO HEALTH PROFESSIONALS.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

1 Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona:

2 Section 1. Section 32-1401, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to
3 read:

4 32-1401. Definitions

5 In this chapter, unless the context otherwise requires:

6 1. "Active license" means a valid and existing license to practice
7 medicine.

8 2. "Adequate records" means legible medical records, produced by
9 hand or electronically, containing, at a minimum, sufficient information
10 to identify the patient, support the diagnosis, justify the treatment,
11 accurately document the results, indicate advice and cautionary warnings
12 provided to the patient and provide sufficient information for another
13 practitioner to assume continuity of the patient's care at any point in
14 the course of treatment.

15 3. "Advisory letter" means a nondisciplinary letter to notify a
16 licensee that either:

17 (a) While there is insufficient evidence to support disciplinary
18 action, the board believes that continuation of the activities that led to
19 the investigation may result in further board action against the licensee.

20 (b) The violation is a minor or technical violation that is not of
21 sufficient merit to warrant disciplinary action.

22 (c) While the licensee has demonstrated substantial compliance
23 through rehabilitation or remediation that has mitigated the need for
24 disciplinary action, the board believes that repetition of the activities
25 that led to the investigation may result in further board action against
26 the licensee.

27 4. "Approved hospital internship, residency or clinical fellowship
28 program" means a program at a hospital that at the time the training
29 occurred was legally incorporated and that had a program that was approved
30 for internship, fellowship or residency training by the accreditation
31 council for graduate medical education, the association of American
32 medical colleges, the royal college of physicians and surgeons of Canada
33 or any similar body in the United States or Canada approved by the board
34 whose function is that of approving hospitals for internship, fellowship
35 or residency training.

36 5. "Approved school of medicine" means any school or college
37 offering a course of study that, on successful completion, results in the
38 degree of doctor of medicine and whose course of study has been approved
39 or accredited by an educational or professional association, recognized by
40 the board, including the association of American medical colleges, the
41 association of Canadian medical colleges or the American medical
42 association.

43 6. "Board" means the Arizona medical board.

1 7. "Completed application" means that the applicant has supplied
2 all required fees, information and correspondence requested by the board
3 on forms and in a manner acceptable to the board.

4 8. "Direct supervision" means that a physician, physician assistant
5 licensed pursuant to chapter 25 of this title or nurse practitioner
6 certified pursuant to chapter 15 of this title is within the same room or
7 office suite as the medical assistant in order to be available for
8 consultation regarding those tasks the medical assistant performs pursuant
9 to section 32-1456.

10 9. "Dispense" means the delivery by a doctor of medicine of a
11 prescription drug or device to a patient, except for samples packaged for
12 individual use by licensed manufacturers or repackagers of drugs, and
13 includes the prescribing, administering, packaging, labeling and security
14 necessary to prepare and safeguard the drug or device for delivery.

15 10. "Doctor of medicine" means a natural person holding a license,
16 registration or permit to practice medicine pursuant to this chapter.

17 11. "Full-time faculty member" means a physician who is employed
18 full time as a faculty member while holding the academic position of
19 assistant professor or a higher position at an approved school of
20 medicine.

21 12. "Health care institution" means any facility as defined in
22 section 36-401, any person authorized to transact disability insurance, as
23 defined in title 20, chapter 6, article 4 or 5, any person who is issued a
24 certificate of authority pursuant to title 20, chapter 4, article 9 or any
25 other partnership, association or corporation that provides health care to
26 consumers.

27 13. "Immediate family" means the spouse, natural or adopted
28 children, father, mother, brothers and sisters of the doctor OF MEDICINE
29 and the natural or adopted children, father, mother, brothers and sisters
30 of the ~~doctor's~~ DOCTOR OF MEDICINE'S spouse.

31 14. "Letter of reprimand" means a disciplinary letter that is
32 issued by the board and that informs the physician that the physician's
33 conduct violates state or federal law and may require the board to monitor
34 the physician.

35 15. "Limit" means taking a nondisciplinary action that alters the
36 physician's practice or professional activities if the board determines
37 that there is evidence that the physician is or may be mentally or
38 physically unable to safely engage in the practice of medicine.

39 16. "Medical assistant" means an unlicensed person who meets the
40 requirements of section 32-1456, has completed an education program
41 approved by the board, assists in a medical practice under the supervision
42 of a doctor of medicine, physician assistant or nurse practitioner and
43 performs delegated procedures commensurate with the MEDICAL assistant's
44 education and training but does not diagnose, interpret, design or modify

1 established treatment programs or perform any functions that would violate
2 any statute applicable to the practice of medicine.

3 17. "Medically incompetent" means a person who the board determines
4 is incompetent based on a variety of factors, including:

5 (a) A lack of sufficient medical knowledge or skills, or both, to a
6 degree likely to endanger the health of patients.

7 (b) When considered with other indications of medical incompetence,
8 failing to obtain a scaled score of at least seventy-five percent on the
9 written special purpose licensing examination.

10 18. "Medical peer review" means:

11 (a) The participation by a doctor of medicine in the review and
12 evaluation of the medical management of a patient and the use of resources
13 for patient care.

14 (b) Activities relating to a health care institution's decision to
15 grant or continue privileges to practice at that institution.

16 19. "Medicine" means allopathic medicine as practiced by the
17 recipient of a degree of doctor of medicine.

18 20. ~~"Office-based~~ OFFICE-BASED surgery" means a medical procedure
19 conducted in a physician's office or other outpatient setting that is not
20 part of a licensed hospital or licensed ambulatory surgical center.

21 21. "Physician" means a doctor of medicine who is licensed pursuant
22 to this chapter.

23 22. "Practice of medicine":

24 (a) Means the diagnosis, the treatment or the correction of or the
25 attempt or the claim to be able to diagnose, treat or correct any and all
26 human diseases, injuries, ailments, infirmities or deformities, physical
27 or mental, real or imaginary, by any means, methods, devices or
28 instrumentalities, except as the same may be among the acts or persons not
29 affected by this chapter. ~~The practice of medicine~~

30 (b) Includes the practice of medicine alone or the practice of
31 surgery alone, or both.

32 23. "Restrict" means taking a disciplinary action that alters the
33 physician's practice or professional activities if the board determines
34 that there is evidence that the physician is or may be medically
35 incompetent or guilty of unprofessional conduct.

36 24. "Special purpose licensing examination" means an examination
37 that is developed by the national board of medical examiners on behalf of
38 the federation of state medical boards for use by state licensing boards
39 to test the basic medical competence of physicians who are applying for
40 licensure and who have been in practice for a considerable period of time
41 in another jurisdiction and to determine the competence of a physician who
42 is under investigation by a state licensing board.

43 25. "Teaching hospital's accredited graduate medical education
44 program" means that the hospital is incorporated and has an internship,
45 fellowship or residency training program that is accredited by the

1 accreditation council for graduate medical education, the American medical
2 association, the association of American medical colleges, the royal
3 college of physicians and surgeons of Canada or a similar body in the
4 United States or Canada that is approved by the board and whose function
5 is that of approving hospitals for internship, fellowship or residency
6 training.

7 26. "Teaching license" means a valid license to practice medicine
8 as a full-time faculty member of an approved school of medicine or a
9 teaching hospital's accredited graduate medical education program.

10 27. "Unprofessional conduct" includes the following, whether
11 occurring in this state or elsewhere:

12 (a) Violating any federal or state laws, rules or regulations
13 applicable to the practice of medicine.

14 (b) Intentionally disclosing a professional secret or intentionally
15 disclosing a privileged communication except as either act may otherwise
16 be required by law.

17 (c) Committing false, fraudulent, deceptive or misleading
18 advertising by a doctor of medicine or the ~~doctor's~~ DOCTOR OF MEDICINE'S
19 staff, employer or representative.

20 (d) Committing a felony, whether or not involving moral turpitude,
21 or a misdemeanor involving moral turpitude. In either case, conviction by
22 any court of competent jurisdiction or a plea of no contest is conclusive
23 evidence of the commission.

24 (e) Failing or refusing to maintain adequate records on a patient.

25 (f) Exhibiting a pattern of using or being under the influence of
26 alcohol or drugs or a similar substance while practicing medicine or to
27 the extent that judgment may be impaired and the practice of medicine
28 detrimentally affected.

29 (g) Using controlled substances except if prescribed by another
30 physician for use during a prescribed course of treatment.

31 (h) Prescribing or dispensing controlled substances to members of
32 the physician's immediate family.

33 (i) Prescribing, dispensing or administering schedule II controlled
34 substances as prescribed by section 36-2513 or the rules adopted pursuant
35 to section 36-2513, including amphetamines and similar schedule II
36 sympathomimetic drugs in the treatment of exogenous obesity for a period
37 in excess of thirty days in any one year, or the nontherapeutic use of
38 injectable amphetamines.

39 (j) Prescribing, dispensing or administering any controlled
40 substance or prescription-only drug for other than accepted therapeutic
41 purposes.

42 (k) Dispensing a schedule II controlled substance that is an
43 opioid, except as provided in section 32-1491.

44 (l) Signing a blank, undated or predated prescription form.

(m) Committing conduct that the board determines is gross malpractice, repeated malpractice or any malpractice resulting in the death of a patient.

(n) Representing that a manifestly incurable disease or infirmity can be permanently cured, or that any disease, ailment or infirmity can be cured by a secret method, procedure, treatment, medicine or device, if this is not true.

(o) Refusing to divulge to the board on demand the means, method, procedure, modality of treatment or medicine used in the treatment of a disease, injury, ailment or infirmity.

(p) Having action taken against a doctor of medicine by another licensing or regulatory jurisdiction due to that ~~doctor's~~ DOCTOR OF MEDICINE'S mental or physical inability to engage safely in the practice of medicine or the ~~doctor's~~ DOCTOR OF MEDICINE'S medical incompetence or for unprofessional conduct as defined by that jurisdiction and that corresponds directly or indirectly to an act of unprofessional conduct prescribed by this paragraph. The action taken may include refusing, denying, revoking or suspending a license by that jurisdiction or a surrendering of a license to that jurisdiction, otherwise limiting, restricting or monitoring a licensee by that jurisdiction or placing a licensee on probation by that jurisdiction.

(q) Having sanctions imposed by an agency of the federal government, including restricting, suspending, limiting or removing a person from the practice of medicine or restricting that person's ability to obtain financial remuneration.

(r) Committing any conduct or practice that is or might be harmful or dangerous to the health of the patient or the public.

(s) Violating a formal order, probation, consent agreement or stipulation issued or entered into by the board or its executive director under this chapter.

(t) Violating or attempting to violate, directly or indirectly, or assisting in or abetting the violation of or conspiring to violate any provision of this chapter.

(u) Knowingly making any false or fraudulent statement, written or oral, in connection with the practice of medicine or if applying for privileges or renewing an application for privileges at a health care institution.

(v) Charging a fee for services not rendered or dividing a professional fee for patient referrals among health care providers or health care institutions or between these providers and institutions or a contractual arrangement that has the same effect. This subdivision does not apply to payments from a medical researcher to a physician in connection with identifying and monitoring patients for a clinical trial regulated by the United States food and drug administration.

(w) Obtaining a fee by fraud, deceit or misrepresentation.

(x) Charging or collecting a clearly excessive fee. In determining whether a fee is clearly excessive, the board shall consider the fee or range of fees customarily charged in this state for similar services in light of modifying factors such as the time required, the complexity of the service and the skill requisite to perform the service properly. This subdivision does not apply if there is a clear written contract for a fixed fee between the physician and the patient that has been entered into before the provision of the service.

(y) Committing conduct that is in violation of section 36-2302.

(z) Using experimental forms of diagnosis and treatment without adequate informed patient consent, and without conforming to generally accepted experimental criteria, including protocols, detailed records, periodic analysis of results and periodic review by a medical peer review committee as approved by the United States food and drug administration or its successor agency.

(aa) Engaging in sexual conduct with a current patient or with a former patient within six months after the last medical consultation unless the patient was the licensee's spouse at the time of the contact or, immediately preceding the physician-patient relationship, was in a dating or engagement relationship with the licensee. For the purposes of this subdivision, "sexual conduct" includes:

(i) Engaging in or soliciting sexual relationships, whether consensual or nonconsensual.

(ii) Making sexual advances, requesting sexual favors or engaging in any other verbal conduct or physical contact of a sexual nature.

(iii) Intentionally viewing a completely or partially disrobed patient in the course of treatment if the viewing is not related to patient diagnosis or treatment under current practice standards.

(bb) Procuring or attempting to procure a license to practice medicine or a license renewal by fraud, by misrepresentation or by knowingly taking advantage of the mistake of another person or an agency.

(cc) Representing or claiming to be a medical specialist if this is not true.

(dd) Maintaining a professional connection with or lending one's name to enhance or continue the activities of an illegal practitioner of medicine.

(ee) Failing to furnish information in a timely manner to the board or the board's investigators or representatives if legally requested by the board.

(ff) Failing to allow properly authorized board personnel on demand to examine and have access to documents, reports and records maintained by the physician that relate to the physician's medical practice or medically related activities.

(gg) Knowingly failing to disclose to a patient on a form that is prescribed by the board and that is dated and signed by the patient or

1 guardian acknowledging that the patient or guardian has read and
2 understands that the doctor has a direct financial interest in a separate
3 diagnostic or treatment agency or in nonroutine goods or services that the
4 patient is being prescribed if the prescribed treatment, goods or services
5 are available on a competitive basis. This subdivision does not apply to
6 a referral by one doctor of medicine to another doctor of medicine within
7 a group of doctors of medicine practicing together.

8 (hh) Using chelation therapy in the treatment of arteriosclerosis
9 or as any other form of therapy, with the exception of treatment of heavy
10 metal poisoning, without:

11 (i) Adequate informed patient consent.

12 (ii) Conforming to generally accepted experimental criteria,
13 including protocols, detailed records, periodic analysis of results and
14 periodic review by a medical peer review committee.

15 (iii) Approval by the United States food and drug administration or
16 its successor agency.

17 (ii) Prescribing, dispensing or administering anabolic-androgenic
18 steroids to a person for other than therapeutic purposes.

19 (jj) Exhibiting a lack of or inappropriate direction, collaboration
20 or direct supervision of a medical assistant or a licensed, certified or
21 registered health care provider employed by, supervised by or assigned to
22 the physician.

23 (kk) Knowingly making a false or misleading statement to the board
24 or on a form required by the board or in a written correspondence,
25 including attachments, with the board.

26 (ll) Failing to dispense drugs and devices in compliance with
27 article 6 of this chapter.

28 (mm) Committing conduct that the board determines is gross
29 negligence, repeated negligence or negligence resulting in harm to or the
30 death of a patient.

31 (nn) Making a representation by a doctor of medicine or the
32 doctor's staff, employer or representative that the doctor OF MEDICINE is
33 boarded or board certified if this is not true or the standing is not
34 current or without supplying the full name of the specific agency,
35 organization or entity granting this standing.

36 (oo) Refusing to submit to a body fluid examination or any other
37 examination known to detect the presence of alcohol or other drugs as
38 required by the board pursuant to section 32-1452 or pursuant to a board
39 investigation into a doctor of medicine's alleged substance abuse.

40 (pp) Failing to report in writing to the Arizona medical board or
41 the Arizona regulatory board of physician assistants any evidence that a
42 doctor of medicine or a physician assistant is or may be medically
43 incompetent, guilty of unprofessional conduct or mentally or physically
44 unable to safely practice medicine or to perform as a physician assistant.

1 (qq) As a physician who is the chief executive officer, the medical
2 director or the medical chief of staff of a health care institution,
3 failing to report in writing to the board that the hospital privileges of
4 a doctor of medicine have been denied, revoked, suspended, supervised or
5 limited because of actions by the doctor OF MEDICINE that appear to show
6 that the doctor OF MEDICINE is or may be medically incompetent, is or may
7 be guilty of unprofessional conduct or is or may be unable to engage
8 safely in the practice of medicine.

9 (rr) Claiming to be a current member of the board or its staff or a
10 board medical consultant if this is not true.

11 (ss) Failing to make patient medical records in the physician's
12 possession promptly available to a physician assistant, a nurse
13 practitioner, a person licensed pursuant to this chapter or a podiatrist,
14 chiropractor, naturopathic physician, osteopathic physician or homeopathic
15 physician licensed under chapter 7, 8, 14, 17 or 29 of this title on
16 receipt of proper authorization to do so from the patient, a minor
17 patient's parent, the patient's legal guardian or the patient's authorized
18 representative or failing to comply with title 12, chapter 13,
19 article 7.1.

20 (tt) Prescribing, dispensing or furnishing a prescription
21 medication or a prescription-only device as defined in section 32-1901 to
22 a person unless the licensee first conducts a physical or mental health
23 status examination of that person or has previously established a
24 doctor-patient relationship. The physical or mental health status
25 examination may be conducted through telehealth as defined in section
26 36-3601 with a clinical evaluation that is appropriate for the patient and
27 the condition with which the patient presents, unless the examination is
28 for the purpose of obtaining a written certification from the physician
29 for the purposes of title 36, chapter 28.1. This subdivision does not
30 apply to:

31 (i) A physician who provides temporary patient supervision on
32 behalf of the patient's regular treating licensed health care professional
33 or provides a consultation requested by the patient's regular treating
34 licensed health care professional.

35 (ii) Emergency medical situations as defined in section 41-1831.

36 (iii) Prescriptions written to prepare a patient for a medical
37 examination.

38 (iv) Prescriptions written or prescription medications issued for
39 use by a county or tribal public health department for immunization
40 programs or emergency treatment or in response to an infectious disease
41 investigation, public health emergency, infectious disease outbreak or act
42 of bioterrorism. For the purposes of this item, "bioterrorism" has the
43 same meaning prescribed in section 36-781.

44 (v) Prescriptions written or antimicrobials dispensed to a contact
45 as defined in section 36-661 who is believed to have had significant

1 exposure risk as defined in section 36-661 with another person who has
2 been diagnosed with a communicable disease as defined in section 36-661 by
3 the prescribing or dispensing physician.

4 (vi) Prescriptions written or prescription medications issued for
5 administration of immunizations or vaccines listed in the United States
6 centers for disease control and prevention's recommended immunization
7 schedule to a household member of a patient.

8 (vii) Prescriptions for epinephrine auto-injectors written or
9 dispensed for a school district or charter school to be stocked for
10 emergency use pursuant to section 15-157 or for an authorized entity to be
11 stocked pursuant to section 36-2226.01.

12 (viii) Prescriptions written by a licensee through a telehealth
13 program that is covered by the policies and procedures adopted by the
14 administrator of a hospital or outpatient treatment center.

15 (ix) Prescriptions for naloxone hydrochloride or any other opioid
16 antagonist approved by the United States food and drug administration that
17 are written or dispensed for use pursuant to section 36-2228 or 36-2266.

18 (uu) Performing ~~office-based~~ OFFICE-BASED surgery using sedation in
19 violation of board rules.

20 (vv) Practicing medicine under a false or assumed name in this
21 state.

22 (ww) FAILING TO PROVIDE ADEQUATE INFORMED PATIENT CONSENT FOR ANY
23 TREATMENT PROVIDED TO A PATIENT AND TO DOCUMENT THE INFORMED PATIENT
24 CONSENT IN THE PATIENT'S MEDICAL RECORD.

25 Sec. 2. Section 32-1854, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to
26 read:

27 32-1854. Definition of unprofessional conduct

28 For the purposes of this chapter, "unprofessional conduct" includes
29 the following acts, whether occurring in this state or elsewhere:

30 1. Knowingly betraying a professional secret or wilfully violating
31 a privileged communication except as either of these may otherwise be
32 required by law. This paragraph does not prevent members of the board
33 from exchanging information with the licensing and disciplinary boards of
34 other states, territories or districts of the United States or with
35 foreign countries or with osteopathic medical organizations located in
36 this state or in any state, district or territory of this country or in
37 any foreign country.

38 2. Committing a felony or a misdemeanor involving moral turpitude.
39 In either case conviction by any court of competent jurisdiction is
40 conclusive evidence of the commission of the offense.

41 3. Practicing medicine while under the influence of alcohol, a
42 dangerous drug as defined in section 13-3401, narcotic or hypnotic drugs
43 or any substance that impairs or may impair the licensee's ability to
44 safely and skillfully practice medicine.

1 4. Being diagnosed by a physician licensed under this chapter or
2 chapter 13 of this title or a psychologist licensed under chapter 19.1 of
3 this title as excessively or illegally using alcohol or a controlled
4 substance.

5 5. Prescribing, dispensing or administering controlled substances
6 or prescription-only drugs for other than accepted therapeutic purposes.

7 6. Engaging in the practice of medicine in a manner that harms or
8 may harm a patient or that the board determines falls below the community
9 standard.

10 7. Impersonating another physician.

11 8. Acting or assuming to act as a member of the board if this is
12 not true.

13 9. Procuring, renewing or attempting to procure or renew a license
14 to practice osteopathic medicine by fraud or misrepresentation.

15 10. Having professional connection with or lending one's name to an
16 illegal practitioner of osteopathic medicine or any of the other healing
17 arts.

18 11. Representing that a manifestly incurable disease, injury,
19 ailment or infirmity can be permanently cured or that a curable disease,
20 injury, ailment or infirmity can be cured within a stated time if this is
21 not true.

22 12. Failing to reasonably disclose and inform the patient or the
23 patient's representative of the method, device or instrumentality the
24 licensee uses to treat the patient's disease, injury, ailment or
25 infirmity.

26 13. Refusing to divulge to the board on demand the means, method,
27 device or instrumentality used to treat a disease, injury, ailment or
28 infirmity.

29 14. Charging a fee for services not rendered or dividing a
30 professional fee for patient referrals. This paragraph does not apply to
31 payments from a medical researcher to a physician in connection with
32 identifying and monitoring patients for clinical trial regulated by the
33 United States food and drug administration.

34 15. Knowingly making any false or fraudulent statement, written or
35 oral, in connection with the practice of medicine or when applying for or
36 renewing privileges at a health care institution or a health care program.

37 16. Advertising in a false, deceptive or misleading manner.

38 17. Representing or claiming to be an osteopathic medical
39 specialist if the physician has not satisfied the applicable requirements
40 of this chapter or board rules.

41 18. Having a license denied or disciplinary action taken against a
42 license by any other state, territory, district or country, unless it can
43 be shown that this occurred for reasons that did not relate to the
44 person's ability to safely and skillfully practice osteopathic medicine or
45 to any act of unprofessional conduct as provided in this section.

1 19. Committing any conduct or practice contrary to recognized
2 standards of ethics of the osteopathic medical profession.

3 20. Violating or attempting to violate, directly or indirectly, or
4 assisting in or abetting the violation of or conspiring to violate any of
5 the provisions of this chapter.

6 21. Failing or refusing to establish and maintain adequate records
7 on a patient as follows:

8 (a) If the patient is an adult, for at least six years after the
9 last date the licensee provided the patient with medical or health care
10 services.

11 (b) If the patient is a child, either for at least three years
12 after the child's eighteenth birthday or for at least six years after the
13 last date the licensee provided that patient with medical or health care
14 services, whichever date occurs later.

15 22. Using controlled substances or prescription-only drugs unless
16 they are provided by a medical practitioner, as defined in section
17 32-1901, as part of a lawful course of treatment.

18 23. Prescribing controlled substances to members of one's immediate
19 family unless there is no other physician available within fifty miles to
20 treat a member of the family and an emergency exists.

21 24. Committing nontherapeutic use of injectable amphetamines.

22 25. Violating a formal order, probation or a stipulation issued by
23 the board under this chapter.

24 26. Charging or collecting an inappropriate fee. This paragraph
25 does not apply to a fee that is fixed in a written contract between the
26 physician and the patient and entered into before treatment begins.

27 27. Using experimental forms of therapy without adequate informed
28 patient consent or without conforming to generally accepted criteria and
29 complying with federal and state statutes and regulations governing
30 experimental therapies.

31 28. Failing to make patient medical records in the physician's
32 possession promptly available to a physician assistant, a nurse
33 practitioner, a person licensed pursuant to this chapter or a podiatrist,
34 chiropractor, naturopathic physician, physician or homeopathic physician
35 licensed under chapter 7, 8, 13, 14 or 29 of this title on receipt of
36 proper authorization to do so from the patient, a minor patient's parent,
37 the patient's legal guardian or the patient's authorized representative or
38 failing to comply with title 12, chapter 13, article 7.1.

39 29. Failing to allow properly authorized board personnel to have,
40 on presentation of a subpoena, access to any documents, reports or records
41 that are maintained by the physician and that relate to the physician's
42 medical practice or medically related activities pursuant to section
43 32-1855.01.

44 30. Signing a blank, undated or predated prescription form.

45 31. Obtaining a fee by fraud, deceit or misrepresentation.

1 32. Failing to report to the board an osteopathic physician and
2 surgeon who is or may be guilty of unprofessional conduct or is or may be
3 mentally or physically unable safely to engage in the practice of
4 medicine.

5 33. Referring a patient to a diagnostic or treatment facility or
6 prescribing goods and services without disclosing that the physician has a
7 direct pecuniary interest in the facility, goods or services to which the
8 patient has been referred or prescribed. This paragraph does not apply to
9 a referral by one physician to another physician within a group of
10 physicians practicing together.

11 34. Exhibiting a lack of or inappropriate direction, collaboration
12 or supervision of a licensed, certified or registered health care provider
13 or office personnel employed by or assigned to the physician in the
14 medical care of patients.

15 35. Violating a federal law, a state law or a rule applicable to
16 the practice of medicine.

17 36. Prescribing or dispensing controlled substances or
18 prescription-only medications without establishing and maintaining
19 adequate patient records.

20 37. Dispensing a schedule II controlled substance that is an
21 opioid, except as provided in section 32-1871.

22 38. Failing to dispense drugs and devices in compliance with
23 article 4 of this chapter.

24 39. Committing any conduct or practice that endangers a patient's
25 or the public's health or may reasonably be expected to do so.

26 40. Committing any conduct or practice that impairs the licensee's
27 ability to safely and skillfully practice medicine or that may reasonably
28 be expected to do so.

29 41. With the exception of heavy metal poisoning, using chelation
30 therapy in the treatment of arteriosclerosis or as any other form of
31 therapy without adequate informed patient consent and without conforming
32 to generally accepted experimental criteria, including protocols, detailed
33 records, periodic analysis of results and periodic review by a medical
34 peer review committee.

35 42. Prescribing, dispensing or administering anabolic-androgenic
36 steroids to a person for other than therapeutic purposes.

37 43. Engaging in sexual conduct with a current patient or with a
38 former patient within six months after the last medical consultation
39 unless the patient was the licensee's spouse at the time of the contact
40 or, immediately preceding the physician-patient relationship, was in a
41 dating or engagement relationship with the licensee. For the purposes of
42 this paragraph, "sexual conduct" includes:

43 (a) Engaging in or soliciting sexual relationships, whether
44 consensual or nonconsensual.

1 (b) Making sexual advances, requesting sexual favors or engaging in
2 any other verbal conduct or physical conduct of a sexual nature.

3 44. Committing conduct that is in violation of section 36-2302.

4 45. Committing conduct that the board determines constitutes gross
5 negligence, repeated negligence or negligence that results in harm or
6 death of a patient.

7 46. Committing conduct in the practice of medicine that evidences
8 unfitness to practice medicine.

9 47. Engaging in disruptive or abusive behavior in a professional
10 setting.

11 48. Failing to disclose to a patient that the licensee has a direct
12 financial interest in a prescribed treatment, good or service if the
13 treatment, good or service is available on a competitive basis. This
14 paragraph does not apply to a referral by one licensee to another licensee
15 within a group of licensees who practice together. A licensee meets the
16 disclosure requirements of this paragraph if both of the following are
17 true:

18 (a) The licensee makes the disclosure on a form prescribed by the
19 board.

20 (b) The patient or the patient's guardian or parent acknowledges by
21 signing the form that the licensee has disclosed the licensee's direct
22 financial interest.

23 49. Prescribing, dispensing or furnishing a prescription medication
24 or a prescription-only device to a person if the licensee has not
25 conducted a physical or mental health status examination of that person or
26 has not previously established a physician-patient relationship. The
27 physical or mental health status examination may be conducted through
28 telehealth as defined in section 36-3601 with a clinical evaluation that
29 is appropriate for the patient and the condition with which the patient
30 presents, unless the examination is for the purpose of obtaining a written
31 certification from the physician for the purposes of title 36,
32 chapter 28.1. This paragraph does not apply to:

33 (a) Emergencies.

34 (b) A licensee who provides patient care on behalf of the patient's
35 regular treating licensed health care professional or provides a
36 consultation requested by the patient's regular treating licensed health
37 care professional.

38 (c) Prescriptions written or antimicrobials dispensed to a contact
39 as defined in section 36-661 who is believed to have had significant
40 exposure risk as defined in section 36-661 with another person who has
41 been diagnosed with a communicable disease as defined in section 36-661 by
42 the prescribing or dispensing physician.

43 (d) Prescriptions for epinephrine auto-injectors written or
44 dispensed for a school district or charter school to be stocked for

1 emergency use pursuant to section 15-157 or for an authorized entity to be
2 stocked pursuant to section 36-2226.01.

3 (e) Prescriptions written by a licensee through a telehealth
4 program that is covered by the policies and procedures adopted by the
5 administrator of a hospital or outpatient treatment center.

6 (f) Prescriptions for naloxone hydrochloride or any other opioid
7 antagonist approved by the United States food and drug administration that
8 are written or dispensed for use pursuant to section 36-2228 or 36-2266.

9 50. If a licensee provides medical care by computer, failing to
10 disclose the licensee's license number and the board's address and
11 telephone number.

12 51. FAILING TO PROVIDE ADEQUATE INFORMED PATIENT CONSENT FOR ANY
13 TREATMENT PROVIDED TO A PATIENT AND TO DOCUMENT THE INFORMED PATIENT
14 CONSENT IN THE PATIENT'S MEDICAL RECORD.

15 Sec. 3. Title 32, chapter 32, article 1, Arizona Revised Statutes,
16 is amended by adding section 32-3230.02, to read:

17 32-3230.02. Patient rights; compliance; unprofessional
18 conduct; definition

19 A. A HEALTH PROFESSIONAL SHALL ACKNOWLEDGE AND COMPLY WITH THE
20 PATIENT RIGHTS, AS PRESCRIBED IN RULE BY THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
21 SERVICES, FOR ANY HEALTH CARE INSTITUTION IN WHICH THE HEALTH PROFESSIONAL
22 WORKS.

23 B. A HEALTH PROFESSIONAL WHO VIOLATES THIS SECTION COMMITS AN ACT
24 OF UNPROFESSIONAL CONDUCT AND IS SUBJECT TO DISCIPLINARY ACTION.

25 C. FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION, "HEALTH PROFESSIONAL" MEANS A
26 PERSON WHO IS LICENSED OR CERTIFIED PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 13, 15, 17 OR 25
27 OF THIS TITLE.